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Level 1 – 17th October 2024

U.K. court says calling a man 'bald' is sexist

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241017-baldness-and-sexism-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241017-baldness-and-sexism-1.html>

A UK court has said calling a man "bald" is sexist and could break equality laws. This is because the word bald is directly related to men. Most bald people are men. This sex discrimination case came after a company boss called a worker bald. The boss fired the worker. The worker won a case of unfair dismissal in a court. The judge said the word bald was harmful to men. He said using it was sexual harassment.

The court had to decide if 'bald' was just an insult, or if it was harassment. The company said it was not harassment because women can also be bald. They said the word bald can be used for both sexes. The court disagreed. It said that commenting on a man's baldness is the same as a man making comments about parts of a woman's body. The top judge said the word bald was related to sex because more men are bald.

Sources: <https://www.abc.co.uk/news/bald-hair-men-man-ruling-high-court-latest-tony-finn/>
<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/30968722/calling-man-bald-sexual-harassment-judge-rules/>
<https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/high-court-rules-calling-man-33866756>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241017-baldness-and-sexism-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. calling a man "bald" | a. discrimination |
| 2. break equality | b. are men |
| 3. the word bald is directly | c. dismissal |
| 4. Most bald people | d. laws |
| 5. sex | e. a worker bald |
| 6. a company boss called | f. harassment |
| 7. The worker won a case of unfair | g. is sexist |
| 8. He said using it was sexual | h. related to men |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. decide if 'bald' was just | a. judge |
| 2. The company said it | b. an insult |
| 3. the word bald can be | c. are bald |
| 4. commenting | d. of a woman's body |
| 5. making comments about parts | e. used for both sexes |
| 6. The top | f. to sex |
| 7. the word bald was related | g. was not harassment |
| 8. more men | h. on a man's baldness |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241017-baldness-and-sexism-1.html>

A UK court has said (1) _____ "bald" is sexist and could (2) _____. This is because the word bald is directly (3) _____. Most bald people are men. This sex discrimination case came after (4) _____ called a worker bald. The boss fired the worker. The worker won a (5) _____ dismissal in a court. The judge said the word bald was harmful to men. He said (6) _____ sexual harassment.

The court had to decide if 'bald' was (7) _____, or if it was harassment. The company said (8) _____ harassment because women (9) _____ bald. They said the word bald can be used (10) _____. The court disagreed. It said that commenting on a man's baldness is the same as a (11) _____ about parts of a woman's body. The top judge said the word bald was (12) _____ because more men are bald.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241017-baldness-and-sexism-1.html>

A UK court has said calling a man "bald" is sexist and could break equality laws. This is because the word bald is directly related to men. Most bald people are men. This sex discrimination case came after a company boss called a worker bald. The boss fired the worker. The worker won a case of unfair dismissal in a court. The judge said the word bald was harmful to men. He said using it was sexual harassment. The court had to decide if 'bald' was just an insult, or if it was harassment. The company said it was not harassment because women can also be bald. They said the word bald can be used for both sexes. The court disagreed. It said that commenting on a man's baldness is the same as a man making comments about parts of a woman's body. The top judge said the word bald was related to sex because more men are bald.

BALDNESS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241017-baldness-and-sexism-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about baldness in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

