Gender Quiz

Target audience: Policy-makers and planners, project/programme officers, teacher trainers, gender trainers

This quiz will test your knowledge on issues related to education and gender. It is primarily intended for those who are already familiar with these issues, but it is a good sensitizer and may be used by all.

(Please mark a ✓ for the most appropriate response(s) to the questions mentioned below)

1. If sex refers to the biological differences between men and women, gender refers to:
   a) Socially constructed roles and responsibilities of men and women
   b) A concept that may change over time and vary within and between cultures
   c) Feminity and masculinity
   d) All of the above

2. Gender equality is an issue that is relevant to:
   a) Only girls and women; it is a women's issue
   b) Developing countries; it is only there that gender gaps exist
   c) All societies, women and men alike
   d) Ministries dedicated to women's affairs

3. Which Millennium Development Goal (MDG) focuses on gender?
   a) MDG 1
   b) MDG 2
   c) MDG 3
   d) MDG 5

4. Why are girls more likely than boys to miss out on secondary education in the developing world?
   a) Because of high school fees, only boys go to school
   b) Many adolescent girls are expected to help out at home
   c) Child marriage restricts girls' mobility and freedom
   d) All of the above

5. According to the 2009 UNICEF State of the World's Children Report, what is the proportion of girls in the developing world who get married before the age of 18?
   a) 12%
   b) 25%
   c) 36%
   d) 54%
6. Many women who become HIV positive have not practiced high-risk behaviours, and are either married or in, what they believe to be, a monogamous relationship (with only one partner who does not have other partners).
   a) True
   b) False

7. What fraction of the world’s working hours is worked by women and girls?
   a) 1/4
   b) 1/2
   c) 2/3
   d) 3/4

8. As of May 2009, how many countries worldwide have met the goal of having women comprise a critical mass of 30% of parliamentarians?
   a) 19
   b) 24
   c) 39
   d) 49

9. Obstacles faced by women entering the world of information and communication technologies (ICTs) include:
   a) Women’s limited access to financial resources for buying ICT equipment
   b) Unequal access to education and training
   c) Isolation of women in their homes or in remote places
   d) All of the above

10. Between 1901 and 2009, the Nobel Prizes have been awarded to 806 individuals and 23 organizations. How many women have received the Prize?
    a) 12
    b) 41
    c) 77
    d) 158

11. Looking at the issue of violence against women from a gender perspective recognizes that…
    a) It is the nature of men to be violent. Women have to accept a certain degree of violence.
    b) Violence against women is a manifestation of prevailing unequal power relations between women and men.
    c) It is also women’s fault if men are violent with women.
    d) It is women’s responsibility only to cope with men’s violence.

12. In 2000, the UN Security Council passed Resolution 1325, a historical resolution that calls for:
    a) the exclusion of women from all combating forces, both in military and para-military structures
    b) the full and equal participation of women in all peace and security initiatives
c) women’s equal participation in efforts of war

13. Which strategies help women become more socially and economically empowered?

a) Women working together to challenge discrimination
b) More income sources for women
c) Improved access to education
d) All of the above

14. National policies that promote gender equality contribute to:

a) Poverty eradication
b) Achieving Education for All goals
c) Reduction of HIV infections
d) Ending violence against women
e) All of the above

15. Why are there more women in the teaching profession at the lower levels of education?

a) Men prefer women to be involved in the teaching profession
b) Women have fewer chances of being qualified to work in higher level positions
c) Teaching is considered as a more suitable profession for women
d) Women are considered as being more nurturing
e) All of the above
Gender Quiz - Answers

1. d) All of the above

   The concept of gender is vital because it reveals how women's subordination is socially constructed. It is not biologically predetermined, nor is it fixed forever.

   Gender inequality exists because men and women are being valued differently and consequently, have unequal opportunities and life chances.

2. c) All societies, women and men alike

   Gender equality is not directly correlated to economic development. Gender inequalities also exist in industrialized countries with high Gross National Product (GNP) per capita.

   Gender equality is not a so called “women’s issue.” Women’s empowerment is necessary, but only a step in the process towards achieving gender equality-which has yet to be achieved in any country of the world.

3. c) MDG 3

   MDG 3 focuses on the promotion of gender equality and women’s empowerment.

   However, as indicated in the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document (para 59), gender equality and women’s empowerment are fundamental for the achievement of all MDGs, whichever number they are given.

4. d) All of the above

   Poverty and gender inequality are important factors that prevent girls from going to secondary school. At the same time, girls’ education is essential for poverty eradication.

5. c) 36%

   Globally, 36% of women aged 20-24 were married or in union before they turned 18, most commonly in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

6. a) True

   Violence against women, gender discrimination and lack of education increase women’s vulnerability to HIV.

   Marriage alone, without mutual exclusivity and/or the use of proven effective prevention methods (condoms), does not guarantee protection from infection.

7. c) 2/3

   Women work 2/3 of the world’s working hours, yet receive only about ten percent of the world’s income. This is because women are responsible for most of the world’s unpaid labour, which often goes unrecognized – like childcare, cooking and cleaning.

8. b) 24

   The 24 countries are: Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Belarus, Belgium, Burundi, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Guyana, Iceland, Mozambique, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Rwanda, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania.
It is to be noted that 7 of these 24 countries are developing countries, and none of them are in the Asia-Pacific region.

9. d) All of the above

Women’s ability to take advantage of ICT depends on conducive policies, an enabling environment in their countries to extend communications infrastructure to where women live, and increased educational levels.

10. b) 41

Women comprise only 4.3% of all Nobel Laureates.

Women have won Nobel Prizes in all categories - Physics (2), Chemistry (4), Physiology or Medicine (10), Literature (12), Peace (12) and Economic Sciences (1).

11. b) Violence against women is a manifestation of prevailing unequal power relations between women and men

Violence affects us all, but in most cases it targets women and girls and is perpetrated by men. This is not to say that men are genetically designed to be violent, but that as long as gender inequalities persist in our societies and that serious efforts are not made to build more balanced and mutually supporting gender roles, women will continue to suffer.

12. b) The full and equal participation of women in all peace and security initiatives

In adopting Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security in 2000, the UN Security Council discussed specifically for the first time the roles of women in the context of armed conflict and peace-building initiatives. This resolution is one of the strongest normative documents in this field.

13. d) All of the above

Education, assets ownership and increased income empower women. Ensuring that women have opportunities to earn income, own assets and get an education can help to strengthen their influence in household decisions.

14. e) All of the above

Gender equality is an essential dimension for ensuring political participation and accountability; economic empowerment and effective development planning; crisis prevention and conflict resolution; access to clean water, sanitation, energy services and education; the best use of new technologies for development purposes; and society-wide mobilization against HIV/AIDS.

15. e) All of the above

This situation is the result of gender stereotypes and the structural way teachers are selected, trained, placed and promoted.