

الاسم:
الرقم:

مسابقة في مادة اللغة الإنكليزية
المدة ساعتان و نصف

Part One: Reading Comprehension

(Score: 11/20)

Read the following selection which highlights the changing attitudes towards gender equality. When you are through with the reading, answer the questions that follow.

Working Mothers Should Not Feel Guilty

- 1 “How do **you** balance work and family? Who is watching your kids when you are on your business trip?” Few fathers are ever asked these questions, but many mothers who work outside the home hear them on a regular basis. Many people still associate men with careers and women with home.
- 2 Have we made any progress at all? Here is the good news: We have, and a lot. In a recent article just published in *Psychology of Women Quarterly*, my co-authors and I looked at two nationally representative surveys done since the 1970s that quizzed Americans about their views of gender roles. In 1977, 68% of American adults took a negative view of working mothers, agreeing that “A preschool child is likely to suffer if his or her mother works.” However, only 42% agreed in 1998, **which** sank further to 35% in 2012. Even fewer of today’s young generation agrees: 22% of high school seniors in the 2010s thought children suffer when they have a working mother, down from 59% in the 1970s.
- 3 Another item takes a positive view of working mothers: “A working mother can establish just as warm and secure a relationship with her children as a mother who does not work.” Only 49% agreed in 1977, which increased to 68% in 1998 and to 72% by 2012. Thus, acceptance of working mothers went from losing the election to winning it.
- 4 There have been some bumps along the way: Attitudes became slightly more traditional during the 1990s, those times of race and gender upheaval. Then, around 2000, they began a steady climb toward more and more acceptance. High school students’ attitudes became much more accepting of working mothers between the 1970s and the 1990s and then only inched upward, but they did not have much further up to go.
- 5 People are increasingly uncomfortable with any social rule that tells them what they can and cannot do based on their race or gender. This is evident in their attitudes and behavior that go hand in hand. High school students whose mothers worked were even more supportive of working mothers than **those** who had a stay-at-home mother. Even, both had more accepting attitudes over the decades. Thus, the ethos of the moment is equality, rooted in the growing individualism of many cultures.
- 6 Perhaps public attitudes have come to reflect the psychology research on the effects of daycare for kids. Studies have consistently found few differences between children based on their mothers’ employment – some effects of daycare are positive, and some are negative, but **all** are fairly small, much smaller than the effects of parenting.
- 7 It is clear that the world has changed for women – culturally. Women staying in the workforce after they have children is arguably the largest cultural and generational change of them all. This change has the most effect on the daily lives of men and women, adults and children. It cuts across race, class, and goes beyond borders.
- 8 Given that, why don’t we have a solution for the problem so many families with two working parents face: How to pay for daycare for their kids? Unlike U.S., most industrialized countries have solutions in place, with financially-aided daycare or preschool and mandatory paid parental leave. Recently, governmental consensus has formed around government-sponsored preschool – basically, extending state funding of kindergarten down another year or two. Some believe this goes too far in spending tax dollars

on daycare; others think it does not even come close to solving the problem of affordable daycare. Should the government do a better job of helping families where both parents work? Or do parents need to work things out for themselves?

9 Working versus staying at home is a tough, emotional, personal issue. However, if you are a working mother, you can let go of at least some of your guilt – a solid majority of Americans now believes you are not harming your kids. It is a small step, but it is a step.

Questions

- A.** Answer each of the following questions in 2- 4 complete sentences of your own words.
1. Provide two examples of gender discrimination highlighted in Paragraph 1. **(Score: 0.5pt)**
 2. Identify two main purposes of the surveys done since the 1970s. **(Score: 01pt)**
 3. How does the writer interpret the statistical figures mentioned in Paragraphs 2 and 3? **(Score: 01pt)**
 4. Infer what the two debatable issues of Paragraph 8 serve. **(Score: 01pt)**
- B.** Answer the following questions in complete sentences.
1. Which Paragraph best justifies the title of the selection above? Justify. **(Score: 01pt)**
 2. State the purpose of the first sentence of Paragraph 7, and identify the mood it provides for the rest of the paragraph. Justify your answer. **(Score: 1.5pts.)**
 3. Identify two types of audience, other than the general reader, who might be interested in reading the selection above, and then state what interest each type has. **(Score: 1.5pts.)**
- C.** Scan Paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 for one piece of evidence to each change of attitude listed in the table below. Copy the table in your booklet, and use phrases. **(Score: 1.5pts.)**

Attitude	Evidence of Change
1. Individual	
2. Social/Public	
3. Cultural	

- D.** Refer to Paragraphs 4, 5 and 8 to find words that almost have the following meanings. **(Score: 01pt)**
1. *regular in movement*
 2. *firmly fixed*
 3. *general agreement; majority of opinion*
 4. *to be within one's financial means*

- E.** What does each of the words, **bold-typed** in the selection above, refer to? **(Score: 01pt)**

1. **you** (Paragraph 1)
2. **which** (Paragraph 2)
3. **those** (Paragraph 5)
4. **all** (Paragraph 6)

Part Two: Writing **(Score: 09/20)**

“Although gender equality is a human right and a precondition for advancing development and reducing poverty, it remains an unfulfilled promise.” In a well-organized essay of 250-300 words, **discuss the above statement, elaborating on how empowered women contribute to the productivity of families and communities.** Use logical reasons and examples to support your ideas. Make sure that, in your introduction, you put the reader in the general atmosphere of your topic and clearly provide a thesis statement, and that each of your body paragraphs starts with a topic sentence which you back up with relevant supporting details. Draft, revise, and proofread your essay. Your writing will be assessed for ideas, language and style, and tidiness. **[Score: 05 for ideas and organization, 03 for language and style, and 01 for tidiness and legible handwriting]**

Part of Question	Answer Key	Mark
I-A-1	<p>First, many working mothers are continuously questioned about how they balance between work and family, while only few working men are subjected to such questions. Second, females are seen as housewives, while men are seen as workers.</p> <p>N.B: 0.25 for each</p>	0.5
I-A-2	<p>The first purpose of the surveys is to study people's views towards the role of each gender. Second, they aim to study the influence of working mother's absence on teenagers. Another purpose is to survey the difference between working mothers and housewives regarding their ability to secure positive relationships with their children.</p> <p>N.B: Two are enough, and 0.5 for each</p>	01
I-A-3	<p>The writer interprets the statistical figures in a positive way because his analysis shows that attitudes towards gender equality are more positive than ever. This is clearly evident in the change of people's attitudes towards issues related to working mothers: from 68% in 1977 to 42% in 1998 and then to 35% in 2012 regarding negative attitudes of adults, from 59% in 1970s to 22% in 2010 regarding negative attitudes of teenagers, and from 49% in 1977 to 68% in 1998 and to 72% in 2012 regarding acceptance of working mothers by people.</p> <p>N.B: 0.25 for the writer positive interpretation, and 0.75 for justification</p>	01
I-A-4	<p>The first debatable issue is about the lack of financial support to working parents, and it shows a critical attitude of the writer towards the role of U.S. in contrast to other industrialized countries that have already tackled the issue. The second debate is among governmental officials about whether the duration of kindergarten funding should be extended or not. This debate shows that there is no final governmental agreement on the financial support working parents should have and the role the government plays in addressing this issue.</p> <p>N.B: 0.5 for the first, and 0.5 for the second</p>	01
I-B-1	<p>The last paragraph best justifies the idea stated in the title. The title states that women who work should not feel guilty, but it does not state why. Paragraph 9 clarifies and explains that the changing attitudes of the majority of the American people towards the fact that working mothers are not hurting their children is a reason that liberates them from the sense of guilt.</p> <p>N.B: 0.25 for identifying the paragraph, and 0.75 for justification</p>	01
I-B-2	<p>First, Sentence 1 of Paragraph 7 sums up the result of what the writer discusses in previous paragraphs about the causes behind the changing attitude towards working</p>	01.5

	<p>mothers, so the result is a clear change in the attitude. This prepares the reader for a sense of satisfaction that dominates the rest of Paragraph 7 because the writer shows that gender equality has improved and has become a cultural change that crosses the lines of its region.</p> <p>N.B: 0.5 for the function, 0.5 for the mood, and 0.5 for its justification</p>									
I-B-3	<p>The first type might be members of human rights organizations (or of women’s rights organization) because the selection provides details and facts about the latest surveys that study people’s attitudes towards working mothers and gender equality. The second type might be working women because the selection highlights their role as mothers and the issues they still suffer from.</p> <p>N.B: 0.25 for each identification and 0.5 for each justification Any other logical answer is acceptable.</p>	01.5								
I-C	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Attitude</th> <th>Evidence of Change</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Individual</td> <td>Having support of high school children to their working mothers</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Social Or Public</td> <td>Having more influential equality Or Having less negative effects of daycare</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Cultural</td> <td>Working even after delivering children</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>N.B: 0.5 for each</p>	Attitude	Evidence of Change	1. Individual	Having support of high school children to their working mothers	2. Social Or Public	Having more influential equality Or Having less negative effects of daycare	3. Cultural	Working even after delivering children	01.5
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1. Individual	Having support of high school children to their working mothers									
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I-D-1	steady	0.25								
I-D-2	rooted	0.25								
I-D-3	consensus	0.25								
I-D-4	affordable	0.25								
I-E-1	“you” refers to a working father or a working mother / working parent	0.25								
I-E-2	“which” refers to the percentage of agreement	0.25								
I-E-3	“those” refers to high school students	0.25								
I-E-4	“all” refers to effects	0.25								
II-A	Ideas and organization	05								
II-B	Language and style	03								
II-C	Tidiness and legible handwriting	01								