

To wear the trousers

Idiom of the month

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- 1. Tick the clothes women wore in 19th century Britain.
Be careful, there is one extra word.**

1. hat
2. skirt
3. dress
4. trousers
5. coat
6. scarf

2a. Read

Mum wears the trousers in our family.

Yes, she's the boss.

Really?

My mum and dad decide everything together. No one wears the trousers in our house, ha ha!

2b. Complete with the idiom of the month.

Grandad Bob doesn't _____ at home, Grandma Dot makes all the decisions.

Women started to wear trousers (literally) for fashion in the 1960/1970's and they also became more independent and started to wear the trousers (figuratively) thanks to the Women's Rights Movement.

3.

In 21st century Britain men and women can do anything they want. Match all the different choices that women can now make too.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| a. Get married | 1. Stay at home |
| b. Have children | 2. Get a job |
| c. Go to work | 3. Stay single |
| d. Travel, live abroad | 4. Have no children |
| e. Live at home with family | 5. Stay in one place |
| f. Study at university | 6. Live alone, with a partner or friends |

4. Think about your future. Tick your choices in the table in exercise 3.

5. Write a note to your future self.

Today is _____ (the date)

I am _____ years old (your age).

In the future I want to _____
(your choices)

Remember: Only you should wear the trousers in your life: always make your own decisions.

Teacher's Notes

1. Don't tick number 4 (trousers).

2b. Grandad Bob doesn't wear the trousers at home, Grandma Dot makes all the decisions.

3.

a3;

b4;

c1;

d5;

e6;

f2

4&5. Answers may vary.

This exercise is all about encouraging students to think about the future they can create for themselves and to make their own choices.