

## Equal pay

### Level

Upper intermediate / Advanced

### Tasks

Guessing the size of the male / female salary gap in the US

Scanning an article about gender discrimination to check figures

Reading and summarising the article

Identifying the odd-one-out from a set of collocations with the word 'discrimination'

Completing an opinion questionnaire on equality in the workplace and discussing the results

### How to use the lesson

- 1 Check that students understand the meaning of 'discrimination' (noun: *unfair treatment of someone because of their religion, race, or other personal features*). Ask the students to estimate the ratio of women to men who work in their company. Are there any women in senior positions? Hand out the worksheet and ask students to guess the figures.

Definition of **discrimination** from *Macmillan English Dictionary*. Text © Bloomsbury Publishing Plc 2002.

- 2 Ask students to scan paragraph two of the article to check their answers.

#### Answers

(a) 77%

(b) 59%

- 3 Ask students to read the whole article and summarise the key points.
- 4 Ask students to identify one word in each line which does not collocate with the word 'discrimination'.

#### Answers

(e) religion

(a) fast

(d) to refuse

If you have time, ask students to create three sentences with one collocation from each line.

- 5 Students complete the questionnaire and discuss their answers in small groups. Monitor the discussion. Ask some students to report their ideas to the class, then hold a class feedback session.

### Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.workindex.com/salary/>

<http://www.womensmedia.com/new/confronting-gender-wage-gap.shtml>

<http://www.catalystwomen.org/>