While You Read

6 **Reading** Read the article and check your answers in 5. Underline the words that provide the correct answer in the text.

Genders from Different Planets



Men Are from Mars, Women Are from Venus is the title of a book by John Gray. Written in the 1990s, this book became so popular that today people often use its title to talk about how men and women can be seen to act differently. And that is the main opinion of the book – that men and women are basically different and that these differences are the cause of most of the relationship problems between the genders.

The title of this book states that men and women are from different planets. Of course the author doesn't really believe that. But he does believe that men and women often act like they are from different planets. He claims differences in behaviors include things like eye contact, body language, and status – their position in the hierarchy of a group.

He uses examples like: A wife asks her husband to help her with a problem. The husband offers a suggestion and thinks the conversation is over. The wife feels that her husband doesn't want to participate, or take part, in the conversation. She becomes angry because she actually wanted to talk about the problem with her husband. She didn't want to just hear his solution. He claims this is an example of how spouses fail to understand each other.

Another main point of the book is that men and women respond to stress differently. Stress is the feeling we get when we lose control of a situation. The book says that when men feel stress, they want to withdraw, or go to a place where they feel comfortable. They don't want to argue or even communicate at all. They want to take a break and discuss the problem later.

Women, according to the book, want to connect with others when they feel stress. They want to have a personal conversation about their problems. They want to communicate.

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