

Women and equal rights



Name:

Date:



Info

Women's rights and equality matter now more than ever. But did you know that throughout history, many women made groundbreaking scientific discoveries yet never received the recognition they deserved—simply because they were women?

In this worksheet, we'll explore these overlooked pioneers, the challenges they faced, and the biases that may still exist today. Get ready for inspiring stories of courageous women who achieved greatness against all odds!

At the beginning, you will learn more about the current situation of equal rights by listening to a girl talk about her life.

Work assignment

Listen to the audio file and then answer the questions.



Audio Content

To listen to audio content just scan the QR code and listen to it on the digital worksheet.

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 **Choose the correct answer.**

What is one significant issue related to gender equality in Japan mentioned in the text?

- Women are not allowed to vote. Women earn 23.5% less than men for the same job.
 Women have more leadership roles than men. Women cannot own property.

Why is the lack of women in leadership positions a problem according to the text?

- It can lead to policies that do not fully consider women's needs.
 It means that only men can vote in elections. It causes more domestic violence cases.
 It results in women having to work more hours.

Which statistic highlights the issue of domestic violence against women in Japan?

- In 2022, women held only 15% of management roles in companies.
 Women earn about 23.5% less than men for the same job.
 In 2021, there were over 82,000 reports of domestic violence against women.
 Women in Japan have the same legal rights as men.

What does Aiko believe is crucial for making changes to gender equality in Japan?

- Reducing the number of women in leadership roles. Education and awareness.
 Increasing working hours for women. Eliminating legal rights for men.

According to the text, what needs to be done to stop the problem of domestic violence?

- Women need to report more cases. The current laws are enough to protect women.
 Men should not be allowed to work. More needs to be done beyond existing laws.

What does Aiko hope to see for the future of gender equality in Japan?

- Men holding all leadership positions. Only women having the right to vote.
 Women earning much more than men. Men and women being truly equal.

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Lisa Meitner, Rosalind Franklin and Jocelyn Bell Burnell will now tell you about their lives and the obstacles they faced.

Work assignment

Read the texts and then answer the questions.

Lise Meitner



I am Lise Meitner. I discovered nuclear fission, but Otto Hahn got the Nobel Prize. During WWII, I fled Nazi Germany because I was Jewish. As a woman in science, I faced discrimination and was often overlooked. Hahn benefited from my work and received all the recognition. Despite my contributions, I remained in the shadows. Today, my achievements are acknowledged, but the injustice I faced still lingers.

Lise Meitner, a physicist who discovered nuclear fission but faced discrimination and was overshadowed by her male colleague, Otto Hahn.

Rosalind Franklin



I am Rosalind Franklin. My X-ray images of DNA were crucial for understanding its structure. However, Watson and Crick used my work without proper credit and won the Nobel Prize. As a woman, I was marginalized in the male-dominated field of science. My contributions were only recognized posthumously, and I didn't live to see the impact of my work. Today, people acknowledge my role in discovering the DNA double helix.

Rosalind Franklin, a chemist whose X-ray images were crucial for discovering the DNA structure but was not credited during her lifetime.

Jocelyn Bell Burnell



I am Jocelyn Bell Burnell. I discovered the first pulsars, but my supervisor, Antony Hewish, received the Nobel Prize. As a young woman in physics, my achievements were ignored. Hewish benefited from my work and gained fame. Despite the oversight, I continued my research and advocacy for women in science. Today, I am recognized and respected for my contributions, but the initial injustice remains a significant part of my story.

Jocelyn Bell Burnell, an astrophysicist who discovered pulsars but was overlooked for the Nobel Prize, which went to her supervisor instead.

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Describe the challenges faced by Lise Meitner, Rosalind Franklin, and Jocelyn Bell Burnell in their scientific careers. How did these challenges affect their recognition during their lifetimes?

Compare the experiences of these three women scientists in terms of the prejudice they faced. How do you think their stories can inspire you when you face difficulties in your own life?

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Additional task

Watch the video to learn more about the lack of equality between women and men. Then, answer the questions.



Youtube: Explained | Why Women Are Paid Less | FULL EPISODE | Netflix

To watch the youtube video just scan the QR code.

Choose the correct answer.

Why did the idea of guaranteed maternity leave in Iceland initially reinforce cultural norms at the heart of the pay gap?

- It made it harder for women to find jobs. It raised the cost of hiring women for employers.
- It encouraged moms to stay home while new fathers kept working.
- It increased the number of single mothers.

What major event in 1994 significantly changed the role of women in Rwanda?

- The Rwandan Genocide. The introduction of free college education.
- A nationwide women's strike. The election of the first female president.

What is one major reason women are paid less than men according to the text?

- Women are less educated than men. Women do not want to work full-time jobs.
- Women often take on the role of primary caregiver. Women do not work as hard as men.

What policy did Iceland implement to encourage fathers to take parental leave?

- Free childcare services for all families. A law requiring equal pay for men and women.
- Tax incentives for companies hiring new dads. A use-it-or-lose-it paternity leave benefit.

Why do some women not see the motherhood penalty as a problem?

- They want to spend more time with their children. They believe men should earn more.
- They do not face discrimination at work. They do not want to have children.