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**Level 4** – 20th March, 2019

## Cheaper rail tickets for Germany's women

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1903/190320-equal-pay-day-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1903/190320-equal-pay-day-4.html>

Women in Germany will get cheaper rail travel on Equal Pay Day - a 21 per cent cut in subway fares. Equal Pay Day raises awareness of the gender pay gap. It shows how many extra days a woman has to work to earn what men earn. It is a big event in Germany, where women are paid 21 per cent less than men. The cost of a day travel ticket for women on Monday will be €5.50 instead of the usual €7.00.

Berlin's metro is fully backing its fare cut. An online ad vows to close the gender pay gap. It says: "Gender-specific wage gap. Sounds stupid. Is stupid. We'll close it." Critics say women won't benefit as most female workers buy monthly travel passes. Tourists buy the day passes. Men could be in trouble if they buy the cheaper day pass. Any man caught buying the day pass will be treated as a fare dodger. He will get a fine of €60.

Sources: <https://www.dw.com/en/germanys-family-minister-urges-gender-pay-gap-closure/a-47966578>  
<https://www.thelocal.de/20190318/berlin-offers-discounted-transport-tickets-to-women>  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/15/world/europe/germany-pay-gap-berlin-transit.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1903/190320-equal-pay-day-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. get cheaper                 | a. travel ticket    |
| 2. awareness of the gender     | b. rail travel      |
| 3. how many extra days a woman | c. usual €7.00      |
| 4. earn what                   | d. has to work      |
| 5. It is a big event           | e. men earn         |
| 6. women are paid              | f. pay gap          |
| 7. The cost of a day           | g. in Germany       |
| 8. instead of the              | h. 21 per cent less |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. fully backing its fare  | a. benefit               |
| 2. vows to close the       | b. fare dodger           |
| 3. We'll                   | c. cut                   |
| 4. Critics say women won't | d. of €60                |
| 5. female workers buy      | e. gender pay gap        |
| 6. buy the cheaper         | f. close it              |
| 7. treated as a            | g. monthly travel passes |
| 8. He will get a fine      | h. day pass              |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1903/190320-equal-pay-day-4.html>

Women in Germany (1) \_\_\_\_\_ rail travel on Equal Pay Day - a 21 per cent (2) \_\_\_\_\_ fares. Equal Pay Day raises awareness of the (3) \_\_\_\_\_. It shows how many extra days a woman has to work to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ earn. It is a big event in Germany, where women are paid 21 per cent (5) \_\_\_\_\_. The cost of a day travel ticket for women on Monday will be €5.50 (6) \_\_\_\_\_ usual €7.00.

Berlin's metro is (7) \_\_\_\_\_ fare cut. An online ad (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the gender pay gap. It says: "Gender-specific wage gap. Sounds stupid. Is stupid. We'll close it." Critics say women (9) \_\_\_\_\_ most female workers buy monthly travel passes. Tourists buy (10) \_\_\_\_\_. Men could be in trouble if they buy the cheaper day pass. Any man (11) \_\_\_\_\_ day pass will be treated as a fare dodger. He will (12) \_\_\_\_\_ of €60.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1903/190320-equal-pay-day-4.html>

Women in Germany will get cheap rail travel on Equal Pay Day - a 21 percent cut in subway fares. Equal Pay Day raises awareness of the gender pay gap. It shows how many extra days a woman has to work to earn what men earn. It is a big event in Germany, where women are paid 21 percent less than men. The cost of a day travel ticket for women on Monday will be €5.50 instead of the usual €7.00. Berlin's metro is fully backing its fare cut. A non-line advert to close the gender pay gap. It says: "Gender-specific wage gap. Sounds stupid. Is stupid. We'll close it." Critics say women won't benefit as most female workers buy monthly travel passes. Tourists buy the day passes. Men could be in trouble if they buy the cheaper day pass. Any man caught buying the day pass will be treated as a fare dodger. He will get a fine of €60.

# EQUAL PAY SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1903/190320-equal-pay-day-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about equal pay in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

*Cheaper rail tickets for Germany's women – 20th March, 2019*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

