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Common stereotypes about men and women - are they really true?

1. Listen to three people talking about men and women and complete the expressions. Do you agree with their opinions? (3.17)

Generalizing

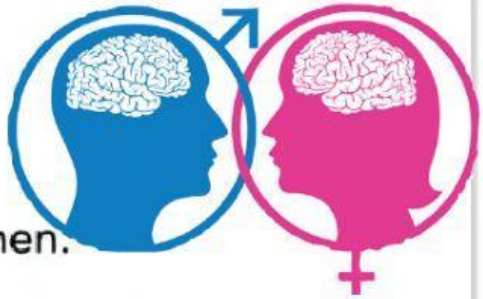
1 ***Generally*** _____, *I think it's true that women worry more about their appearance than men. They spend longer choosing what to wear, doing their hair, and things like that.*

2 *I don't think it's true that men are more interested in sport than women. However,* _____ ***the whole****, I think women* _____ ***to*** *have fewer opportunities to actively participate in sport.*

3 *I think that* ***in*** _____, *men worry about their health more than women. Hypochondriacs* ***are*** _____ *men, not women.*

2.Look at the statements? Do you agree with them?

Do you think it's true?



- Men make better bosses than women.
- Women are more caring than men.
- Men are better at telling jokes than women.
- Women talk more than men.
- Men are better at navigating than women.
- Women are worse at maths than men.
- Men are more competitive than women.
- Women panic more than men in stressful situations.
- Men are better at assembling IKEA furniture than women.
- Women can multitask better than men.

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3.Read the article about stereotypes. Complete the headings 1-5 with the statements from exercise 2.

Scientists and psychologists say that there are certain gender stereotypes which they have proved are true, for example, a recent academic study found that men are better at assembling IKEA furniture than women! But can we *really* believe the results of these studies? Here are five more stereotypes which researchers claim are true.

1 _____

Scientists in Norway asked 18 men and 18 women to find their way through a virtual maze, completing various tasks along the way. Men were able to solve 50% more of the problems than women in the same time. 'Men's sense of direction was more effective. They simply got to their destination faster,' said Dr Carl Pintzka of the Norwegian University of Science and Technology.

2 _____

Researchers from the University of Maryland separated baby rats from their mothers and discovered that baby rats with more Foxp2, a kind of protein necessary for the development of speech and language, made more noise and called to their mothers more often. Moving on to humans, scientists then discovered that women have 30% more Foxp2 than men.



3 _____

Australian researchers gave 20,000 men and women a list of questions to answer, to discover how they feel if their partner has a problem. Women said they were very affected, but men showed no change. 'It is not that men are unemotional, but they simply are not very emotional when it comes to the feelings of their partner,' said the study's author, Dr Cindy Mervin.

4 _____

Psychologists at the University of Herefordshire gave 50 male and 50 female students eight minutes to perform three tasks at the same time: maths problems, finding restaurants on a map, and drawing a plan for finding a lost key in a field. To make it more difficult, they were asked some general knowledge questions while they worked. The women, it turned out, easily did all four things at once, but not the men – so it seems that this old cliché is true.

5 _____

Professor Laura Mickes and a team of psychologists from the University of California asked men and women to write captions for cartoons in The New Yorker magazine. Without knowing the author, a group of male and female judges preferred the men's jokes. The psychologists argued that men use humour to attract women, who in turn are attracted to men with a good sense of humour.

And some that aren't true...

For every stereotype verified by science, many others turn out not to be true. Recent research shows, for example, that women are just as competitive and aggressive as men, better at driving, and no worse at mathematics. Men, on the other hand, are more insecure in relationships, make worse bosses, and are more likely to panic in stressful conditions.

4.Read the article again. Which of the stereotypes 1-5 has been verified by researchers done... ?

a. With animals
b. By giving participants questionnaire
c. Through practical experiments with the men and women.

5.Find the synonyms to the following verbs and expressions

- to prove - _____
- to find - _____
- 'to give reasons why you think something is true' - _____
- 'To become clear that' - _____

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