UNIT 1: READING COMPREHENSION GUIDE

Read the passage and do the tasks below.

While couples without a clear or equal chore division may encounter quarrels over who does what, a recent survey finds the divorce rate among couples sharing chores equally is about fifty percent higher than those in which wives do more or most of the housework, which can be **a slap in the face for** gender equality.

The researchers explain that modern couples organize their marriage and work out the tasks and duties, which may gradually **turn their marriage into a business or contractual relationship**. The woman may gradually feel less needed or happy and what's worse is that no one would care to help if something is not among their assigned chores. That seems to encourage conflicts rather than conflict resolution skills.

On the contrary, in families without equal task division women **tend to be** responsible for more chores than men. While they believe they can exchange their roles for their husbands', many women believe they are most naturally suited for certain tasks. They simply enjoy being **involved in their children's activities,** which means more chores for them. This group of women also report more marital satisfaction.

The survey also aimed to **find out** whether women's were happier if men shared more of the burden. In fact, they find that men report fewer family conflicts and greater well-being while women appear to be largely unmoved. This may be partly because **they** feel less guilty or simply learn how to have a quiet life.

Part 1. Choose no more than THREE WORDS from the reading text that have the same meaning as the given definition to fill in each blank.

1. process or result of dividing household responsibilities

_____

2. view that requires the same rights, benefits, etc. regardless of sexes

_____

3. tie or bond between people who agree on certain conditions - _____

4. ability to solve one's conflicts with other people

_____

5. subjective evaluation of how satisfied people are in their marriage - _____

6. general health and happiness

_____

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Part 2. Choose the best answers for the following questions.

1. What is the best title for the above reading text?

A. The divorce rate among modern families

B. Factors that cause conflicts between husbands and wives

C. The share of chores and marital happiness

2. What may turn marriage into a contractual relationship?

A. Too much housework

B. The way couples organize their families and the clear-cut chore division

C. Task and duties that are unclearly assigned

3. What does it mean by "**unmoved**"?

A. happy B. disappointed C. unshaken

4. How do men feel when they do more housework than before?

A. Happier B. Sympathetic towards women C. Reluctant

5. What can be inferred from the reading text?

A. Chores themselves do not affect one's marital satisfaction.

B. Household chores should be done by women.

C. There should be equality in everything to gain marital happiness.

6. What does the word "they" in the fourth paragraph mean?

A. Women B. Men C. Women & men

Part 3. Decide whether the following statements are True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG).

	T	F	NG
1. There is an increasing divorce rate among couples in families with unequal chore division.			
2. Couples in families with equal housework division know how best to solve conflicts.			
3. Women in families without equal task division believe they can do things that men do.			
4. Most of the women who do more household chores have husbands working full-time.			

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