

- 1 The promotion of women's rights is often discussed as a moral imperative. In this article, I would like to focus on the compelling economic arguments for giving women a greater role today. The research is unequivocal: if the goal is to improve health, nutrition or education, reduce fertility or child mortality, stem the spread of HIV, build robust and self-sustaining community organisations, encourage grassroots democracy, and ultimately, temper extremism, successful efforts must target women.
- 2 Economists increasingly recognize that nothing is more central to development than the economic, political and social participation and leadership of women. This is particularly true in societies, where women often make up the majority of the population and have primary responsibility for raising the next generation. A broad set of data now show that raising female education, increasing their control over resources, and lifting their political voice can have a profound impact on development.
- 3 If there is one thought I can impress upon you today, it is the absolute imperative of girls' education. While there is clearly no silver bullet for poverty reduction, many would argue that educating girls is the rocket booster of development. Educated women have fewer children, provide better nutrition and health for their families, experience significantly lower child mortality, generate more income and are far more likely to educate their children than women with little or no schooling, creating a virtuous cycle for the community and the country.
- 4 Giving women more control over resources is also important. Simply put, women tend to invest more in the family than men. When women control income, more is devoted to education, health and nutrition-related expenditures, and less is spent on alcohol and cigarettes. The outcome is not trivial- for example, increases in female income improve child survival rates 20times more than increases in male income. There is, not surprisingly, also evidence that women in positions of political leadership make different policy choices than men. This has broad and potentially profound implications for the way that resources are allocated at the local-level, and therefore for development.

I COMPREHENSION (15 POINTS)

A Read the text and say which paragraph is about: (4 pts)

- 1 The role of education (parag)
- 2 The different positive consequences of empowered women (parag)
- 3 Giving women more control over the family's resources (parag)
- 4 What research has firmly and clearly concluded about the positive role of empowered women (parag)

B Choose a suitable title to the text from the following list. (1 pt)

- 1 Women’s rights
- 2 Empowering women
- 3 Women’s role in society

C Answer the following question. (2 pts)

What factors are the most important for the empowerment of women?

.....

.....

D Find words in the text meaning the same as: (4 pts)

- 1 in the end (parag 1)
- 2 in a way that is large or important (parag 3)
- 3 very important and needing immediate attention or action (parag 1)
- 4 of little importance (parag 4)

E Complete the following paragraph with ideas from the text: (4 pts)

Two of the most important elements in the empowerment of women are (1) and (2) Educated women tend to have fewer (3), (4) and (5) for their children. On the other side, women with more (6), spend more money on (7) matters. Simply put, empowering women is an imperative to (8)

II LANGUAGE (15 POINTS)

A Put the verbs between brackets in the correct tense: (4 pts – 0.5 each)

- 1 Hi Tom, I’m in Ourzazate now. I (come) here four days ago after I (visit) Marrakech. I hope by the end of next week, I (discover) most of the wonderful places in the south.
- 2 Last Monday, while firemen (try) to put out the fire in the forest, two helicopters (join) them. Unfortunately, most of the trees were destroyed. We hope that by the end of 2016, the local authorities (replant) the forest.
- 3 My parents (move) to this city before I was born. In two weeks’ time, we (live) for 20 years.

B Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the list. (6 pts)

- | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| sustainable | rights | community | equal | ineffective | family code |
| microcredits | active citizens | provide | non-profit | truancy | absenteeism |

measures

effect

century

local

The new project is designed to help the local (1) to build two new schools. It will surely provide (2) opportunities for girls and boys to benefit from primary education, which is one of the basic human (3)

Some people are considered as (4) because they offer free services to their (5) community and contribute to its well-being.

A local (6) organization is going to provide women in rural areas with (7)

The last (8), Brazil saw a population boom in its cities, making it more difficult to (9) basic necessities like drinkable water and sewers in poor areas. Environmentalists complain that the government's reactions were slow and (10) But officials ask if it makes sense to discuss antipollution (11) and the greenhouse (12) when families go without food and medicine.

C Rewrite the following sentences as indicated making any necessary changes: (2 pts)

1 Many efforts have been made by environmental activists. Yet, pollution is still on the increase.
Despite

2 Crimes are brought about by poverty. They are also caused by broken homes.
Crimes are not only

3 I don't care what your social status is. You must abide by the law.
No matter

4 Contrary to what people think, the youth are not so selfish as they are portrayed.
Unlike

D Match each sentences with its appropriate function: (3 pts)

| | |
|---|------------------|
| 1 Due to his frequent absence from work, Tony was not promoted. | a Purpose |
| 2 Sarah is exercising hard in order to lose weight. | b Addition |
| 3 Young people use the internet to access information. Moreover, they use it for entertainment. | c Concession |
| | d Cause / effect |

- 1
- 2
- 3

III WRITING (10 POINTS)

In Morocco, as it is the case in all poor countries, development is a national preoccupation and revolves round a better use of human resources. This means that people are at the centre of progress. Write an essay in which you list the problems that Morocco should tackle (illiteracy, unemployment, etc.), how they should be dealt with, and in what way human resources could be better exploited. An finally, state which role NGOs can play to boost development.

A series of horizontal dotted lines provided for writing the essay.