Women in charge

Unit aims
- Read and interpret an online news article and a statistical map.
- Recognize and use adjectives and nouns to describe feelings.
- Recognize and use the passive voice.
- Listen to a speech.
- Participate in a debate.
- Write a formal email.

Starting out
1. How would you define a successful woman?
2. Are there any jobs that women shouldn’t do? If so, which ones and why?

Gloria Steinem, journalist, editor and political activist, Co-founder of New York Magazine and Ms. Magazine

Natalicia Tracy (middle), Executive Director of Brazilian Immigrant Center
Reading

Pre-reading

1. Look briefly at the extract below and check (✓) the sentence that is true about it.

   a. It’s from an online news article.
   b. It’s from a printed newspaper.

Brazilian Immigrant
Wins Social Justice Award

Sacha Pfeiffer January 7, 2014

Natalicia Tracy’s day job is at the Brazilian Immigrant Center in Allston. She’s its executive director, and she and her staff help newcomers to this country with all the struggles that come with being an immigrant, especially in terms of workplace rights.

But these days she has a new title: social justice crusader. She received that honor from the Petra Foundation, which got its start in Boston and recognizes people whose life mission is to build a more fair and just society. And that certainly describes the mission of 42-year-old Natalicia Tracy.

Interview Excerpts

How Tracy’s nanny job began to go awry, and what she did about it:

A few months into the job the family felt that the house was too small so they put me in a [...] porch. That became my bedroom. I put cardboard on the concrete floor and had a futon on the floor and a space heater. That was my room. I was shocked by that. [...] I was responsible for everything and I was working seven nights a week. Some nights, on the weekend, I would be babysitting until 2 am because they wanted to go out with their friends. [...] I was being paid $25 a week for working 90 hours a week [...]. I was alone. I didn’t speak any English. I had an eighth-grade education. I was in a new country [...]. I felt very angry at times because that’s not what they had promised me; they had promised me the opportunity to go to school, learn about a new culture and basically be part of their family. But I found myself in a situation where I felt very trapped so I started to teach myself English with a little dictionary that I brought from home and the radio clock they had given to me. I was supposed to be up by 6 am every day, but it played music, so I listened to music and tried to learn the words. Then I started looking at the newspapers that they left at the house. That’s basically how I learned enough English to get out there and say, “I want to learn more and this is not okay to be in this situation.”

The types of complaints lodged with the Brazilian Immigrant Center, and Tracy’s mission there:

The most common one is wage theft. They worked, they didn’t get paid. And then when you talk to them it’s not that they just didn’t get paid, but they were working, overtime, they were forced to work without a break, if they got hurt, they still had to finish the day of work. Those are the common issues that are brought to us every day [...].

While reading

2. Read the news article briefly. Then read the sentences below and check (✓) the one that explains why Natalicia Tracy won an award.

   a. She works for the Petra Foundation, a human rights organization.
   b. She supports Brazilian immigrants who move to the United States.
3 | Now read the news article more carefully. Then answer the questions below.

a. What does Natalicia do at the Brazilian Immigrant Center?

b. What were Natalicia’s expectations when she went to the United States?

c. How did she learn enough English to leave the family she worked for?

4 | Look at the map and its legend. Then read the statements a–b and check (√) the title which would be more appropriate for the map.


| a. Where women work and don’t: A map of female labor force participation around the world |
| b. Where women work and don’t: Domestic work around the world |

5 | Analyze the map. Then decide if the sentences below are T (true) or F (false).

a. A larger share of women in Uruguay participate in the labor force than in Argentina. ❌

b. The percentage of women in the labor force in the United States and in Russia is the same. ❌

c. On average, less than 25% of women in Europe participate in the labor force. ❌

d. The percentages vary a lot in Africa. ✓

6 | Post-reading

Discuss with your teacher and classmates: Why do the percentages of women who work outside home vary so much around the world?
Adjectives and nouns to describe feelings

1. Based on the information in the news article on page 42, complete the sentence below using one of the adjectives from the box.

happy  important  unhappy  satisfied  wonderful

Natalicia felt ___________________________ about how she was treated in the house where she worked in the United States.

2. Look at the emoticons and decide if they are PT (positive), NG (negative) or NT (neutral).

3. Look at the extract from page 42. Underline the adjectives and classify them as positive or negative.

“I felt very angry at times because that's not what they had promised me; they had promised me the opportunity to go to school […]. But I found myself in a situation where I felt very trapped […].”

4. Read the quote below and complete the sentences.

“A woman with a voice is by definition a strong woman. But the search to find that voice can be remarkably difficult”. – Melinda Gates

a. The adjective for the noun “strength” is ___________________________.

b. The adjective for the noun “difficulty” is ___________________________.

5. Do you agree with the quote in Activity 4? Discuss with a classmate.

6. Match the adjectives with their corresponding nouns.

a  angry  generosity
b  calm  sadness
b  calm  anger
c  disappointed  disappointment
d  embarrassed  embarrassment
e  excited  intelligence
f  generous  surprise
f  generous  intelligence
g  happy  calmness
h  intelligent  excitement
i  sad  tiredness
j  surprised  happiness
k  tired  happiness

Language Corner

Several adjectives finish in -ed, usually deriving from a verb (e. g., trapped, excited, tired, embarrassed, annoyed, surprised, etc.).
Passive voice

1. Read the extract from a newspaper article below.

**What Is “Entrepreneurship” in the 21st Century?**
The French word entrepreneur first appeared in the French dictionary in 1723 to describe a person who organizes and operates a business by taking a financial risk. Since then the word entrepreneur – and the world – has completely changed. Today, entrepreneurship is celebrated like never before and it is defined in so many ways – social entrepreneurship, intra-entrepreneurship, knowledge entrepreneurship, micro-entrepreneurship – you name it. [...]
4. Look at the sentences you wrote in Activity 3. Analyze the verb tenses they are in and choose the correct option.

The sentences are about

☐ the present.
☐ the past.
☐ the future.

5. Read the movie story lines below and complete the sentence. Then, in each story line, use the verbs in parentheses in the passive voice to complete them.

The movies are all related to ____________________.

a. **Title:** Provoked: A True Story  
   **Director:** Jag Mundhra  
   **Country:** India, 2007  
   **Plot:** Provoked _________ (base) on the true story of Kiranjit Ahluwalia, a Punjabi woman. She _________ (sentence) to life imprisonment but the trial _________ (consider) unfair and _________ (cancel).

b. **Title:** The Color Purple  
   **Director:** Steven Spielberg  
   **Country:** USA, 1985  
   **Plot:** This film follows the life of Celie, a young black girl growing up in the early 1900s. We follow Celie’s hard life for 30 years, beginning when she is just 14. The movie is based on the book of the same title by the Afro-American writer Alice Walker and _________ (nominate) for ten Oscars.

c. **Title:** The Promise  
   **Director:** Bethany Rooney  
   **Country:** USA, 1999  
   **Plot:** This movie is based on a true story. Lisa _________ (encourage) by her sister to leave her violent husband.

d. **Title:** Defending Our Lives  
   **Director:** Margaret Lazarus, Renner Wunderlich  
   **Country:** USA, 1993  
   **Plot:** This documentary _________ (award) a prize in 1993. It is about women who _________ (incarcerate).

6. Order the words to write questions in the passive voice about the movies in Activity 5.

   a. movie / produced / Provoked / the / was / where / ?

   b. by / directed / The Color Purple / who / was / ?

   c. was / launched / The Promise / when / ?

   d. a / when / awarded / Defending Our Lives / prize / was / ?

7. Read the story lines in Activity 5 again and answer the questions in Activity 6.

   a. 

   b. 

   c. 

   d. 

A speech

1. This is the motto for a campaign called “It’s on us.” Read the statements below and check (√) the ones that are true according to the information on the page.

The main objective of the campaign “It’s on us” is

a. to combat, prevent and protect the victims of child abuse.

b. to denounce, combat and protect the victims of sexual violence.

2. Now listen to former US President Obama’s speech about the campaign “It’s on us” at the Grammy Awards ceremony in 2015. Check (√) the correct alternative to complete each statement.

a. Obama’s speech is about making changes for the better by ending violence against
   - women and girls.
   - old people.

b. According to Obama, at the moment of his speech, one in five women
   - has been arrested in the United States.
   - has been a victim of rape or attempted rape.

c. And more than one in four women have experienced some form of
   - prejudice.
   - domestic violence.

d. Obama says sexual and domestic violence
   - has to stop.
   - is not his problem.

3. Listen to Obama’s speech again and choose the statement that best represents it.

a. All of us can help create a culture where violence isn’t tolerated and victims are supported.

b. All of us can survive domestic violence. We just need to look for help when we suffer an act of violence.

4. In your opinion, how can artists help stop domestic violence? Discuss your ideas with your teacher and classmates.
A debate

1 You are going to take part in a debate about women’s rights. First analyze the statements below and check (✓) the ones you agree with.

a  Women should be paid higher salaries than men for similar functions.
b  Women should work fewer hours than men.
c  Maternity leave should last one year.
d  Women should always denounce violence against themselves.
e  Women have the same rights as men.
f  Men and women are equally responsible for their children.

2 Read the statements again. Then write in your notebook an argument in favor and an argument against each statement.

3 Read the phrases and place them in the appropriate column in the chart below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Giving/Asking for opinion</th>
<th>Agreeing</th>
<th>Disagreeing</th>
<th>Interrupting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I disagree</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>I’m sorry but</td>
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<tr>
<td>In my opinion</td>
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<tr>
<td>That’s so true.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not necessarily.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I agree</td>
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<td>Excuse me, but</td>
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<tr>
<td>What do you think?</td>
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<tr>
<td>I don’t think so.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exactly</td>
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<tr>
<td>I think ...</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sorry to interrupt, but</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

4 Now using the arguments you wrote in Activity 2 and the useful phrases in Activity 3, debate the statements in Activity 1 with your classmates. Follow the steps below.

Step 1: Review the arguments you wrote in Activity 2.
Step 2: Debate as many of the topics in Activity 1 as you can.
Step 3: Use the expressions in Activity 3 to introduce your ideas and the expressions in the box The World of English.

The World of English

Here are some of the expressions more commonly used with the noun women:

Positive: women entrepreneurs, women’s empowerment, women activists, women’s movement, women’s participation, empowerment of women, participation of women, advancement of women.

Negative: oppression of women, exploitation of women.
Look at the extract below and check (✓) the genre it illustrates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>a</th>
<th>b</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>an informal email</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From: Amy Peticov  
Sent: Monday, February 15th, 2017 09:11  
To: info@malalafund.org  
Topic: Supporting the right to go to school

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Amy Peticov. I am from Kiev, the capital city of Ukraine. I am a social activist dedicated to helping organizations in the use of technologies that cultivate and involve communities. I am writing because I would like to help your organization be better known and recognized around the world. I have a lot of experience in supporting many local, national and international organizations.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Amy Peticov

Read the email carefully and underline the expressions that are generally used in a formal email.

Now you are going to write an email to an international organization to support the right of girls to study. Follow the guidelines below.

**Writing Guidelines**

1. With your classmates, discuss and write down three arguments to support this cause.
2. Choose the international organization you are going to send your email to.
3. Plan your email and decide which supporting arguments you are going to use.
4. Prepare a draft in your notebook. Remember to use formal language.
5. Ask one or more classmates to read and discuss your draft with you.
6. Revise your draft based on this discussion. Correct grammar and spelling too.
7. Write the final version of your email and send it to the organization you chose.
Self-assessment

Reflect on your learning in this unit. Check (✓) the emoticon that best represents your answer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>☑️</th>
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<th>☑️</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Read and interpret an online news article and a statistical map.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recognize and use adjectives and nouns to describe feelings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recognize and use the passive voice.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Listen to a speech.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participate in a debate.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Write a formal email.</td>
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</table>

Having Fun!

Unscramble the words. Use the letters that appear in the circles to form the mystery word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
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The mystery word is F
Grammar Reference

Passive voice

We use the passive voice to emphasize the action instead of the person: who or what causes an action is unknown or irrelevant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Active voice</th>
<th>Passive voice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(People) <em>bring</em> these problems to us every day.</td>
<td>These problems <em>are brought</em> to us every day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(They) <em>forced</em> some people to work overnight.</td>
<td>Some people <em>were forced</em> to work overnight.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We use *by* if we want to say who performs or performed the action.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Active voice</th>
<th>Passive voice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Alice Walker wrote</em> “The Color Purple”.</td>
<td>The “Color Purple” <em>was written by</em> Alice Walker.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We form the passive voice with a form of *be* + past participle.

Present simple

Affirmative: The company *is managed* by a group of talented women.
Negative: Complaints *are not (aren’t) sent* to the Central Office.
Interrogative: *Is the company run by* her?

Past simple

Affirmative: The company *was managed* by a group of talented women.
Negative: Complaints *were not (weren’t) sent* to the Central Office.
Interrogative: *Was the company run by* her?

Future simple with *will*

Affirmative: The company *will be managed* by a group of talented women.
Negative: Complaints *will not (won’t) be sent* to the Central Office.
Interrogative: *Will the company be run by* her?

Present perfect

Affirmative: The company *has been managed* by a group of talented women.
Negative: Complaints *have not (haven’t) been sent* to the Central Office.
Interrogative: *Has the company been run by* her?

Word List

Look at the words on the list and complete them with the missing vowels.

| ___ngry | ___d |
| ___y___d | s___d |
| c___lm | s___tisf___ed |
| dis___ppo___nt___d | sc___r___d |
| emb___rr___ssed | s___ck |
| ___xc___ted | s___pr____sed |
| gr___t | tir___d |
| h___ppy | ___nh___ppy |
| w___nd____rful | |
1 Write the adjectives from the box in the most appropriate column of the chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Positive</th>
<th>Negative</th>
<th>Neutral / It depends</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>happy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 Unscramble the words and write sentences.

a today / extremely / calm / feel / I / .
I feel extremely calm today.

b very / scared / dogs / of / is / Tom / .

Tom is very scared of dogs.

c her / disappointed / was / Tina / son / with / .

Tina was disappointed with her son.

d the / annoyed / noise / with / neighbors / students' / the / were / .

The neighbors were annoyed with the students' noise.

e about / trip / we / next / are / our / excited / .

We are excited about our next trip.

3 Circle the word that doesn’t belong in each group.

a generosity  anger  intelligence  happiness
b annoyed  tired  disappointed  excited
c sadness  embarrassed  scared  excited
d excitement  tiredness  satisfied  anger
Read the definitions and write the words in the crossword puzzle. Discover the mystery word and complete the sentence.

1. astonished, amazed
2. self-conscious or disconcerted
3. emotionally enthusiastic
4. ability to use knowledge
5. willingness to give

1 2 3 4 5
S U R P R I S E D

6. splendid, great
7. saddened by the failure of an expectation
8. the state of being undisturbed, calm
9. the opposite of happiness

Astonished, amazed with my progress in English.

Complete the sentences with the words from the box.

participation rights entrepreneurs movement activists empowerment

a. The American Civil Rights movement started in the 1950s.
b. Women started to fight for their __________ in the 19th century.
c. __________ refers to increasing the spiritual, political, social or economic strength of individuals and communities.
d. Many people believe that the __________ of women in politics and government is essential to building democracy.
e. Gloria Steinem is one of the most important female __________ of all times.
f. Female __________ from around the world have always inspired women in undeveloped countries.
6. Underline the correct alternative to complete the sentences.
   a. The book was/were written by Isabel Allende.
   b. Our school are/is cleaned every day.
   c. My wallet was/were stolen.
   d. They were/was not invited to the party.
   e. Smoking is/are not allowed in the school.
   f. The new school building were/was built last year.

7. Match the active voice sentences in column A with the passive voice sentences in column B. Then complete them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a They forbid smoking on school premises.</td>
<td>A lot of products ____________ in China.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b They produce a lot of products in China.</td>
<td>Smiling is forbidden on school premises.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c They teach us world history.</td>
<td>We ___________ to play games in class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d They didn’t invite Anna to the party.</td>
<td>A lot of inventions ____________ in the 19th century.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e They didn’t allow us to play games in class.</td>
<td>They ___________ help?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f Did they offer you help?</td>
<td>We ___________ world history.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g When did they invent the telephone?</td>
<td>They ___________ the telephone ____________?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Rewrite the sentences in the passive voice.
   a. We export many goods to other countries.
      ________________________________
      Many goods are exported to other countries.

   b. They send us presents every year.
      ________________________________

   c. They told us to be careful.
      ________________________________

   d. They sold tickets last night.
      ________________________________

   e. They made a lot of inventions in the 19th century.
      ________________________________

   f. They grow coffee in Brazil.
      ________________________________
Complete the dialog in the passive voice using the present simple form of the verbs in parentheses.

Kim: Thanks for looking after the kids today, Dad.

Grandpa: No problem. It's a pleasure! What time are the children ready to go to school?

Kim: They (a) __________________ usually (dress) at eight o'clock.

Grandpa: OK. And what time do they come back from school?

Kim: They (b) __________________ at 2:00, so they should be here at 2:30.

Grandpa: All right.

Kim: At about six o'clock, our cat Max (c) __________________ (feed).

Grandpa: Don’t worry. I’ll remember the cat.

Kim: Wonderful! There is lasagna in the fridge. You can heat it in the microwave. Dinner (d) __________________ at seven o'clock.

Grandpa: OK. No problem.

Kim: Many thanks, Dad!

Write questions in the passive voice using the prompts given.

a) When / America / discover?

When was America discovered?

b) Where / the television / invent?

Where was the television invented?

c) When / your favorite book / write?

When was your favorite book written?

d) When / personal computers / create?

When were personal computers created?

e) Where / the first cell phones / make?

Where were the first cell phones made?
Read the text. Then write T (true) or F (false).

Divergent

The movie *Divergent* was released in March 2014. It is a *thrilling* story full of action, romance and adventure. Many people think the book is much better than the film, though.

*Divergent* is the story of a 16-year-old girl called Beatrice who lives in a futuristic dystopian Chicago in which society is divided into five *“factions”*. The members of each faction believe that the old world was destroyed due to different human characteristics and now they are trying to live in a different way.

Beatrice grew up in Abnegation, the generous faction, but now that she is of age, she can move to a new faction. But that means leaving her *beloved* family behind. After an *aptitude* test, it is determined that she is not only generous, but also brave and *knowledgeable*. She is divergent. But what does that mean, and which faction should she choose? *Divergent* relates to our world because it shows how people can split apart over differences of opinion.

11 | Read the text. Then write T (true) or F (false).
--- | ---
**a** | The film *Divergent* is based on a book. T
**b** | It’s a story about the present. F
**c** | All factions have the same human characteristics, except Abnegation. F
**d** | Beatrice has good qualities. T
**e** | The film shows how a person can diverge from others. T

12 | Match the words with their definitions.
--- | ---
**a** | thrilling | well-informed
**b** | faction | adored
**c** | beloved | exciting
**d** | aptitude | division
**e** | knowledgeable | skill

13 | Complete the sentences with the words from Activity 12.
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**a** | I saw a _____________ movie with my friends yesterday.
**b** | It is very difficult to leave someone _____________ behind.
**c** | She has an _____________ for learning languages.
**d** | Are there always different _____________ in large groups?
**e** | I have always found Matt to be _____________ and helpful.