Shayna’s Chivalry Classwork (transcription)

1. In the article, “benevolent sexism” means allowing men to treat women differently than other men in terms of chivalry because their acts are seen as nice gestures.
2. Jones takes seats of gentlemen who offer them to her, has male friends help her sell computer parts, and her boyfriend carry her groceries.
3. Jones views her engagement in these activities as keeping chivalry alive and carrying on old school traditions, allowing men to look after her and treat her like a lady. Feminist psychologists view her engagement in these activities as causing potential harm to women, setting back the feminist movement and “abandoning the sisterhood.”

Can chivalry and feminism coexist? Why or why not?

I believe that chivalry and feminism can coexist. Being more polite or caring of a female due to tradition is not taking away from her equal rights. As the article says, it isn’t as if men believe women can’t open doors by themselves. It’s simply a tradition – one that may have sexist roots but it’s not sexist anymore. The only time chivalry and feminism cannot coexist is when one or the other is misused. \*If men think a woman asking a man out or carrying her own groceries is wrong – or if a woman thinks a man not asking her out or not carrying her groceries is wrong\* – then there is a problem.