

Stereotypes about men and women

1. Read the BBC blog about the most common stereotypes about men and women. Do you agree with them?
2. What are the most common stereotypes about men and women in your country?



Scientists recently discovered that there are seventy-eight genetic differences between men and women.

BBC Online News readers suggest what those differences might be.

- “ Women have a multi-tasking gene. Men can never prepare dinner so that everything is ready at the same time. ”
- “ Men like to have all their stuff (DVDs, CDs) on show to impress their friends. Women hide things in cupboards. ”
- “ Women have an ability to make men think they are in charge. ”
- “ Men refuse to pay more than £5 for a haircut because it's not that important. ”

“ A baby is crying, a dog is barking, a doorbell is ringing. It doesn't matter: the man of the house is sleeping. Men can sleep through anything. Women can't. ”

“ A man can choose and buy a pair of shoes in 90 seconds over the internet. ”

“ Women know what to do when someone starts to cry. ”

“ Women remember every outfit they've worn for the past twenty years. Men can't remember what they were wearing yesterday without looking on the floor. ”

“ Men speak in sentences. Women speak in paragraphs. ”

GRAMMAR review of verb tenses

2A Match the underlined verbs below with the tenses a)–d).

- 1 Scientists recently discovered that there are seventy-eight genetic differences.
- 2 Men can't remember what they were wearing yesterday.
- 3 Women hide things in cupboards.
- 4 A baby is crying.

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|-------------------|-----------------------|
| a) present simple | b) present continuous |
| c) past simple | d) past continuous |

B Complete the rules with the correct tenses a)–d).

Rules:

- 1 We use _____ for actions, events or situations that are finished.
- 2 We use _____ for things that are going on at a particular moment in the present.
- 3 We use _____ for habits, routines and things that are always true.
- 4 We use _____ when someone was in the middle of an action at a particular moment in the past.