

## IDC\_400 FIRST DAY QUIZ

*How much do you know about women's issues in the world today?*

1. What is the most common cancer among women?

1. lung
2. stomach
3. colon
4. breast

Answer: d. breast (second: lung, third: stomach, fourth: colon/rectum, fifth: cervix)

2. What percentage of elected Canadian officials is female?

1. 20%
2. 35%
3. 50%
4. 65%

Answer: a. 20% (This figure is based on the latest statistic from 2002.)

3. In what subjects of study do women continue to be dramatically under represented?

- a. English, history, and geography
- b. science, technology and engineering
- c. algebra, calculus and trigonometry
- d. marketing, business and accounting

Answer: b. Science, technology and engineering

4. Of the world's poor, what percentage are women?

1. 90%
2. 70%
3. 50%
4. 30%

Answer: b. 70% ("More so than men, women lack the resources either to stave off poverty in the first place, or to climb out of poverty - they have limited ownership of income, property, and credit. Women not only bear the brunt of poverty, they bear the brunt of 'managing' poverty as providers and caretakers of their families.")

5. On average, Canadian women who are full-year, full-time workers earn approximately \_\_\_\_% percent less on average than men.

1. 0% - women earn the same as men
2. 10%
3. 20%
4. 30%

Answer: d. 30% (The most current statistics available from Statistics Canada are from 2003; they indicate that on average, the full-year, full-time wage gap is 29.5% *There is no country in which women are paid the same as men.*)

6. The most recent study by labour analysts calculated that stay-at-home mothers are worth a salary of:

1. Over \$50,000 a year
2. Over \$80,000 a year
3. Over \$120,000 a year
4. Over \$160,000 a year

Answer: d. Over \$160,000 (The actual figure was \$164,337. This estimate takes into account the average stay-at-home mom's job responsibilities, number of hours worked and frequency of time spent on specific tasks)

7. On which continent can we find the ten lowest-ranking countries on the United Nations' Gender Development Index?

1. Asia
2. South America
3. Africa
4. Europe

Answer: c. Africa (Sierra Leone, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Chad, Central African Republic (CAR), Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique)

8. An estimated \_\_\_\_\_ women are trafficked into the USA each year in the illegal global sex trade.

1. 500
2. 5000
3. 50,000
4. 500,000

Answer: c. 50,000. (These women range in age from 5 to 15. In addition to the illegal global sex trade, an estimated 150,000 women are advertised each year in mail-order bride bureaus and catalogues - there are 250 mail-order bride companies in the U.S. alone.)

9. When did aboriginals (men and women) win the right to vote in Canada?

1. 1867
2. 1917
3. 1945
4. 1960

Answer: d. 1960 (Aboriginals were actually given the right to vote at Confederation in 1867, but it was a conditional right. They had to give up all treaty rights and Indian status in order to vote. Very few of them did.)

10. In Canada, the government funds maternity leave benefits. How many of the United States have publicly mandated maternity pay?

1. 5
2. 15
3. 25
4. All 50

Answer: a. 5 (This has been a recent development; in 1998, no states offered publicly mandated maternity pay. Fewer than 4% of employers in the U.S. voluntarily offer maternity pay to their female employees)

11. Which form of cosmetic procedure has seen a 2,356% increase since 1997?

1. Nose reshaping
2. Breast augmentation
3. Liposuction
4. Botulinum injection ("Botox")

Answer: d. Botulinum injection (Breast augmentation has increased 114% and liposuction has increased 118%)

12. In 1900, women were invited to participate for the first time in the modern Olympics. What sports were they permitted to compete in?

1. tennis, croquet, golf & yachting
2. track & field, gymnastics, basketball & swimming
3. triathlon, softball, volleyball & marathon
4. synchronized swimming, ballroom dancing & basket weaving

Answer: a. tennis, croquet, golf and yachting (Track & field introduced in 1928, gymnastics in 1936, volleyball in 1964, marathon in 1984, softball in 1996 and triathlon in 2000)

13. A 1998 American study indicated that as a proportion of white men's earning, white women earn \_\_\_\_\_%, African-American women earn \_\_\_\_\_%, and Hispanic-American women earn \_\_\_\_\_%.

1. All 100% - women earn the same as men
2. 83%, 73%, 63%
3. 73%, 63%, 53%
4. 63%, 53%, 43%

Answer: c. 73%, 63%, 53% (Much of this has to do with the fact that many women work in the informal sector - domestic service, food processing, petty trade, casual labour. It also indicates the continued struggle for minority women to obtain high-level educations)

14. What region of the world is notable for its low rates of marriage (1 in every 5 women aged 45 and over has never been married)?

1. Indonesia
2. Middle East
3. Caribbean
4. Scandinavia

Answer: c. Caribbean (Belize, Jamaica, Montserrat, French Martinique, Dutch Antilles, Grenada, Trinidad & Tobago, Barbados, Dominica, French Guadeloup, Antigua, Barbuda, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Vincent)

15. In what year did Canada open its first shelter for battered women?

1. 1985
2. 1972
3. 1959
4. 1946

Answer: b. 1972. (China did not open its first shelter for battered women until 1996.)

16. Of the billion people in the world who are illiterate, how many are women?

1. 44%

2. 55%
3. 66%
4. 77%

Answer: c. 66%. (The good news is that worldwide illiteracy rates are steadily declining.)

17. In what country must a woman obtain her husband's permission before accepting a job or opening a bank account?

1. Saudi Arabia
2. Democratic Republic of Congo
3. China
4. Venezuela

Answer: b. Democratic Republic of Congo (In Saudi Arabia, women are not allowed to drive cars or ride bicycles. In Venezuela, a man who is guilty of raping a woman can avoid punishment by marrying her.)

18. When was the birth control pill legalized in Canada?

1. 1959
2. 1969
3. 1979
4. 1949

Answer: b. 1969 (Japan did not legalize the Pill until 1999)

19. In what year did the World Health Organization remove homosexuality from its classification list of diseases?

1. 1971
2. 1981
3. 1991
4. 2001

Answer: c. 1991

20. Out of Canada's top 500 companies, how many are run by women?

1. 10
2. 50
3. 125
4. 250

Answer: 10 (This information comes from a 1999 study. At that time, women held only 12% of corporate officer positions, and only 3% of the highest positions)

21. Until 2002, women in *this* country had to undergo a gynecological exam to qualify for a driver's license:

1. Saudi Arabia
2. Rwanda
3. Lithuania
4. Canada

Answer: c. Lithuania ("The law was based on a medical assumption that certain "women's diseases" could cause sufficient pain to inhibit driving." Note that women in Saudi Arabia are still not permitted to have a license.)

22. Name a country that has *not* signed the United Nations' Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW):

1. Iran
2. United States of America
3. Afghanistan
4. Sweden

Answer: a. Iran (Interestingly, both "b" and "c" have signed but have not yet ratified.)

23. How many women in the world today have undergone female genital mutilation?

1. At least 3 million
2. At least 13 million
3. At least 30 million
4. At least 130 million

Answer: d. At least 130 million. (Another 2 million are at risk of such mutilation each year.)

24. Which one of the following writers is a woman?

1. William Shakespeare
2. Herman Melville
3. George Sand
4. Charles Dickens

Answer: George Sand (her real name was Aurore Dupin)

#### Sources

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. The CCPA Monitor. Volume 11, Number 8: February 2005. Page 3.

Seager, Joni. The Penguin Atlas of Women in the World. New York: Penguin Books, 2003.