Gender and Education questions

6 markers

Outline three reasons why girls generally achieve more highly in education than boys

Outline three factors outside the education system that may affect gender differences in achievement

Outline three reasons why girls now outperform boys in education

Outline three reasons why girls generally achieve more highly than boys in education.

10 markers

Outline and explain two reasons why girls and boys often choose to study different subjects.

Outline and explain two reasons for gender differences in subject choice.

Applying material from Item ? outline and explain TWO. –10 marks

Since the 1980s there has been a growing gender gap in achievement. In almost all subjects at GCSE level females have consistently outperform males. The impact of feminism has widely been acknowledged as a key Factor in the improved achievement of girls. However, despite gender differences in attitude and application, the educational performance of boys has also improved. What women are now more likely than men to go to university, a higher proportion of males get first class degrees.

Applying material from Item A1, analyse two reasons for gender differences in achievement

Item A3In the past boys did well at school and girls under achieved. It is widely believed that today that pattern that is reversed. However, while it is true that girls as a group tend to outperform boys in terms of Educational achievement, many boys achieve highly and conversely many girls underperform. Analysis of attainment data shows that the picture is not straightforward and that there are many factors that have a greater bearing on educational achievement than gender considered on its own.

Applying material from item A3, analyse two reasons why it is a myth that all boys after achieved and all girls now achieve well at school.

Item A8Although achievement levels for both sexes have risen, boys examination performance has fallen behind that of girls since the 1980s. At the same time, there have been a number of major changes in wider Society. These include the decline of traditional jobs in manufacturing Industries, a big increase in divorce and more women in paid employment.

Applying material from item A8, analyse two reasons for boys underachievement compared to girls

30 marker

Item C3Sociologists have investigated a number of aspects of gender and education. Although it is clear that in most subjects, girls achieve better examination results than boys, girls experience of schooling in other aspects may be less positive. For example, there is evidence of school and reinforces traditional gender identity. Some sociologists argue that this disadvantages of girls.

Applying material from item C3 and your own knowledge, evaluate the claim that although girls outperform boys in terms of achievement, the experience of schooling reinforces traditional gender identity.

Item C10At each stage from pre-school through to university entrance, girls tend to do better than boys. For example, on entering primary school, girls are more likely to be able to write their own name. On the other hand, boys are more likely than girls to be assessed by their schools as having special educational needs. When it comes to subject choice at age 16, there are major gender differences in the popularity of different A-level subjects and even greater gender differences in vocational courses.

Applying material from item C10 and your own knowledge evaluate the view that gender differences in both subject choice and educational achievement are mainly the result of the influence of wider society