

## READING COMPREHENSION: TASK 1

Read this text carefully and answer the questions according to the text.

### GENDER EQUALITY

In 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights brought human rights into international law. Since then, the United Nations has protected human rights and promoted gender equality as a way to achieve more social progress. Despite massive progress, women are still discriminated compared to their male colleagues.

Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world. It does not mean that women and men should be the same, but that they have equal value and should be given equal treatment. What will benefit societies and humanity in the long run is providing women and girls with equal rights and opportunities to access education, employment, health care, resources, and political and economic representation. When women and men have relative equality, economies grow faster, children's health improves and there is less corruption.

How are women doing around the world today? Generally speaking, women are way better off than they were 100 years ago, but when you examine the local situations across the planet, it's not so easy to answer. In some countries, gender equality is actively pursued. In many others, inequalities are imposed.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

- More than 63 million girls around the world are not in school. Access to education is especially a problem in countries where groups that oppose female education attack many schools.
- In some countries women can't leave the country without the consent of their husbands. The captain of a Women's Soccer team couldn't take part in the Women's Championship of Malaysia in 2015 because her husband didn't allow her to.
- In some rural communities, due to traditional preference for boys, many baby girls end up homeless, in orphanages, or even killed.
- Women around the world aged 15-44 are more at risk of dying from domestic violence than from cancer, car accidents, war and malaria.
- More than 80% of the world's refugees are women and children.
- Even in developed countries, women are at a disadvantage. Women earn about 23% less than men for the same type of work.

On January 1<sup>st</sup> 2018, Iceland became the first country to officially codify equal pay for men and women. The country aims to completely eliminate gender pay inequality by 2022, but the World Economic Forum estimates that it could take 170 years to eliminate it worldwide.

Text adapted from <http://www.un.org> and <http://www.borgenmagazine.com>

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**16** In 1948 human rights became...

- a. international law.
- b. universal rights.
- c. national rules.

**17** According to the text, how can more social progress be achieved?

- a. By discriminating colleagues.
- b. By promoting gender equality.
- c. By developing new technologies.

**18** Gender equality means that women...

- a. and men are the same.
- b. should have more job opportunities.
- c. should be given the same rights as men.

**19** With gender equality...

- a. economies decrease.
- b. there is more corruption.
- c. children have better health.

**20** According to the text, groups against female education...

- a. attack schools in some countries.
- b. only attack special schools.
- c. send girls to orphanages.

**21** In some countries, women have to \_\_\_\_\_ to go abroad.

- a. give their consent
- b. allow their husbands
- c. ask their husbands for permission

**22** Rural communities traditionally prefer...

- a. lots of children.
- b. boys over girls.
- c. girls over boys.

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**23** For women aged 15-44, risk of dying from domestic violence is...

- a. lower than from car accidents.
- b. the same as from war.
- c. higher than from cancer.

**24** Iceland was the first country to establish equal salary for men and women in...

- a. 1948
- b. 2015
- c. 2018

**25** Put the sentences in the correct order as they appear in the text.

**A.**

Iceland's law on  
gender pay equality.

**B.**

What is gender  
equality?

**C.**

The situation of women  
around the world.

**D.**

The situation of  
women today.

- a. B → D → C → A
- b. C → D → A → B
- c. D → C → B → A

**26** The objective of the text is to...

- a. report the situation of women in the world.
- b. teach women what to do about gender equality.
- c. inform about the situation of women in developed countries.

**27** The text you have read is from a...

- a. website.
- b. newspaper.
- c. user's guide.

## READING COMPREHENSION: TASK 2

Read this text carefully and answer the questions according to the text.

### RECORD OF VISITORS TO THE 2017 MANGA FAIR

Although manga and anime originated in Japan and at first were almost completely unknown in the rest of the world, they have become a global phenomenon and their popularity is growing every day. They both share many characteristics like exaggerated physical features, but are ultimately two different things. Manga are Japanese comics, typically published in black and white, while anime are Japanese animated cartoons that are usually broadcast on television. The confusion between the two arises mostly because it's often the case that the same story will have both an anime and a manga version.

Perhaps it is because of the love that Japanese people have for all things *kawaii* (cute), that most manga and anime are dedicated to young people. The protagonists are usually young characters that go through many adventures. That could explain why teenagers are so fond of manga and anime today. Moreover, although characters often live unreal situations, it seems it is easy for teenagers to identify with them.

In 2017, the 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Manga Fair was housed in Montjuïc, Barcelona, and with more than 148,000 people it achieved a record of visitors. Fira Montjuïc offers excellent facilities and a capacity of 75,000 square meters, enough for a growing number of visitors. The great covered stage was the place for the cosplay\* contests, the exhibitions of Asian dances, live music performances and many other activities. Furthermore, the stage was equipped with two big video walls so that people could follow the performances in greater detail.



Due to its growing success, a whole floor was devoted to the cosplaying world. One of the central activities was the cosplay workshop, where visitors could learn about costume making, accessories, and make-up. One of the innovations was focused on youtubers, who offered workshops and brought their universe closer to the visitors in a convenient and enjoyable way. Celebrities from the manga world were invited and visitors could take part in a wide variety of talks and workshops, not only on manga and anime but also on a wide variety of topics on Japanese culture.

Text adapted from <https://www.insidejaptours.com> and <https://manga-xxiii.ficomic.com>  
Image by Kasuga~commonswiki - Own work, GFDL. <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=960146>

#### GLOSSARY:

- \* **cosplay:** contraction of the words *costume play*, a hobby in which people dress up in costumes to resemble a fictional character from a film, book or video game, especially one from manga or anime.

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**28** Manga and anime's popularity is...

- a. increasing everywhere.
- b. only growing in Japan.
- c. decreasing in Japan.

**29** Manga and anime...

- a. are always black and white.
- b. don't have anything in common.
- c. share exaggerated physical features.

**30** Manga is usually...

- a. published in black and white.
- b. broadcast on television.
- c. published online.

**31** Manga \_\_\_\_\_ has an anime version.

- a. never
- b. often
- c. always

**32** Many of the manga and anime characters are...

- a. elderly people.
- b. teenagers.
- c. adults.

**33** In the sentence 'That could explain why teenagers are so fond of manga and anime today', the expression "fond of" means...

- a. fascinated about.
- b. concerned about.
- c. bored of.

**34** If you are into cosplay, you enjoy...

- a. carnival parades in Japan.
- b. wearing comfortable clothes.
- c. dressing up as a manga character.

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**35** The covered stage was the place for...

- a. the audience.
- b. all performances.
- c. the sports competitions.

**36** In the Manga Fair you could meet...

- a. lots of Japanese tourists.
- b. manga actors and actresses.
- c. famous people from the manga world.

**37** The Manga Fair is an opportunity to learn...

- a. about Japanese culture.
- b. how to talk in a workshop.
- c. how to film youtubers in action.

**38** You can find information about the location for most performances in the \_\_\_\_\_ paragraph.

- a. second
- b. third
- c. fourth

**39** Organize the sentences in the correct order as they appear in the text.

**A.**

The location of the Manga Fair.

**B.**

The growth of manga and anime.

**C.**

The popularity of manga and anime among teenagers.

**D.**

The great success of cosplay.

- a. A → B → C → D

- b. B → C → A → D

- c. B → A → D → C

**40** The text is about...

- a. manga and anime in Japan.
- b. Japanese culture in Barcelona.
- c. the growing success of manga and anime.