

PART A – KNOWN TEXTS

DICTIONARIES ARE NOT ALLOWED FOR THIS PART

Essential Articles (15 marks)

Hey advertisers, leave our defenceless kids alone (George Monbiot)

1. What dishonest practices does Joel Bakan reveal in his book and why don't parents stand a chance to protect their children? (7 marks)

Bring back the cane to restore discipline in schools (Nick Freeman)

2. Explain the author's appeal to bring back corporal punishment. (8 marks)

Short Stories (15 marks)

Dip in the Pool (Roald Dahl)

3. To what extent can Mr Botibol be described as a cautious man? (7 marks)

The First Seven Years (Bernard Malamud)

4. Why do Max and Miriam start dating and how does it work out? (8 marks)

PART B – UNKNOWN TEXT

DICTIONARIES ARE ALLOWED FOR THIS PART

"Andrew Tate is a symptom, not the problem": why young men are turning against feminism

Teachers describe a deterioration in behaviour and attitudes that has proved to be fertile terrain for misogynistic* influencers

"As soon as I mention feminism, you can feel the shift in the room." Mike Nicholson holds workshops with teenage boys about the challenges of impending manhood. Standing up for the sisterhood, it seems, is the last thing on their minds. When Nicholson says he is a feminist himself, "I can see them look at me, like, 'I used to like you."

Once Nicholson, whose programme is called Progressive Masculinity, unpacks the fact that feminism means equal rights and opportunities for women, many of the boys with whom he works are won over. "A lot of it is bred from misunderstanding and how the word is smeared," he says. But he is battling against what he calls a "dominance-based model" of masculinity. "These old-fashioned ideas are having a renaissance, through your masculinity influencers, like Andrew Tate."

The attitudes of young men came under further scrutiny this week after a survey suggested that 16-29-year-olds are more negative about feminism than men over 60 – and one in five had a positive view of Tate, the self-professed "misogynist" influencer.

Not everyone believes attitudes have altered. Keziah Featherstone, headteacher of the Q3 Academy in Tipton, says: "I have not noticed anything significantly change. And I have worked in education for 30 years." She is more worried about vaping and school absences than a spike in misogyny.

But other teachers, trainers and parents told the Guardian about shifting values and behaviour, against the backdrop of **ubiquitous*** social media. Anna, a secondary school teacher for 15 years until 2019, says she witnessed "a decline in feminism among young men" over that period. "We interviewed our students talking about the everyday sexism they encountered," she says. "The **upskirting***, slut-shaming, predatory behaviour and casual **microaggressions***. It was horrifying to see how the girls saw it as just another part of life."

Michael Conroy was also a longtime teacher before he founded the consultancy Men at Work, which runs workshops for teachers and social workers. He too describes a deterioration in behaviour and attitudes, which he says accompanied the widespread availability of smartphones. The educators he works with have described "an obvious harshening of the way boys talk about women". He says Tate's influence results from being able to channel boys' powerful feelings – and his message fell on fertile ground among a generation with easy access to pornography. Conroy says: "He wants to just exploit the naivety and confusion of boys."

Daniel Guinness is the managing director of Beyond Equality, which carries out workshops with boys and men in universities and workplaces, as well as schools, challenging norms about masculinity. He says many feel under pressure because of "internalised expectations" about manhood, which they may feel they cannot fulfil. He says: "It's not showing that emotional weakness. It's also the expectation to always be right. Like you are not able to show that you can fail; that there's more

shame in doing something and making a mistake than there is just sort of sitting it out or dropping out." He stresses that many of the men he deals with have positive attitudes to women and feminism, but he says some can feel they are being stereotyped, or blamed for others' actions.

Guinness cites the Everyone's Invited website, where young women in the UK shared their experiences of sexual harassment and assault, as part of the wider #MeToo movement. "There was a collective raising awareness of the violence that women and girls experienced in certain parts of their lives. This was being perpetrated by men, and some of the norms in our society either excused that violence as being just a joke, or part of flirting, or no big deal.

Some parents of boys worry that they are treated less sympathetically than their female peers. "My son is reluctant to go to school due to bullying by a group of girls," says one woman "He feels that there is a big power difference in schools, where boys are always punished, not listened to, and not believed."

"There are already three or four influencers **jockeying*** for position if Tate goes down," Nicholson says. "He's a symptom, not the problem."

(694 words) shortened and adapted from The Guardian (Heather Stewart) 3rd February 2024

Glossary

misogynistic:strongly prejudiced against womenubiquitous:present, appearing or found everywhere

upskirting: refers to the act of taking a photograph under a person's clothing without their permission indirect, subtle, or unintentional discrimination against members of a marginalized group

to jockey: to struggle by every available means to gain or achieve something

Comprehension Questions (15 marks)

Answer the following questions in your own words. Do not copy from the text.

- 1. Describe the purpose and challenges of Mike Nicholson's workshops as described in the article. (3 marks)
- 2. What is the role of social media and technology in shaping young men's attitudes towards women according to educators in the article? (7 marks)
- 3. What are the pressures put on men due to expectations and stereotypes imposed on them by society? (5 marks)

Development Essay (15 marks)

Write a well-structured essay of around 250 (+/- 10%) words on the following topic. Indicate the number of words used at the end of the essay.

To what extent does social media promote violent ideas?

Attention: Do NOT restate ideas from the text.