

Adjustment Level:	Lower Intermediate-Advance
Target Skill to be improved:	Speaking and Reasoning
Title:	Debate is Fun (Free conversation)
Topic for Debate:	Men and Women are equal at last

Introduction: This lesson gives the student more speaking opportunities in expressing his thoughts that would improve his/her speaking and reasoning skills. The student would also learn various expressions for agreeing and disagreeing.



Resolved: **Men and Women are equal at last.**



IDEA GENERATOR

Yes, Women Are Now Equal To Men.

- Many governments have both male and female representatives.
- Many companies are now owned or managed by women.
- A lot of progress has been made since the 1960s.
- Television series now portray women as successful career makers.
- Men now share in the raising of children and household responsibilities.
- Many important laws have been passed to ensure equality in the workplace.
- In many places, a married couple can choose whether the man or the woman takes leave from work to look after the newly arrived baby.
- People aren't discussing equality anymore. It has become a reality.
- Have you ever heard of Margaret Thatcher?

Excuse Me? Women Still Have A Long Way to Go Before They Are Equal To Men.

- Women still earn less than men in many work situations.
- Women are still portrayed in a superficial manner in many television shows.
- Most governments still are made up in their majority of men.
- Women are often not given enough responsibility based on the possibility that they might become pregnant.
- The number of sexual harassment suits has increased over the past 10 years.

See for example:

Person A: "In my opinion, I believe that men and women are equal at last since many important laws have been already passed to ensure equality in the workplace".

Person B: "I strongly disagree with the proposition since I believe that women still earn less than men in many work situations".

Expressions for Agreeing and Disagreeing

<p>Stating an opinion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In my opinion... • The way I see it... • If you want my honest opinion.... • According to Lisa... • As far as I'm concerned... • If you ask me...
<p>Asking for an opinion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What's your idea? • What are your thoughts on all of this? • How do you feel about that? • Do you have anything to say about this? • What do you think? • Do you agree? • Wouldn't you say?
<p>Expressing agreement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I agree with you 100 percent. • I couldn't agree with you more. • That's so true. • That's for sure. • (slang) Tell me about it! • You're absolutely right. • Absolutely. • That's exactly how I feel. • Exactly. • I'm afraid I agree with James. • I have to side with Dad on this one. • No doubt about it. • (agree with negative statement) Me neither. • (weak) I suppose so./I guess so. • You have a point there. • I was just going to say that.
<p>Expressing disagreement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I don't think so. • (strong) No way. • I'm afraid I disagree. • (strong) I totally disagree. • I beg to differ. • (strong) I'd say the exact opposite. • Not necessarily. • That's not always true. • That's not always the case. • No, I'm not so sure about that.
<p>Interruptions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can I add something here? • Is it okay if I jump in for a second?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If I might add something...• Can I throw my two cents in?• Sorry to interrupt, but...• (after accidentally interrupting someone) Sorry, go ahead. OR Sorry, you were saying...• (after being interrupted) You didn't let me finish.
Settling an argument	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Let's just move on, shall we?• Let's drop it.• I think we're going to have to agree to disagree.• (sarcastic) Whatever you say./If you say so.