

Academic Year: 2015 / 2016  
English Mock Exam N°1  
Duration: 2 hours

Level: 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Baccalaureate  
Student's name: .....  
Class: .....

1 Although Article 19 of the 2011 Constitution states that men and women should enjoy equal rights and freedoms in all areas: civil, political, economic, social, cultural and environmental, Morocco is ranked 131 out of 142 countries for equal gender rights, according to the Global Gender Gap Report of 2014. The situation is even worse for rural women. Societal problems, stereotypes, and lack of livelihood sources stand in the way of **their** progress. Accordingly, parents resort to marrying off their daughters at an early age which makes them depend mostly on their husbands to survive.



2 Indeed, Morocco is among the worst countries for women, according to a recent report from the World Economic Forum. In rural areas, 83 percent of women marry when they are minors and should be at school instead; some are as young as 13 years old. They are neither physically nor mentally able to bear responsibilities like caring for their husbands and bearing children. Poverty and a lack of education contribute to the social degradation of women in rural areas where there are limited employment prospects.



Schools are often both remote and very expensive. Moreover, in such areas, traditions and norms dictate women's roles in life which consists of getting married, doing household chores, and raising kids.

3 Honour is highly regarded in rural areas, and girls must show **chastity\***. They rarely go out and must show obedience to strict social norms. A girl who breaks these rules may bring shame to her family. As a result, families keep their daughters at home as soon as they reach puberty in order to avoid any problems that may affect their reputation. Women in rural areas suffer, but society is oblivious. To empower them, we have to change our habits and strengthen them socially, economically and culturally. As a first step, Morocco must start an effective project to help involve rural areas in sustainable development, especially by giving much more importance to women there.

4 In this respect, building enough schools and facilitating access to them would guarantee a better future for girls, as it will initiate change by displaying models of successful women in the Moroccan and international context. The mass media is also invited to play its role in making people conscious of the importance of women's participation in social life. Muslim scholars can contribute to eradicating stereotypes and gender gap and promoting basic rights and gender equality.



5 Morocco needs every citizen to take part in developing the economy. So, women are part of this project. Their empowerment, especially in rural areas, is a must, and it is the responsibility of all Moroccans. **This process** will be more effective if Morocco succeeds in changing its inhabitants' male way of thinking. Women should be aware that they are not under the control of men. They are independent members who can contribute to society in the same way as men.

chastity\*      chasteté      عفة

**I COMPREHENSION (15 POINTS) {BASE YOUR ANSWERS ON THE TEXT}**

**A Tick  the most appropriate title for the text. (1 pt)**

- 1 Urban Women In Morocco – A Call For Empowerment
- 2 Rural Women In Morocco – A Call For Empowerment
- 3 Rural Women In Morocco – A Change For The Better


**B Complete the following chart with information from the text. (3 pts)**

Cause	Effect
1 .....	Women usually rely on their parents or their husbands to survive.
2 Honour is reputable in rural areas, and girls must show virtue.	.....
3 .....	The empowerment of women in all Morocco is an obligation.

**C Answer the following questions. (3 pts)**

- 1 Why shouldn't girls be married at an early age? .....
- 2 How can schools promote change? .....
- 3 What must rural women be convinced of? .....

**D Are these sentences TRUE or FALSE? JUSTIFY. (3 pts)**

- 1 Urban women enjoy a better situation. ....
- 2 In rural areas there are a lot of job opportunities. ....
- 3 If Morocco wants to develop, rural women should be given priority. ....

**E Complete the following sentences with information from the text. (2 pts)**

- 1 Morocco is placed among the lowest countries where genders don't benefit from equal rights despite ...
- 2 Muslim scholars can not only contribute to eradicating stereotypes and gender gap, but .....

**F Find in the text words that mean the same as the following. (2 pts)**

- 1 far-off (parag 2) ..... 2 unaware (parag 3) .....

**G What do these underlined words in the text refer to? (1 pt)**

- 1 their (parag 1) ..... 2 This process (parag 5) .....



