

Key Skills Communication Level 3

The Achievement and Attitude Gap

Final Mark Scheme

Part A Short Answer Questions

Q1 Using information from documents 1 and 4, identify four explanations of the under-achievement of boys.			
Criteria	Marking Guide	Marks	Max Marks
3.2.1	Candidate has read and selected relevant material from documents 1 and 4.	1 mark	1 mark
3.2.2	<p>Candidate has identified four explanations of the under-achievement of boys eg</p> <p>a) in school boys are less successful at the range of tasks required and the types of test work against them (doc 1).</p> <p>b) boys develop later and are less well equipped for the start of formal schooling</p> <p>c) boys' actions and energy are more likely to be judged as misbehaviour (doc 1).</p> <p>d) boys' first teachers are overwhelmingly women and this may have negative effects (doc 1).</p> <p>e) lower expectations about boys' achievement may be self-fulfilling (docs 1 and 4).</p> <p>f) boys do not like losing and may choose not to compete at school (doc 4).</p> <p>g) many of the jobs traditionally done by males have disappeared and with them the motivation to do well (doc 4).</p> <p>h) many of the male role models shown in the media present a negative image to boys (doc 4).</p> <p>Accept any other valid reasons from the documents</p>	1 mark per reason (max. 4 marks)	4 marks
Total for question			5 marks

Q2			
Identify three ways in which documents 3 and 4 suggest that male behaviour needs to change. Explain why according to the documents, these changes are needed.			
Criteria	Marking Guide	Marks	Max Marks
3.2.1	Candidate has read and selected relevant material from documents 3 and 4.	1 mark	1 mark
3.2.2	Candidate has identified three ways in which it is suggested that male behaviour needs to change, eg: a) Males have to adjust to changing expectations about job roles (doc 3 and 4) b) Men will have to modify their natural instincts so that they are more acceptable and useful to women (doc 3) c) Men are now being expected to take a larger share in domestic roles (doc 3) d) Men should be prepared to break away from stereotype images in the media (doc 4). Accept any other valid points from the documents	1 mark per way (max. 3 marks)	
3.2.3	Candidate has synthesised arguments used in the documents to explain why male behaviour needs to change, eg: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it is necessary for male behaviour to change because men are now competing against women whose achievements are equal or superior to them, and because women are increasingly occupying more senior and influential positions in the workplace and in society generally. • the range of jobs traditionally done by men has declined and consequently men need to be prepared to adopt more domestic roles and interests to complement those of women more likely to be involved in professional careers. Accept any other synthesised arguments.	up to 3 marks	3 marks
Total for question			7 marks

Q3 Explain the meaning of each image in document 3 and discuss the relevance of each to the text of document 3.			
Criteria	Marking Guide	Marks	Max Marks
3.2.2	<p>Candidate has given a legitimate explanation of the meaning of the images in document 3 eg</p> <p>Image 1 This could be said to represent the conventional image of Action Man ('Old' Action Man) with knife and body armour illustrating the traditional male role of warrior and defender showing dominance by force and superior physical strength.</p> <p>Image 2 This image illustrates an aspect of 'New' Action Man with an altogether 'softer', less aggressive side. He represents business/leisure/fashion, rather than man of action.</p> <p>Image 3 This is intended to represent another example of 'New' Action Man adopting a caring, domestic role nursing a baby.</p> <p>Accept any other valid interpretations</p>	1 mark for each (max. 3 marks)	3 marks
3.2.3	<p>Candidate has discussed the relevance of the images in relation to the text in an effective manner, based on appropriate synthesis of information eg</p> <p>Image 1 This is still the natural choice according to the text, but this behaviour needs to be modified to become more acceptable to women of the future.</p> <p>Image 2 This is one way in which male behaviour needs to change according to the text, the decorative tie perhaps representing a greater interest in dress and physical appearance as a means of attracting partners and demonstrating success</p> <p>Image 3 The 'new' man is happy to help around the house and take a more active role in the caring of children, as the text argues he must become.</p> <p>If only 1 or 2 images are related to the text – max 2 marks</p>	up to 3 marks	
Total for question			6 marks

Q4 Using information from two or more documents, give two examples of how gender roles have not been affected, despite changing social attitudes. Briefly discuss the reasons for each of these.			
Criteria	Marking Guide	Marks	Max Marks
3.2.1	Candidate has read and selected relevant information from at least two documents	1 mark	1 mark
3.2.2	Candidate has identified two arguments which indicate the resistance to changing social attitudes and behaviour. eg a) Despite superior educational performance, women still do not earn as much as men. (doc 2). b) Men still occupy the most senior positions in the workplace and in society generally (docs 2 and 4). c) Behaviour and attitudes are to some extent biologically determined (docs 3 and 4). d) Individuals do not readily/should not be expected to fit stereotypes of attitudes and behaviour (docs 1, 3 and 4). e) In other cultures eg. Yemen, traditional gender roles still apply (doc 3). Accept other valid arguments.	1 mark per argument (max. 2 marks)	2 marks
3.2.3	Candidate has discussed reasons for the resistance to change, by synthesising the arguments presented in the texts, eg <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As men have been the ones in control for centuries they still set the political agenda and cling onto their positions of power and leadership in the highest reaches of society • It is not so simple as saying that men (or women) "must" or "should" change their behaviour or attitudes, as such changes go against natural instincts developed over many generations • Stereotyping both male and female characteristics and behaviour is not appropriate or helpful and individuals should find the right roles for themselves rather than have them determined by society's expectations. 	up to 4 marks	4 marks
Total for question			7 marks

Part B Extended Answer Question

Q5

You have been asked by the equal opportunities representative of your school, college or workplace to write an article for the in-house magazine on the problem of the achievement and attitude gap. You should include:

- a consideration of arguments expressed in the media
- the reasons behind differences in the achievements of male and female school-leavers
- issues regarding views on male and female stereotyping
- a conclusion suggesting ways in which such concerns could be addressed.

You should base your article on information from the documents.

Criteria	Marking Guide	Marks	Max Marks
3.3.1	<p>Candidate has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • selected an appropriate format of article for presenting the information which includes a heading • used an appropriate style and structure to add clarity to the text eg sub-headings, paragraphs, indentation, bullet points or other stylistic features • used an appropriate tone in writing 	<p>1 mark</p> <p>1 mark</p> <p>1 mark</p>	3 marks
3.3.2	<p>Candidate has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • used own words in an effective manner to present relevant information • used specialist vocabulary appropriately, eg: educational attainment; curriculum; earnings premium etc. • considered arguments expressed in the media and reasons suggested for differences in achievement of males and females • considered issues regarding male and female stereotyping • included a conclusion, suggesting ways in which the concerns could be addressed. 	<p>up to 3 marks</p> <p>up to 2 marks</p> <p>up to 4 marks</p> <p>up to 2 marks</p> <p>up to 2 marks</p>	

3.3.3	<p>Band 1 The candidate spells, punctuates and uses grammar with reasonable accuracy eg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the spelling of simple words is usually accurate • full stops and capital letters are accurately used to demarcate sentences. Commas in lists are used accurately. • there may be some grammatical errors, eg confusion of pronouns, tense and some lack of cohesion. <p>Band 2 The candidate spells, punctuates and uses grammar with considerable accuracy eg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the spelling of words with complex regular patterns is usually accurate • a range of punctuation including commas, apostrophes and inverted commas is used correctly including to mark sentences and clauses • the work is mostly grammatically accurate showing that the candidate can construct complex sentences accurately, use pronouns so that their meaning is clear, makes accurate subject/verb agreement and uses tenses accurately and consistently, although there may be occasional errors of sentence separation. <p>Band 3 The candidate spells, punctuates and uses the rules of grammar with almost faultless accuracy eg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • virtually all spelling, including that of irregular words is usually correct. Any errors stand out as untypical or ‘one-off’ slips • punctuation is accurate and is used to vary pace, clarify meaning, avoid ambiguity and create deliberate effects • grammar is accurate and gives appropriate variation in sentence structure. 	1-3 marks	
Total for question			25 marks