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Level 5 – 19th February, 2021

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

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210219-gender-neutral-language-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210219-gender-neutral-language-5.html>

An Australian university department has asked staff to avoid using certain words related to gender. The Gender Institute issued a list of replacements for words like 'mother' and 'father'. This is part of an initiative to encourage more gender-neutral language. The list includes using the term 'gestational parent' instead of 'mother,' and 'non-birthing parent' in place of 'father'. The institute's handbook says the words 'mother' and 'father' exclude non-binary people. These are people who identify as being neither male nor female. They feel unrepresented because of gender words.

The institute's guidelines say: "While many students will identify as 'mothers' or 'fathers,' using these terms to describe parenthood excludes those who do not identify as male or female." It added: "This non-gendered language is particularly important in...discussions of childbirth and parenthood." The university said the handbook was, "a guide developed...to assist anyone committed to enhancing inclusiveness and diversity". It said it was not official university policy. Last week, a UK university asked its staff to substitute 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-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. An Australian university | a. 'gestational parent' |
| 2. asked staff to avoid using | b. unrepresented |
| 3. issued a list | c. certain words |
| 4. encourage more gender- | d. male nor female |
| 5. using the term | e. binary people |
| 6. non- | f. department |
| 7. identify as being neither | g. neutral language |
| 8. They feel | h. of replacements |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. The institute's | a. and diversity |
| 2. using these terms to | b. for 'chestfeeding' |
| 3. those who do not identify | c. guide |
| 4. language is particularly | d. as male or female |
| 5. the handbook was a | e. policy |
| 6. enhancing inclusiveness | f. important |
| 7. it was not official university | g. guidelines |
| 8. substitute the word 'breastfeeding' | h. describe parenthood |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210219-gender-neutral-language-5.html>

An Australian university department has asked (1) _____ using certain words related to gender. The Gender Institute (2) _____ of replacements for words like 'mother' and 'father'. This is part (3) _____ to encourage more gender-neutral language. The list includes (4) _____ 'gestational parent' instead of 'mother,' and 'non-birthing parent' in place of 'father'. The institute's (5) _____ words 'mother' and 'father' exclude non-binary people. These are people who (6) _____ neither male nor female. They feel unrepresented because of gender words.

The institute's guidelines say: "While many students (7) _____ 'mothers' or 'fathers,' using these terms to describe parenthood excludes those who do (8) _____ male or female." It added: "This non-gendered language is (9) _____...discussions of childbirth and parenthood." The university said the handbook was, "a guide developed... (10) _____ committed to enhancing inclusiveness and diversity". It said it (11) _____ university policy. Last week, a UK university asked its staff to (12) _____ 'chestfeeding' for 'breastfeeding'.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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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) _____

