



THE GENDER GAP: PRESENT TENSES

1. Read the sentences and match them to the tenses (a-c).

Working women ¹**are taking** more risks, but normally concentrate their attention on a narrow range of occupations.

Men frequently ²**opt** for high-powered careers in architecture, computing and the police force, professions they ³**have dominated** for generations.

- a. Present Perfect _____
- b. Present Simple _____
- c. Present continuous _____

2. Now match the tenses to their uses.

We use the _____ to talk about facts, habits and things that occur repeatedly.

We use the _____ to talk about a situation that began in the past and continues in the present; or to talk about something that happened at an indefinite time in the past.

We use the _____ to talk about present situations that are temporary or changing.

3. Put the verbs in parenthesis into the correct tense to complete the sentences.

My parents _____ always _____ (have) the same job.

More and more women _____ (start) to work in traditionally male professions.

Most women in my country _____ (not/work) after they have children.

The number of men working as nurses or teachers _____ (increase) recently.

My father _____ (earn) more than my mother; this is normal.

The number of women in positions of political power _____ (rise) all the time.

4. Fill in the blanks with a verb in the correct tense.



I _____ (be) a nurse for about five years. At times, it _____ (be) difficult because patients expect you to be female and sometimes, they _____ (get) a real shock. In fact, people often _____ (laugh) when they find out about my job, but that doesn't affect me anymore - it's their problem. I just do my work. In fact, I _____ (start) to really like it. The only problem is the schedule. Right now, I _____ (work) the nightshift, which is really tiring. There are other things to, that keep me busy. I'm pretty pleased because recently I _____ (begin) a course in homeopathic medicine that I _____ (enjoy) a lot - it's just my kind of thing.