

2. WHAT IS SEXISM?

LEARNER WORKSHEET 2: WHAT IS SEXISM?

Notes for the teacher:

- Students are given worksheet 2 and worksheet 3 with definitions and examples of sexism in different languages. First, they work individually, going through all the texts. They mark the definitions they personally like the best. Ss can add more examples of their own on any language they know (5-10 minutes).
- Then students are invited to work in pairs so that they can compare their choices with the preferences of their mate and make comments in pairs (5-10 minutes).
- Then group them in teams of 4-5 (the previous ones) and let them share the experience and collaborate so that they show each their preferences of definition of sexism in different languages and try to summarize the opinion of the group. (20minutes). Ss can add more examples of their own or any language they know.
- Students speakers from each team (now preferably different from those in the previous period) are presenting in turn the conclusions their team has drawn (40 minutes). Ss are given for homework to search in Internet for as many examples of sexist language in different languages as they can find.

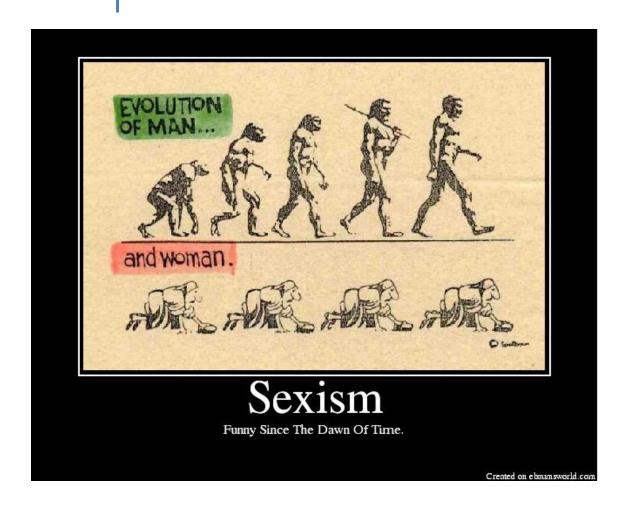
Student perform on a stage some of the examples of sexism, found in different languages, given or created before the class, first normally, then changing their roles – boys are pretending to be girls and girls address them with some of the sexist language examples (40 minutes).



CONTENT BASED TEACHING + PLURILINGUAL/CULTURAL AWARENESS CONBAT

ARE YOU SEXIST

Anna Ananieva



DEFINITIONS of Sexism

The belief that one sex (usually the male) is naturally superior to the other and should dominate most important areas of political, economic, and social life. Sexist discrimination in the United States in the past has denied opportunities to women in many spheres of activity. Many allege that it still does.





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It is the use of language which devalues members of one sex, almost invariably women, and thus fosters gender inequality. It discriminates against women by rendering them invisible or trivializing them at the same time that it perpetuates notions of male supremacy. (University of the Philippines Open University)

<u>Sexism is a political issue</u> today. It affects the language we choose to use. Many people speaking or writing English today wish to avoid using language which supports unfair or untrue attitudes to a particular sex, usually women.

When Neil Armstrong stepped onto the moon he uttered a memorable sentence: "That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind." If he had landed on the moon in the mid-'90s no doubt he would have said a much more politically correct sentence: "That's one small step for a person, one giant leap for humankind." Less poetic but certainly more literally representative of the whole of the human race! (Linguarama Language courses)