

■ Comprehension Questions

After reading the selection, answer the following questions with *a*, *b*, *c*, or *d*.

- _____ 1. The best statement of the main idea of this selection is
- women do not feel the pressure of society's demands as much as men.
 - the rewards of the male role far exceed the disadvantages.
 - men have been responsible for the changes in sex roles in American society.
 - men feel the pressure of living up to an impossible image in American society, but this is changing.
- _____ 2. In American society, according to the author, the primary male responsibility is to provide
- emotional stability.
 - financial security.
 - love and affection.
 - time at home with the family.
- _____ 3. The author believes that American fathers encourage their sons to do well in athletics because they want them
- to become professional athletes.
 - to be assertive, aggressive, and competitive.
 - to build healthy bodies.
 - to be able to enjoy recreational activities.
- _____ 4. The authors quote life expectancy and health statistics to prove that
- men are inherently weaker than women.
 - women seek medical attention more readily than men.
 - the pressure of masculinity takes its toll on men.
 - violent crime is a reaction to masculine stress.
- _____ 5. The "ideal man" stereotype popularized in Western movies is all of the following except
- intimately attached to his family.
 - sexually attracted to women.
 - free of emotionalism.
 - confident of his abilities.
- _____ 6. The author considers all of the following benefits of the traditional male role except
- early training to develop initiative and independence.
 - the pressures to achieve success.
 - the ego boost from the illusion of supremacy.
 - the opportunities for professional promotion.
- _____ 7. This selection suggests that male friendships are difficult relationships because
- female relationships interfere.
 - time is limited because of ball games.
 - males are in competition with each other to succeed.
 - homosexuality is more prevalent in males.

- _____ 8. The author suggests that machismo is all of the following except
- a cover-up for insecurities.
 - a desirable masculine quality.
 - an exploitative attitude toward women.
 - a reaction brought about by failure to achieve success in the ideal male role.
- _____ 9. The author states that some men believe the changing female role in our society
- offers the possibility of greater masculine freedom.
 - insures an increase in the machismo attitude.
 - dehumanizes the male.
 - threatens the job security of men in our society.
- _____ 10. The author of this selection would probably agree with all of the following except
- male roles will become less traditional in the future.
 - female role changes have relieved some of the pressure of the male role.
 - men sacrifice in trying to fulfill the ideal American-man image.
 - men should not express emotions and self-doubt.

Answer the following with *T* (true) or *F* (false)

- _____ 11. The authors suggest that participants in one-on-one sports have less opportunity than football players to learn the ground rules for corporate life.
- _____ 12. The authors report that most men feel threatened when women are in control.
- _____ 13. According to the selection, American society condemns the tomboy girl more than the effeminate boy.
- _____ 14. The author believes that most men are in control of their lives and in powerful positions.
- _____ 15. The authors suggest that the draft registration law discriminates against men.

■ Vocabulary

According to the way the italicized word was used in the selection, indicate *a*, *b*, *c*, or *d* for the word or phrase that gives the best definition.

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|---|--|
| <p>_____ 1. "to the <i>detriment</i> of women" (04)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> desire harm contribution objection | <p>_____ 2. "a <i>prerequisite</i> for manhood" (11)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> burden requirement beforehand advantage introduction |
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- 3. “of the masculine *mystique*” (16)
 - a. human body
 - b. puzzling aura
 - c. social status
 - d. genetic makeup
- 4. “*Impervious to pain*” (42)
 - a. superior
 - b. welcoming
 - c. resistant
 - d. yielding
- 5. “Far more *stigma*” (48)
 - a. importance
 - b. mark of disgrace
 - c. power
 - d. reward
- 6. “*pinnacles of institutional power*” (61)
 - a. peaks
 - b. doors
 - c. shelter
 - d. directions
- 7. “*lucrative executive positions*” (74)
 - a. mobile
 - b. authoritative
 - c. profitable
 - d. successful
- 8. “has *buoyed the male ego*” (79)
 - a. impressed
 - b. satisfied
 - c. lifted
 - d. fooled
- 9. “*distorts the actual situation*” (84)
 - a. explains
 - b. misrepresents
 - c. compares
 - d. simplifies
- 10. “*precarious status*” (129)
 - a. uncertain
 - b. well-deserved
 - c. unreasonable
 - d. newly acquired

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■ Written Response

Use information from the text to support the following statement: **Many men, especially those who seek a new male ideal, “welcome the changes in the female role as a liberation from the burdens of traditional masculinity.”**

Response Approach: Define the traditional male role and describe the burdens of traditional masculinity. Conclude by describing the new “liberated” male ideal. (Use your own paper for this response.)

■ Skill Development: Concentration

When you have finished the assignment, evaluate your reading and study time.

How long did you take to read the selection? _____ minutes

How long did you take to answer the questions? _____ minutes

Did you work steadily or were you interrupted? _____
 Did setting a time goal help you keep your mind on your work? _____
 If you had been given the concentration pop quiz while reading this selection, would your score have been high _____, medium _____, or low _____?
 _____?