

14. He _____ (not / get) a better job if he _____ (not / pass) that exam.
15. I _____ (buy) a new dress if I _____ (have) enough money.
16. She _____ (cook) dinner if you _____ (go) to the supermarket.
17. They _____ (go) on holiday if they _____ (have) time.
18. We _____ (be) late if we _____ (not / hurry).
19. She _____ (take) a taxi if it _____ (rain).
20. I _____ (not / go) if you _____ (not / come) with me.

Unit 10

Gender Inequality and its Implications

By the end of the unit, the students will be able to:

- Use pre-reading strategies to predict the content of a text from topic / picture, title / headings, key words and visuals etc. by using prior knowledge, asking questions and contextual clues.
- Skim text to
 - have general idea of the text.
 - infer theme/ main idea.
- Apply critical thinking to interact with text, use intensive reading strategies (while-reading) to
 - scan to answer short questions.
- Use critical thinking to respond orally and in writing to the text (post-reading) to
 - give a personal opinion and justify stance related to viewpoints/ ideas and issues in the text read.
 - relate what is read to his or her own feelings and experiences.
 - explore causes and consequences of a problem or an issue and propose various solutions.
 - evaluate material read.
- Write a persuasive/argumentative essay on a given topic.
 - distinguish fact from opinion.
 - state an opinion on the topic.
 - list ideas and arguments that support opinion.
 - organize idea and supporting arguments in a clear, structured and logical manner.
 - distinguish between language used for persuasion and propaganda.
 - use persuasive language to enhance ideas.
 - use special devices to support arguments.
 - anticipate and respond to opposing arguments by defending point of view with factual evidence, quotations, expert opinion, logical reasoning, and commonly held beliefs.
- Use the knowledge of roots, suffixes and affixes to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words.
- Identify, analyze and construct conditional sentences.

Gender Inequality and its Implications

Gender inequality defines the practice of granting or denying rights or privileges to the people based on their gender. Despite the fact that women make more than 50% of the World population, gender based discrimination against women still remains an undeniable fact in Pakistan and across the globe, potentially hampering its socio-economic advancement and progress. The major half of the population is badly neglected in almost all the fields of life, especially education, health, economic opportunities and political participation.



The issue of gender inequality is, sometimes, wrongly ascribed to religion. As the matter of fact, its primary causes are the various cultural norms and the patriarchal mind set.

Males are considered physically powerful and females as psychologically sensitive or weak. From birth, male and female offsprings are raised differently. Since their babyhood, boys are let to play with toys like trucks or other sports related things. Girls, on the other hand, are introduced more commonly to dolls, dresses and playhouses, where they take care of dolls as if they were children. Women are supposed to be submissive to men and are viewed as a property. They are not allowed to take independent decisions even about some of their very fundamental and sheerly personal matters like education, marriage and job etc. These trends set by the society put men and women on certain paths, and throughout life, are seen as two very different species who have very different personalities and should always stay on separate paths.

The Gender inequality is more conspicuously manifested when it comes to schooling, particularly education at higher level. Cultural boundaries and various gender roles lead to different approaches towards male and female education. In Pakistan, for example, a family may consider it useless to impart education to girls because they are supposed to get married eventually and to take on their major responsibilities of housemaking and babysitting. Parents are reluctant to send their daughters to co-education institutions. Majority of rural girls drop out of primary schools. According to the Ministry of Women development 2007 report, only 5% of women have attained a Bachelor degree and 1.4% have achieved a Master degree. Likewise, the

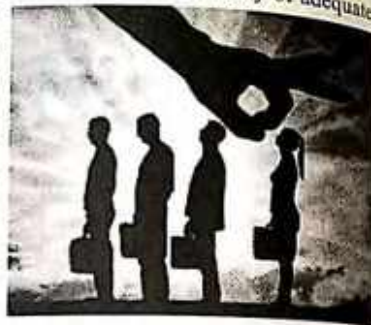
World Economic Forum 2020 report states that while the majority of countries have bridged or nearly bridged the educational gender gap, Pakistan still stands at 20% It further says about Pakistan, "Less than half of women are literate, compared with 71% of men."

Poor or irrelevant academics of women along with some other factors like marriage and cultural stereotypes lead to their joblessness and economic backwardness. Mostly, across the globe, women cannot find equal work opportunities and, so, remain economically dependent on men. They are barred from owning land and their control over household economic resources is also limited. Women, therefore, are more likely than men to be living at or below the poverty line. As regards Pakistan, only one-quarter of women participate in the labour force i.e working or looking to work compared with 85% of men. In this connection, the WEF 2020 report says, "Only 5 percent of senior and leadership roles are held by women, twice the rate of 2016. It is estimated that only 18% of Pakistan's labour income goes to women, one of the lowest share among countries studied." Pakistan has to improve upon this alarming situation as soon as possible because raising women's participation in the workforce and advancing their financial empowerment is the key to boosting economic growth and sustainable development in the country.



Gender inequality in the worst of its forms is seen in violence against women folk. Women across the world face violence in various forms, such as physical, psychological and economic violence. It is believed that two third of victims of intimate partner violence are women. According to WHO, one in every five women in European Region has been a violence victim. In Pakistani society, women face violence and prejudice in the shape of mental, psychological, physical and emotional abuse. According to an estimate, around 70% to 90% of Pakistani women suffer domestic violence. A survey conducted on 1000 women in Punjab revealed that at least two women are burned every day in domestic violence occurrence. Certain heinous social practices like honour killing, marriage with the Quran, *Karokari* and *Swara* have become a matter of daily practice in the remote rural areas of Pakistan.

As regards the provision of and access to healthcare system, gender disparity continues to plague many societies all over the world, especially the developing regions such as South Asia, West Asia and China. Regrettably, women all over Pakistan, particularly in the remote rural areas, face an extremely awkward situation with respect to health related issues. Pakistan cuts a very sorry figure in terms of the maternal mortality rate when compared with other countries in the region. It is for various cultural, economic and administrative factors. Due to the non-availability of adequate health facilities and qualified female staff, a large number of women lose their lives or their infants during child birth. Generally, a woman is closely tied to the izzat(honour) of the man due to which the free and unattended mobility of women is strictly restricted. This makes it harder for women to receive healthcare services and resources when they need it direly. Resultantly, the health condition of women is much poor in comparison with men.



Gender discrimination against women, in terms of education, economic participation and health/ survival opportunities, render them a weak pedestal in the corridors of power. That's why we see that a negligible number of women hold political and institutional decision making positions. A very limited number of them find a place in the parliament and the cabinet of any state. A very few women can be seen as heads of the states, worldwide. The judiciary remains primarily male dominated, especially at higher levels. Same is the case with armed forces, where women's presence in higher ranks is too scanty.

As for its relation to religion, Islam enjoins to promote gender equality in all walks of life, be it education, healthcare or economy etc. Gender equality is a part of its jurisprudence and fundamental teachings: "O mankind! Fear your Lord who (initiated) your creation from a single soul, then from it created its mate, and from these two spread (the creation of) countless men and women." (Al-Nisa: 1)

This verse clearly expounds that men and women are created from a single entity and as a gender, one is not superior to the other.

Islam provides equal rights of taking part in economic activities and property ownership to women.

"... For men there is a share of what they earned, and for women, there is a share of what they earned..." (Al-Nisa: 32)

Similarly, in his farewell sermon, The Rasool of mercy (ﷺ) clearly emphasized upon the equality of men and women, saying,

"Indeed you have rights over your wives and your wives have rights over you" (Sunan al-Tirmidhi Vol. 1, Book 7, Hadith 1163)

As clear as day is the fact that with the exclusion of the half of its population, Pakistan cannot reach the pinnacle of progress, peace and stability. In the words of Quaide Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, "No Nation can rise to the heights of glory unless her women stand side by side with men." Thus, in order to keep the wheel of progress and development rolling on, the latent potentialities of women need to be utilised by ensuring gender parity in all walks of life.

References:

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- 2- World Economic Forum 2020 report
- 3- Pakistan Economic Survey (2019-2020)
- 4- Article published in Daily Times on 14.1.2019.
- 5- Journal of Humanities and Social Science, Volume 1. Issue 4: Gender Discrimination: implications for Pakistan Security
- 6- Article on "Gender equality and Islam " by Shaikhul Islam Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri

Glossary

Word	Meaning
abode(n)	dwelling; residence.
ascribe(n)	to refer to a supposed caused, source are someone.
conspicuously(adv.)	prominently.
consequently(adv.)	resultantly.
compound(v)	combine so as to form a whole.
dearth(n)	scarcity. ; Acute insufficiency.

diminished(adj.)	small : weakened.
detrimental(adj.)	fatal ; harmful.
disparity(n)	inequality.
eventually (adv.)	finally.
impart(v)	transmit; translate.
intimate(adj.)	having very close relationship.
latent(adj.)	potentially existing.
manifest(v)	demonstrate.
mortality(n)	death rate.
ongoing(adj.)	currently happening.
offsprings(n)	children.
persistent(adj.)	continual; never-ending.
plague(v)	cause to suffer or inflict.
pinnacle(n)	The most successful point, the culmination.
patriarchal(adj.)	Relating to or denoting a system of society control by men.
pedestal(n)	position ; standing.
potentialities(n)	capabilities.
parity (n)	equality.
render(v)	provide; cause to become.
swara(n)	Swara (سوارہ), is a custom found in parts of county where girls, often minors, are given in marriage or servitude to an aggrieved family as compensation to end disputes, often murder.
WEF	World Economic Forum

Reading Comprehension

1. Do you agree or disagree with the views of the writer as stated in the third paragraph of the text?
2. Give a brief account of the plight of women in Pakistan with respect to their healthcare issues.
3. What factors are responsible for the economic backwardness of women in Pakistan?
4. What does Islam say about women's rights? Explain your answer in the light of Qur'an and Hadith.
5. State any incidence of gender inequality in any sector which you have ever observed in your immediate surrounding.
6. What seems to be the motive behind writing this text?
7. What would you suggest for the eradication of gender inequality?

Writing Suggestions

What is an argumentative essay?

In this type of essay, the writer establishes a stance or position on an issue by providing reasons and supporting evidence. When writing an argumentative (persuasive) essay, you need more than just an opinion to make your point of view accepted by the reader. Even the strongest stance won't be compelling if it is structured improperly and not backed up with solid reason in an evidence.

Structure of an argumentative essay:

Introduction: Give such an opening statement through which you grab the attention or hook the reader. You can start with a surprising statistical figure that is not commonly known within the field. Next, provide a background on your topic to prepare the readers for the rest of your essay. You may engage the reader by answering questions like

- Why is this issue important?
- What are the root causes of this problem?
- What is affected?
- Are there any solutions available?

For example, if the topic is **gender inequality in the workplace** you can share statistics from a research that exemplifies the difference in income of the average men and women who perform the same role.

Body paragraphs: Body paragraphs is the area where you provide arguments and provide evidence to prove your point and thus to persuade the readers. The best way here is to present one point in one paragraph. At least, three body paragraphs would make a good persuasive essay.

Conclusion: It where you would conclude your essay. Here, you have to summarize and close the essay with an impact. You will try to convince the reader claiming that your argument is the most valid one.

To sum up, a good argumentative essay should have:

- 1- A clear and solid thesis statement in the introduction.
- 2- Logical reasoning, examples, evidence, facts and figures etc in support of the thesis statement.
- 3- An effective conclusion.

Activity

Keeping in view the structure of an argumentative essay, write your own opinion on the following topic :

"The bread earner has always got a stronger social status"

Oral Communication

Divide the class into two equal groups. The first group will be asked to speak in favour of women equality and the second group will be asked to speak against it.

Vocabulary and Grammar

- A. Use the bank of prefixes to complete each word. There may be more than one answer for some words. Use new words in your sentences.

de-	dis-	ex-	il-	im-	in-	mis-	non-	pre-	re-	un-	with-
__ fix	__ sense	__ happy	__ place	__ usual	__ portant						
__ mind	__ pert	__ respect	__ draw	__ logical	__ trieve						
__ equal	__ legal	__ fiction	__ visible	__ play	__ cellent						
__ prove	__ frost	__ ceed	__ view	__ code	__ flex						

__ lucky	__ lead	__ fat	__ fair	__ gust	__ hold
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- B. Complete the sentences with the verb in brackets. Use the First Conditional.

1. If my aunt comes to visit, she (give) us a present.
2. If it doesn't rain, we (go) to the beach.
3. If it (snow) tonight, we will make a snowman tomorrow.
4. If you don't try, you (not succeed).
5. If you (bring) the sandwiches for the picnic, I will bring the drinks.
6. If he talks too long, his parents (not let) him use the phone.
7. He will turn on the heater if it (get) too cold.
8. You won't understand the questions unless you (read) the book.
9. If we (go) to Peshawar, we (visit) my friend Salman.
10. If she (do) well in her exams, my sister (go) to university.
11. Neelam (not eat) supper if she (eat) all that ice cream.
12. My brother (drive) us to the cinema if we (ask) him.
13. Uncle Ismail (phone) us if he (want) to come with us.

- C. Circle the correct words.

1. Arif will water the garden if he comes/will come home.
2. We will buy our tickets if we will have/have enough money.
3. We will be late for the show unless you hurry/will hurry.
4. I will take/take an umbrella if it rains.
5. If it is/will be a nice day tomorrow, we will go for a bike ride.
6. He won't cross the road unless he will see/sees the green light.