

## U.S allows women to fight in wars

Listen and fill in the blanks with the correct word

NAMES .....

The U.S. Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta has announced one of the biggest (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of the American military in decades. He has lifted the ban on women fighting on the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ line in future wars. The new ruling (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the fact that women have been putting their lives at risk for many years. Mr Panetta told reporters: "Female service members have (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the reality of combat, proving their (5) \_\_\_\_\_ to fight and, yes, to die to defend their fellow Americans." Panetta said many very able women soldiers have been (6) \_\_\_\_\_ from doing a job they love because of their gender. He said: "We (7) \_\_\_\_\_ it to them to allow them to pursue every avenue of military service for which they are (8) \_\_\_\_\_ prepared and qualified."

The Defense Secretary announced there was an important (9) \_\_\_\_\_ to his new ruling – that women must be able to meet the military's (10) \_\_\_\_\_, including physical ones. Army Sergeant Jeremy Grayson agreed, saying: "Women would have to be able to do the physical (11) \_\_\_\_\_ that men do. They have to be able to pull their own (12) \_\_\_\_\_." Another Army spokesman, Anthony Lemaitre, warned the public to be prepared to (13) \_\_\_\_\_ seeing women troops come home in body bags or with lost (14) \_\_\_\_\_. He said: "It's harder to see a mother or a daughter dead." There could now be up to 237,000 positions available for women that are currently off (15) \_\_\_\_\_ to them. The Army says the ruling will (16) \_\_\_\_\_ the military in many ways.