ENGLISH READING PASSAGES TESTS

Reading Comprehension Passage 28 MCQ Test With Answers – ISLAM ON WOMEN

5 questions · Choose the correct answer. Online test and answer key with explanations:
https://englishtestsonline.com/reading-comprehension-passage-28-mcq-test-with-answers-islam-on-women/

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 5

(Please note: The following questions are related to a specific reading passage, which is available solely before the first question. Remember, it may be helpful to refer back to the reading text while answering the questions to ensure accuracy.)

ISLAM ON WOMEN

The Holy Qurân has more to say on the position of women than on any other social question. The guiding note is sounded in the words, "Women are your tillage", and the word for marriage is that used for the sexual act. The primary object of marriage is the propagation of children, and partly for this and partly for other reasons a man is allowed four wives at a time and an unlimited number of concubines. However, it is laid down that wives are to be treated with kindness and strict impartiality; if a man cannot treat all alike he should keep to one. The husband pays the woman a dowry at the time of marriage, and the money or property so allotted remains her own. The husband may divorce his wife at any time, but he cannot take her back until she has remarried and been divorced by a second husband.

A woman cannot sue for divorce on any grounds, and her husband may beat her. In this matter of the status of women lies the greatest difference between the Muslim and the Christian world. Since Muslim propagandists in this country persistently deny that women are inferior to men in Islam, it is worthwhile to set out the facts: Sûra 4:31 says, "Men have authority over women because God has made the one superior to the other and because they spend their wealth [to maintain them]. So good women are obedient, guarding the unseen [parts] because God has guarded [them]. As for those from whom you fear disobedience, admonish [them] and banish them to beds apart and beat them; then if they obey, you seek not occasion against them." To a Muslim who takes his stand on the law of Islam, the gulf is unbridgeable, but in actual practice in the civilized communities of the Muslim world, a more liberal view of women's place in human society is gradually coming to the fore.

Alfred GUILLAUME, Islam, Penguin Books, 1971 (1954), pp. 71-72.

1. ***It is obvious that the author is of the opinion that women in Islam are***
   A) discriminated against.
   B) treated fairly, although harshly.
   C) treated with kindness and assessed objectively.
   D) allowed to be economically superior to men.
   E) equal to men in their legal rights.

2. ***A woman cannot apply to a court for divorce simply because***
   A) her husband may beat her on any grounds.
   B) she cannot live by herself and must remarry.
   C) Muslims are different from Christians in that respect.
   D) there is the possibility that she and her children may go hungry.
   E) she is not allowed to by Islamic law.

3. ***A man***
   A) is never happy to pay a dowry for his wife.
   B) must by Islamic law have four wives and many concubines.
   C) must show no favouritism among his wives.
   D) should never forgive a disobedient wife even if she mends her ways.
   E) may divorce and remarry his wife without any restrictions.

4. ***The author refers to _____ to support his argument.***
   A) Muslim propagandists
   B) a number of concubines
   C) some historical instances
   D) a Sûra from the Holy Qurân
   E) Christian authorities

5. ***Choose the correct interpretation: The author***
   A) himself has become converted to Islam.
   B) is a Christian missionary.
   C) relies heavily on hearsay.
   D) is aware that there are differences in practice from country to country.
   E) is of the opinion that a civilized man must marry only one wife and keep three mistresses if need be.