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## **Level 4 – 19th February, 2021**

### **University staff asked not to say 'mother' and 'father'**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210219-gender-neutral-language-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/2102/210219-gender-neutral-language-4.html>

A university department asked staff to stop using certain words related to gender. It issued a list of replacements for words like 'mother' and 'father'. This is to encourage more gender-neutral language. The list includes the term 'gestational parent' instead of 'mother,' and 'non-birthing parent' in place of 'father'. The department says the words 'mother' and 'father' exclude non-binary people, who identify as being neither male nor female.

The department said using gender terms to describe parenthood excludes those who do not identify as male or female. It said non-gendered language is important in discussions about parenthood. The university said the handbook was just a guide to help with inclusiveness and diversity and not official policy. A UK university asked staff to use the word 'chestfeeding' for 'breastfeeding'.

Sources: <https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/world-news/university-staff-told-stop-saying-23507643>  
<https://au.news.yahoo.com/university-asks-staff-to-refer-to-it-as-chest-feeding-100937936.html>  
<https://www.foxnews.com/world/university-handbook-encourages-staff-to-adopt-gender-neutral-language>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210219-gender-neutral-language-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. stop using certain     | a. of 'father'           |
| 2. It issued a list       | b. neutral language      |
| 3. words like             | c. parent                |
| 4. encourage more gender- | d. of replacements       |
| 5. includes the term      | e. binary people         |
| 6. non-birthing           | f. words                 |
| 7. in place               | g. 'gestational parent'  |
| 8. exclude non-           | h. 'mother' and 'father' |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                 |                       |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. using gender                 | a. and diversity      |
| 2. those who do not identify as | b. is important       |
| 3. non-gendered language        | c. for breastfeeding' |
| 4. discussions about            | d. male or female     |
| 5. the handbook was             | e. university         |
| 6. help with inclusiveness      | f. terms              |
| 7. A UK                         | g. parenthood         |
| 8. use the word ' chestfeeding' | h. just a guide       |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210219-gender-neutral-language-4.html>

A university department asked (1) \_\_\_\_\_ using certain words related to gender. It (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of replacements for words like 'mother' and 'father'. This (3) \_\_\_\_\_ more gender-neutral language. The list (4) \_\_\_\_\_ 'gestational parent' instead of 'mother,' and 'non-birthing parent' (5) \_\_\_\_\_ 'father'. The department says the words 'mother' and 'father' exclude (6) \_\_\_\_\_, who identify as being neither male nor female.

The department said using (7) \_\_\_\_\_ describe parenthood excludes those who do (8) \_\_\_\_\_ male or female. It said non-gendered language (9) \_\_\_\_\_ discussions about parenthood. The university said (10) \_\_\_\_\_ just a guide to help with inclusiveness and diversity and (11) \_\_\_\_\_. A UK university asked staff to (12) \_\_\_\_\_ 'chestfeeding' for 'breastfeeding'.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210219-gender-neutral-language-4.html>

Auniversitydepartmentaskedstafftostopusingcertainwordsrelatedto gender.Itissuedalistofreplacementsforwordsslike'mother'and'father'. Thisistoencouragemoregender-neutrallanguage.Theistincludest heterm'gestationalparent'insteadof'mother,'and'non-birthingparent'inplaceof'father'.Thedepartmentsaysthewords'mother'and'father'excludenon-binarypeople,whoidentifyasbeingneithermalenorfemale.Thedepartmentsaidusinggendertermstodescribeparenthoodexcludesthosewhodonotidentifyasmaleorfemale.Itsaidnon-genderlanguageisimportantindiscussionsaboutparenthood.Theuniversitysaidthehandbookwasjustaguidetohelpwithinclusivenessanddiversityandnotofficialpolicy.AUKuniversityaskedstafftousestheword'chestfeeding'for'breastfeeding'.

# GENDER-NEUTRAL LANGUAGE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210219-gender-neutral-language-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about gender-neutral language 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) \_\_\_\_\_

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

