

Test

Name:
Class:

Timing: 2 hours
Date: 10/01/2012

Academic year: 11/12
Level: 2nd year bac

Over centuries, women were treated as subordinates and permanent minors under the authority and control of men. Men often tried to justify this by saying that women are inferior to men biologically and intellectually.

Women were long considered naturally weaker than men and unable to perform work requiring muscular or intellectual development. In most pre-industrial societies, domestic chores were relegated to women, leaving labour such as hunting and farming to men. This ignored the fact that caring for children and doing such tasks as milking cows and washing clothes also required considerable effort. But physiological tests now suggest that women have a great tolerance for pain, statistics reveal that they live longer and are more resistant to many diseases.

Maternity, the natural biological role of women, has traditionally been regarded as their major social role as well. Yet, attitudes are nowadays changing. The resulting stereotype that a woman's place is in the home has largely determined the ways in which women have expressed themselves. Today, contraceptives have given women greater control over the number of children they will bear. Although these have freed women from roles other than motherhood, the cultural pressure for females to become wives and mothers still prevents many talented women from finishing college or pursuing careers.

Traditionally, a middle-class girl in western culture tended to learn from her mother's example that cooking, cleaning, caring for children was the behaviour expected for her when she grew up. Tests conducted in the 1960's revealed that the scholastic achievement of girls was high in the early grades, but when they joined high school, their efforts and scores went down. The major reason given was the girls' own expectations declined because neither their families nor their teachers expected them to prepare for future other than that of marriage and motherhood. Fortunately, this trend has been changing in all the corners of the world during recent decades.

<http://www.wic.org/misc/history.htm>

I. COMPREHENSION (15 pts)

A – Choose the right answer from the list: (2 pts)

- 1- The text is probably taken from:
 - a- letter
 - b- biography
 - c- novel
 - d- magazine
- 2- The attitude of the writer is rather:
 - a- neutral
 - b- critical
 - c- biased
 - d- optimistic

B – Are these sentences true or false? Justify? (3 pts)

- 1- Women are less affected by disease than men.
- 2- Now women may decide on how many children they may have.
- 3- Today, women's roles are still limited to housework and motherhood.

C- Answer these questions from the text. (3 pts)

- 1- How did men justify their superiority over women in the past?
- 2- What kinds of work did men do in the past?
- 3- Why did girls' results at school fall at high school level?

D- Find in the text words which mean the same as: (3 pts)

- 1- housework (par 2) = ...

2- fixed idea about someone (par 3) = ...

3- showed (par 4) = ...

E- What do these words refer to in the text? (2 pts)

1- these: (paragraph 3)

2- that: (paragraph 4)

F- Complete these sentences from the text. (2 pts)

1- Men considered women less important because

2- The cultural role of women as mothers still hinders

II. LANGUAGE (15 pts)

A. Fill in the blank with the right word from the box. (4pts)

despair – fright – vitality – audacity – indigence – jubilation – stereotypes

1. The recent violent attacks in the city have spread among the inhabitants.

2. My emotions went from anxiety to complete once I got my high marks.

3. Some people are affluent while the majority suffers from It's unjust!

4. A joke in the beginning of your day renews your.....to face your daily routine.

B. Join the pairs of sentences with the linking words given. (4 pts)

1. He went to work. He was sick.

In spite.....

2. Halima got a promotion since she worked hard.

Thanks to

3. I did not finish my homework. The light went off. (since)

.....

4. Camellia wants to travel in the holidays. She will buy a new car. (so that)

.....

C. Put the words in brackets in the correct form. (3 pts)

If the Moroccan government wants to (power).....rural women, it has to adopt

(include).....measures and foster (literate).....programs for them.

Besides, it has to encourage their (attend).....in schools and reward them for

their (achieve).....later on. Women need to enjoy all their (law)

.....rights to contribute to development.

D. Put the verbs in brackets in the right tense: (4 pts)

After my cousin, Omar, ...(to study) nuclear physics for six years,

he (get) his diploma in 2006. He's been looking for a decent job but in vain. By the

end of next February, he.....(to be) jobless for about three years. Now, he regrets

having studied nuclear physics; he ought to..... (to study) something else.

III. WRITING (10pts)

Women play a major role in modern societies in most sectors. They represent a vital part in sustainable development. Discuss this issue in a three paragraph essay.