

## 25 Masculine, feminine and ungendered forms

### Activity A

Some jobs are referred to using different words according to the gender of the person doing the job. Match each of the jobs below with a definition. More than one answer is possible in some cases, and not all the words are needed.

anchor anchorman anchorwoman businessman businesswoman business person  
actor actress cameraman camerawoman chairman chairwoman chair policeman  
policewoman police officer salesman saleswoman salesperson spokesman  
spokeswoman spokesperson sportsman sportswoman sportsperson stuntman  
stuntwoman waiter waitress waitperson weatherman weathergirl

- 1 a man whose job is to sell goods, for example, in a shop \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 a woman who speaks on behalf of a group or an organization \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 a man who performs on the stage, on television or in films, especially as a profession \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 a woman whose job is operating a camera for making films or television programmes \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 a woman on radio or television whose job is describing the weather and telling people what it is going to be like \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 a man whose job is to serve customers at their tables in a restaurant, etc. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 a man in charge of a meeting, who tells people when they can speak, etc. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 a man who presents a live radio or television programme and introduces reports by other people \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 a woman who is a member of the police \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 a woman who works in business, especially at a high level \_\_\_\_\_

### Activity B

Complete each sentence with one of the jobs in A.

- 1 As a professional \_\_\_\_\_, her job consists of performing dangerous feats in movies.
- 2 The singer turned \_\_\_\_\_ had her first role in the 2008 film *On the line*.
- 3 She was an excellent \_\_\_\_\_, keeping the meeting running smoothly and making sure everyone got their say.
- 4 The \_\_\_\_\_ caught up with me outside the store and said she had given me the wrong change.
- 5 She learned ju-jitsu as part of her training to be a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 Olympic gold-medal winner Rebecca Cox was yesterday voted \_\_\_\_\_ of the year by BBC viewers.
- 7 She works as a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ on local television news.
- 8 He dresses very scruffily for a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ – you'd never think he ran his own company.
- 9 She studied meteorology at the National Weather Centre before becoming a TV \_\_\_\_\_.
- 10 The \_\_\_\_\_ was slow taking our orders, and got several wrong, so we didn't leave her a tip.
- 11 A(n) \_\_\_\_\_ for the company said she had been asked to apologise to customers.
- 12 She's a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ for the BBC, and specializes in filming live sports events.

### Activity C

Discuss the questions with a partner:

- 1 Which jobs are done more commonly by women, and which by men? Why do you think this is?
- 2 In your language, do job words change according to the gender of the person doing the job?