



A. READING

Before you read

Work in pairs. Look at the pictures and answer the questions that follow.



1. How many roles does this woman have?
2. Is her life typical of a Vietnamese woman's life? Why/Why not?


While you read

Read the text then do the tasks that follow.


Throughout much of the history of human civilization, deep-seated cultural beliefs allowed women only limited roles in society. Many people believed that women's natural roles were as mothers and wives. These people considered women to be better suited for childbearing and homemaking rather than for involvement in the public life of business or politics. Widespread doubt about women's intellectual ability led most societies to deny education, employment and many legal and political rights to women. It was men who controlled most positions of employment and power in society.

The struggle for women's rights – the rights that establish the same social, economic, and political status for women as for men – began in the 18th century during a period known as the Age of Enlightenment. During this period, political philosophers in Europe began to argue that all individuals, male or female, were born with natural rights that made them free and equal. These pioneer thinkers advocated that women should not be discriminated against on the basis of their sex.


Today, although their status varies in different countries, women in most parts of the world have gained significant legal rights. The most important of these are: the right to have equal work opportunities and pay to men, the right to vote, and the right to formal education.

 **Task 1.** Give the Vietnamese equivalents to the following words and phrases.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. human civilization _____ | 5. deep-seated cultural beliefs _____ |
| 2. childbearing _____ | 6. homemaking _____ |
| 3. involvement _____ | 7. intellectual ability _____ |
| 4. Age of Enlightenment _____ | 8. equal work opportunity _____ |

 **Task 2.** Choose the best option A, B, C or D to answer the following questions.

1. According to the text, what was the main role traditionally accorded to women?
 - A. working in education
 - B. building houses
 - C. taking care of the house and family
 - D. working in factories
2. Before the 18th century, what was the attitude of societies towards women's intellectual ability?
 - A. respectful
 - B. supportive
 - C. resentful
 - D. disbelieving
3. According to the text, what is the purpose of the struggle for women's rights?
 - A. to free women from housework
 - B. to establish a friendly relationship between men and women
 - C. to bring equality between men and women
 - D. to argue that women have better intellectual ability
4. What do "these pioneer thinkers" at the end of paragraph 2 refer to?
 - A. 18th century European people
 - B. 18th century European political philosophers
 - C. 18th century European women
 - D. 18th century European politicians
5. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the last paragraph as one of women's legal rights today?
 - A. the right to hold property
 - B. the right to equal pay
 - C. equal employment opportunity rights
 - D. the right to vote

 **Task 3.** Choose the best title for the passage.

- A. Women's Intellectual Ability
- B. The Age of Enlightenment
- C. Women's Rights
- D. Women's Role in Education


After you read

Work in pairs. Summarise the reading passage by writing ONE sentence for each paragraph.

B. SPEAKING


 **Task 1.** Study the expressions and practise saying them aloud.

Giving your opinion	I think .../ I believe .../ In my opinion, .../ From my point of view, .../ As I see it, ...
Strongly agreeing	I quite agree./ I agree with you completely./ Absolutely!/ That's right!
Partly agreeing	Well, I see your point but .../ I don't quite agree/ To a certain extent, yes, but ...
Disagreeing	I don't agree./ I'm afraid, I disagree./ That's wrong./ That's not true.
Strongly disagreeing	What nonsense!/ What rubbish!/ I completely disagree.

 **Task 2.** *Work in groups.* Read and respond to these statements. Begin your responses with one of the expressions in Task 1.

- A. Men are usually stronger than women.
- B. Women are usually more sympathetic than men.

- C. Women are usually better with children than men.
- D. Women are usually more careful than men.
- E. Men are better at making decisions than women.
- F. Women are better at running a home than men.
- G. Men lose their temper more easily than women.
- H. Women waste more time than men.
- I. Women work harder than men.

 **Task 3. Work in groups.** Discuss whether you agree or disagree with the following statement and give explanations.

Married women should not go to work.

The following suggestions might be useful to you.

For	Against
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● stay at home, looking after their children and husbands ● better at looking after children, doing housework ● traditional role of housewives ● neglect family responsibilities if spending too much time at work ● cannot do two jobs well at the same time: rearing children and working at offices ● prevent husbands from developing their full potential at work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● too boring to be housewives all their lives ● financially dependent and have no decisions or power ● be slaves at home ● lose contact with friends ● lose touch with social activities ● housework can be tiring, stressful and boring ● be looked down upon by men ● waste education and knowledge gained before marriage

Example:

A. *I think married women should not go to work.*

B. *I quite agree. I think if they stay at home, they have time to look after their children and husbands.*

C. *I don't agree. It's too boring to be housewives all their lives.*

C. LISTENING

Before you listen


Work in pairs. Answer the following question.

Is the life of a city woman easier than that of a village woman nowadays? What is your point of view? Why?


● *Listen and repeat.*

saying	hold up	agricultural	firewood
two-thirds	three-fourths	Africa	respect

While you listen

 **Task 1.** Listen to the passage and choose the best answer A, B or C to complete each sentence.

- _____ of all working hours, the work is done by women.
A. Nearly 50 percent
B. Nearly two-thirds
C. Nearly three-fourths
- The average woman earns _____ the average man.
A. more than B. the same as C. less than
- In Africa, _____ of the farm work is done by men.
A. 80 percent B. 50 percent C. 20 percent
- A typical woman in a developing country spends _____ collecting firewood daily.
A. 1 hour B. 2 hours C. 3 hours
- _____ is the amount of time a typical African woman spends on cooking every day.
A. 1 hour B. 2 hours C. 3 hours

 **Task 2.** Listen again then answer the following questions.


1. According to the passage, what percentage of all the world's jobs do women hold?
2. What do they earn for doing their domestic work?
3. How much food do women in developing countries produce?
4. How much farmwork do African women do?
5. What time does a typical day for an African village woman begin?
6. What time does it finish?

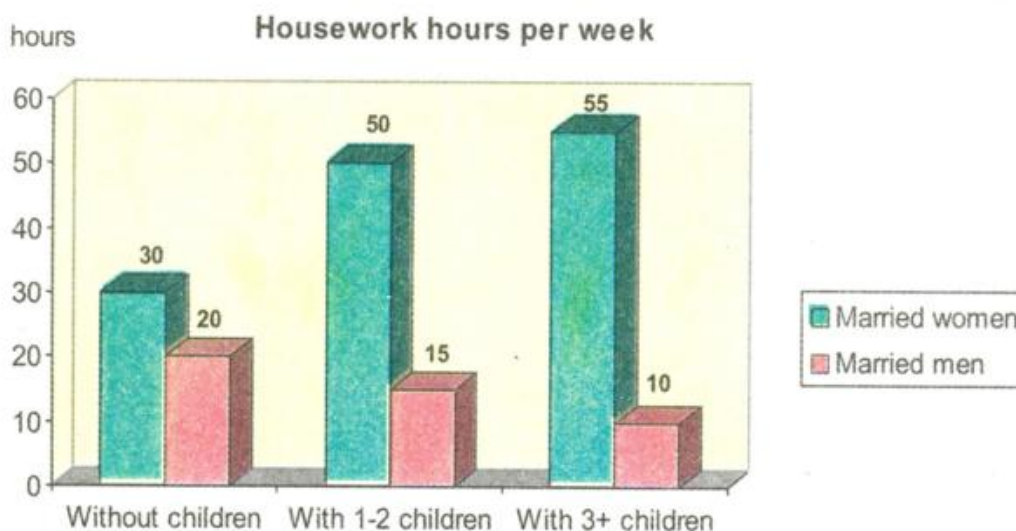
After you listen

Work in pairs. Compare a typical day of an African village woman in the listening passage with that of a woman in your family (for example, your sister or mother).


D. WRITING

Describing a chart

 **Task 1.** *Work in pairs.* The chart below shows the average hours of housework per week by people of different sexes and with different marital status in Fantasia. Look at the chart then answer the questions that follow.



1. Who, in general, does more housework?
2. Do married women have to do more or less housework when they have more children?
3. Do married men have to do more or less housework when they have more children?
4. How many hours do married men and women without children spend on their housework per week?
5. How much time does it take men and women with one or two children to do their housework every week?
6. What are the numbers of weekly housework hours that men and women with three or more children do respectively?
7. What do you think should be done to reduce the unequal distribution of housework hours per week between married men and women?

 **Task 2.** Write a report describing the information shown in the column chart in Task 1. Begin your report with:

The column chart illustrates the average hours of housework per week done by married women in comparison with married men.

E. LANGUAGE FOCUS

- **Intonation: The rising tune**
- **Grammar: Phrasal verbs (continued)**

Intonation

- *Practise reading the following sentences with the rising tune.*
1. Did you have a good holiday?
 2. Must you go now?
 3. Shall I bring some sandwiches for you, too?
 4. Can I go with you, Jack?
 5. Have your parents been to Britain, Jo?

● **Work in pairs.** Practise reading these conversations.

1.

Mr. Wise: Were there any letters this morning?

Miss Roke: No.

Mr. Wise: That's odd. ... Oh, before I forget ... have you heard the news?

Miss Roke: No?

Mr. Wise: Miss Robert is getting married. Are you thinking of getting married, Miss Roke?

Miss Roke: No.

2.

Father: Are you drunk, David?

David: No, I'm not.

Father: Did you wash your face this morning, David?

David: Yes, I did.

Father: Have you completed your essay?

David: No, sorry Dad. I haven't.

Grammar

Exercise 1. Choose one of the following verbs (in the correct form) + the correct preposition to complete the sentences.

<i>explain</i>	invite	<i>laugh</i>	listen	point
glance	speak	throw	stare	write

Examples:

- I look stupid with this haircut. Everybody will *laugh at* me.
- I don't understand what this means. Can you *explain* it *to* me?

1. I _____ my watch to see what the time was.
2. We've been _____ the party but unfortunately we can't go.
3. Please _____ me! I've got something important to tell you.
4. Don't _____ stones _____ the birds. That's prohibited.
5. The woman sitting opposite me on the train kept _____ me.

6. Sally and Kevin had an argument and now they're not _____ one another.
7. I _____ Joanna last week but she hasn't replied to my letter yet.
8. Be careful with those scissors! Don't _____ them _____ me!

Exercise 2. Fill in each of the blanks with an appropriate preposition if necessary.

Example:

I'm not going out yet. I'm waiting *for* the rain to stop.

1. You're always asking me _____ money. Ask somebody else for a change.
2. I've applied _____ a job at the factory. I don't know if I'll get it.
3. If I want a job at the factory, who do I apply _____?
4. I've searched everywhere _____ John but I haven't been able to find him.
5. I don't want to talk _____ what happened last night. Let's forget it.
6. I don't want to discuss _____ what happened last night. Let's forget it.
7. We had an interesting discussion _____ the problem but we didn't reach a decision.
8. Keith and Sonia are touring Europe. They're in Rome at the moment, but tomorrow they leave _____ Venice.
9. The roof of the house is in very bad condition. I think we ought to do something _____ it.
10. We waited _____ Jim for half an hour but he never came.