**Now, gradually women are ranking the first.**



IN MOST countries, most of the time, men have it easier than women. Last week the World Economic Forum (WEF) showed that the gap is narrowing, but only slowly—and that women are usually on the wrong side of it. No-one doubts that men still have an easier ride, overall. ( Thesis)

The WEF assessed 136 countries according to the equality of outcomes between men and women in health, education, economics and politics. Iceland was ranked first for the fifth year running, closely followed by other northern European countries. The report rated countries according to women’s performance relative to men, rather than their performance overall—so countries where men and women do equally badly were ranked ahead of those in which men do brilliantly and women do merely well. On this basis the Philippines and [Nicaragua](http://www.economist.com/node/21543492) both made the WEF’s top ten, ahead of many richer countries whose women enjoy a better standard of living overall.

Unsurprisingly , the indicator on which women come out most clearly on top rank is life expectancy. Thanks more to biology than good governance, **women outlive men** virtually everywhere. A more recent development is that women are pulling ahead in education. **Girls have been outperforming** boys at schools in the rich world for a while. Now the trend has spread. Women are more likely than men to go to university in 90 of 131 countries surveyed. They have also nudged ahead in secondary-education enrolment: 69 of 120 countries polled have more girls in school than boys.

All in all, better education increasingly means better jobs: in 62 of 113 countries surveyed, women **will be** more likely than men to have “professional or technical” jobs.

**Grammar Lesson :**

While comparing two people , two subjects , you could well use the highly applicable format of :

*… outweighs…/….outscores…./ …outnumbers…/ outperforms…/..outdoes…*