

# LET'S KEEP TALKING

liquidation, no record of company ever had  
you can see that a lot of people see  
nothing and didn't receive anything. So  
Can you think of an offer that you have  
seen years ago? Have you ever been  
school abroad where she still works. She  
flat and a car of her own. She  
me ill and the doc  
er for a wh  
house. This sort of service is ob  
can't get out for some reason or anothe  
away from any good shops. If they find that  
done this and then been disappoint  
think these companies make h  
sort of tricks  
people to buy  
wards Auth  
aints  
more children. Mary  
ever done this  
all think of any dangers of buying things from the com  
order it from the com

Gaynor Ramsey

# Let's Keep Talking

Hulton Educational

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## To the student

You have already learnt some English, either at school, through private study, or at a language school. Perhaps you find now that you need more practice in speaking. With *Let's Keep Talking* you can talk on themes which interest you with your teacher and the other students on the course.

Each lesson comprises texts with illustrations, at least two vocabulary exercises, questions for discussion, an oral comprehension exercise, and activities for groups as well as for pair work. You can, for example, discuss a theme after reading a newspaper article. Pictures and cartoons can also be used as a stimulus to discussion, while language games and listening to English and American voices on the cassette will help you to become familiar with the use and sound of English.

The possibilities are so many and varied that you and your teacher have only to choose.

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# Let's Keep Talking . . .

1

## . . . About Women and Men

Emineline Pankhurst, who you can see in this picture, worked very hard for forty years in England for the equality of women. In 1903 she founded the Women's Social and Political Union, which was a very progressive thing to do at that time. It was not until 1928, the year of her death, that British women over the age of 21 were given the right to vote. Over the years, Mrs Pankhurst was sent to prison several times and was arrested many times for her activities. Did you know that it is still possible to find a place in Western Europe where women don't have the same voting rights as men, and where men can forbid their wives to take a job outside the home?



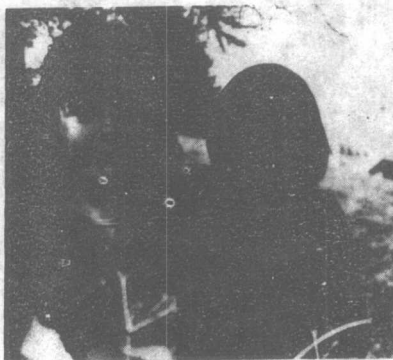
### 1. Vocabulary

In the past few years there has been a lot of discussion about the **emancipation** of women and, as a result of this, an increase in the number of **women's liberation movements**. Women in many parts of the world have become **dissatisfied** with their position in **society** – dissatisfied with being **second-class citizens**. Some people think the extreme **emancipationists** go too far. They



**1** feel it would be a pity if women lost their **femininity** and if men no longer needed to be **gentlemen** from time to time! What most women would like to **fight for** is to end **discrimination** and have **equal rights** and **opportunities** instead. Some people would like to see the **traditional roles** for men and women become more **flexible**. Others would like society to be more **tolerant** towards women and men who don't want to take on the roles that are expected of them. Women often feel **under pressure** to **conform** to the rules which dictate that **marriage** and having children is the correct future for them. Men, on the other hand, often feel that they have to be the **breadwinner** for the family.

## 2. Three age groups



These three pictures show people of different ages – children, teenagers and adults. What is often or even normally expected of males and females in each of these age groups? Consider the following points:

children – clothes, toys, games, behaviour

teenagers – school, career plans, free time, family duties

adults – career, housework, family duties, social life



### 3. Ask your neighbour

1

Now interview a partner and find out from him or her:

- 1) if he/she has ever felt discriminated against because of his/her sex – if so, how
- 2) if he/she has ever done anything which is normally expected of someone of the opposite sex – if so, what
- 3) if he/she has ever been surprised to see a man or woman doing a job usually done by a member of the opposite sex
- 4) who he/she thinks have easier lives – men or women
- 5) if he/she thinks women's rights is an important subject for discussion – with reasons.



### 4. Fun?

Look at this cartoon:



George and Gaye Gambol are married and haven't got any children. How do you think Gaye might feel about her daily life? Do you understand her feelings? What do you think Gaye should or could do in order to improve her life? Do you think George really understands her problem? Could he help her in any way?

Work in groups of three or four, and think of as many differences as you can in the lives of single men, married men, single women and married women.

## 1 5. Here comes the bride, all dressed in white

The wedding day is usually considered to be one of the most important days in a person's life. What are the two people in this picture doing? What do you think this couple's hopes and plans for the future could be on this their wedding day?

In what ways are their lives going to change? Certain people play a very important part at a wedding, do you know who all these people are and what they do at the wedding – the bride, the bridegroom, the best man, the bridesmaid?

In England, people throw confetti at weddings and the bride and bridegroom open the dancing at the reception afterwards. In some other societies, the bridegroom's family has to 'buy' the bride from her family – paying with a cow, perhaps, or with some money. What marriage or wedding day traditions have you ever heard of, either from your own country or from another one?

What good, bad or funny experiences have you had on a wedding day (either your own or that of other people)?







## 6. Equal? The same?

The girl in this picture is doing a job that most of us would expect to be done by a man because men are usually physically stronger than women.

Many passengers shook in their seats in the plane when they first heard the words "Good morning,



'this is your captain ...' spoken by a woman. What do you think was the reason for their fears? Can you understand why they felt the way they did? Do you expect to see a man or a woman when you know that you're going to meet the following people:

					
architect	.....	.....	kindergarten teacher	.....	.....
baker	.....	.....	surgeon	.....	.....
nurse	.....	.....	dentist's assistant	.....	.....
lawyer	.....	.....	dentist	.....	.....
builder	.....	.....	secretary	.....	.....

Are there any situations in which you would prefer to find either a man or a woman doing a certain job?

Is it true that every job can be done equally well by a man or a woman? If not, why not?



'What's My Work' is a radio programme. In the first part of it, two people ask the guests ten questions – to which they can only answer 'yes' or 'no'. Then they have to say what the guests' jobs are. Tonight the guests are two women and one man with rather unusual jobs. Listen to the questions and answers on the tape and try to work out what the guests' jobs are. You will hear three different guests – their names are Susanne Crawley, Bert Davies and Ann Gordon. Look at the list and choose what you think their jobs are.

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| a nurse in an old people's home              | a school teacher (children aged 5–7) |
| a gardener                                   | a long-distance lorry driver         |
| a travelling salesperson of electrical goods | an air-traffic controller            |

### 7. Figures for thought

When we look at the present situation in Western Europe and America, we see that progress has been made in reducing discrimination and working

**1** towards equal rights and opportunities for men and women. But in many parts of the world the picture, as the facts show, must be quite different.



<p>people in the world</p>	<p>people who work</p>
<p>working hours done</p>	<p>money earned</p>
<p>owners of property</p>	<p>illiterates in the world</p>

What do you think could be some of the reasons for these facts being as they are?

## 8. Questions for discussion

1

1. Do you think that our society will ever change so much that it will become normal for a man to stay at home and bring up the family if his wife wants to go out to work?
2. Is it possible for a woman to successfully have a career and bring up a family at the same time?
3. Do you think marriage still has a place in our society? What do you think are good reasons for getting married?
4. What modern inventions or ideas have made life easier and better for women or men who do housework?
5. Some people feel that beauty contests are degrading because they 'sell' women as physical objects. Do you agree with this? Can you think of any jobs where too much attention is paid to a woman's appearance?
6. A man and a woman of the same age and with the same education and experience applied for the same job in a bank. The man got the job. What arguments and fears do you think could have been in the employer's mind when he decided not to accept the woman? What arguments could there be in favour of giving the job to the woman?



## 9. Vocabulary exercise

*Without looking back at the vocabulary section of this unit, fill in the missing words:*

1. Women who want to fight for the ... of their sex often belong to a ... movement.
2. People who aren't happy with something in their lives are ....
3. The rules we live by are fixed by the ... we live in.
4. Some women lose a lot of their ... by trying to look and behave like men.
5. If someone refuses to give you a job only because of your sex, colour, nationality etc. that is an act of ... against you.
6. If men and women have exactly the same rights, they have ... rights.

- 1** 7. They got married 20 years ago and their ... is still very happy.  
8. The person who earns the money for the family is the ....

*Explain the difference between these words:*

to fight for  
to conform to

rights  
opportunities

flexible  
tolerant

### 10. In search of a partner

What's the best way of finding a partner in life?

If you look at your horoscope and follow the advice given there, you will probably end up being disappointed. If you hate night clubs but go to one in the hope of finding a partner you will probably end up with the wrong sort of person. If you leave it to chance – well, that's the way most people meet each other!

Some people, however, decide to go to a marriage or partner bureau where they can fill in a questionnaire giving their wishes and their expectations. Then they wait to be introduced to a suitable person. Do you think this is a good way of finding a partner?

Work in small groups and continue developing the questionnaire started below. Include simple questions about areas such as profession or job, hobby, appearance, political ideas, cultural interests, holiday wishes, etc.

~~~~~

♥ PERFECT PARTNERS ♥

|                                           |                                         |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1 Partner's age                           | 2 Partner's civil status                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> the same as you  | <input type="checkbox"/> single         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> younger than you | <input type="checkbox"/> divorced       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> older than you   | <input type="checkbox"/> widowed        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> doesn't matter   | <input type="checkbox"/> doesn't matter |
| 3 .....                                   |                                         |

Compare the questions decided on by different groups.

## ... About Advertising

2

Just think for a moment how often and where we find advertising in some form or another. Sometimes advertising disturbs us, in the middle of an interesting television programme for example. Sometimes we are attracted by beautiful or interesting photographs or drawings and sometimes we find the words funny or clever. If we look at an advertisement for more than one or two seconds then the advertisement has achieved what it wanted to do.

If just a small percentage of the people who look for longer remember the name of the product and buy it then the advertisement has been a success. Sometimes adverts seem to be out of place – like the one in this picture!



### 1. Vocabulary

Advertising in America grew from an \$ 8 billion business in the 1950s to a \$ 40 billion industry in the 1970s. The **aim** is to **persuade** us to buy, to **consume**. We live in a **consumer society** where having newer and better things is important and is a sign of our **success**. If an **advert** can show us that a product will improve our **image** (or our **self-image**) it will probably be **successful**. If a man sees an **ad** for a new **brand** of cigarettes which are 'more natural' and 'healthier' than those he already smokes, he might change his habits. **Psychology** plays an important part in the advertising business. If the **advertiser** can find out what the **needs** or **dreams** of the people are, then he can produce an advert that **appeals** to them. There is a strong **persuasive** element in every successful advert. Most ads (particularly on television) make a **product** seem **attractive** or even **necessary** to us, often without giving very much information. A company that wants to sell a product can ask an



## 2 advertising agency, which employs different kinds of **specialists**, to work on an advertising **campaign** for them.

### 2. Ask your neighbour



*Now interview a partner and ask him or her:*

- 1) to describe an advert that has remained very clearly in his/her mind
- 2) if there is any situation in which he/she finds adverts interesting
- 3) which method of advertising he/she finds the most annoying
- 4) if he/she has ever put an advertisement in a newspaper or has ever answered one – if so, ask for details
- 5) which of these words he/she might use to describe people in the advertising business in general: honest, unfair, creative, clever, irresponsible, criminal, dishonest.

### 3. The small-ads

Small-ads are another form of advertising used more by private citizens and less by companies, except very small companies. People can put adverts in the newspaper if they want to buy a secondhand bicycle, for example, or if they want to let a room in their house to a student. Local newspapers have more small-ads in them than national papers do – why do you think that is?

Here, on the left, you can see the titles for some of the sections in the small-ads pages. Which of these sections would each of the advertisements go into? Work with a partner to find a place for each ad.