

1 When we started investigating education in Morocco, a frequent topic for discussion was the country's success in developing basic education for girls. The number of girls who enrol in primary school is equal to that of boys. Still, adolescent girls in Morocco continue to quit. Those living in rural areas are most likely to stop around the age of twelve due to difficulty in accessing middle and higher education in their immediate neighborhoods, concerns for their safety and social restrictions.



2 To illustrate the hardships that many rural girls and women face, we decided to follow a student on her return home. Fatima, 14, who is from a Berber village called Iznaguen in the Atlas Mountains, is amongst the lucky few to be admitted to a boarding house run by an NGO called **Education for All**. The all-female home is near the school. This helped convince her father that she would be in a safe environment and looked after. For her, the nearest high school – located in a town called Ourgaine – is about a four-hour drive in good weather conditions.



3 We followed Fatima to her native village on a rainy day. After forty-five minutes into our journey, we found out that most routes were blocked. We had no choice but to walk a long distance, crossing rivers, traversing dirt paths and asking for



rides from local trucks. Most of these carry people, domestic animals, crop and vegetables from one village to the next. Fatima sat on a box which served as a seat, studying for her physics examination. After miles of walking and changing five different means of transport, we reached Fatima's doorstep well after sundown. The journey lasted about eight hours.

4 Fatima is the only one attending school in her entire village. The new family code in Morocco has raised the minimum legal age for marriage to 18; and yet, "In developing countries, one out of three girls is married before that age", according to UNFPA. Despite the long trek home, she helps her mum out with cooking and other chores. And when asked why she was so resolute to study in spite of the obstacles, she was overcome by shyness. With a smile on her face, she explained that if she had not found a way to continue attending school, she would be married off now.



5 Changing attitudes towards education for girls will require engaging local leaders in these villages and also providing the needed infrastructure. Like Fatima, Khadija and Fathma are also from remote villages in Morocco. They received the help of the NGO and managed to finish their education there. Now at university studying Engineering and Biology, they hope to pursue a Master's degree abroad. Those at the boarding house in Ourgaine view them as proof of success and would like to follow in their footsteps.

I COMPREHENSION (15 POINTS) {BASE YOUR ANSWERS ON THE TEXT}

A *Tick (✓) the correct column. (3 pts)*

	Sentences	Detail	Fact
1	The number of girls who enrol in primary school is equal to that of boys.		
2	For her, the nearest high school is about a four-hour drive in good weather conditions.		
3	The new family code in Morocco has raised the minimum legal age for marriage to 18.		

B *Answer the following questions. (3 pts)*

- 1 where was Fatima born?
- 2 How long did it take Fatima to reach home?
- 3 Why is Fatima determined to continue her studies no matter how difficult it is?

C *Are these sentences TRUE or FALSE? JUSTIFY. (3 pts)*

- 1 The government has eradicated the problem of dropouts.
- 2 **Education for All** is an NGO run by both genders.
- 3 More schools, roads and means of transport are needed to promote education for girls in rural areas.

D *Complete the following sentences with information from the text. (2 pts)*

- 1 We had no choice but to walk a long distance because of
- 2 She is so resolute to study even though

E *Find in the text words that mean the same as the following. (2 pts)*

- 1 difficulties (parag 2)
- 2 journey (parag 4)

F *What do these underlined words in the text refer to? (2 pts)*

- 1 which (parag 3)
- 2 them (parag 5)

II LANGUAGE (15 POINTS)

A Give the correct form of the words between brackets. (3 pts)

- 1 Ideas on childcare may (different) considerably between the parents.
- 2 He had a physical (strong) that matched his outward appearance.
- 3 Almost all philosophical issues are highly (controversy)

B Put the verbs between brackets in the correct form. (3 pts)

- 1 She (have) lunch with her fiancé yesterday when he gave her an expensive ring as a birthday present.
- 2 I suggested (go) in my car.
- 3 I must just go and have a shower. I (potter) in the garden.

C Rewrite the following sentences beginning with the words given. (3 pts)

- 1 That was dangerous. Fortunately, he didn't kill himself.
He could
- 2 We don't need your comments, thank you.
Your comments
- 3 He packed his suitcase. Then, he left the house in a hurry.
Before he

D Choose the correct connector from the list below. (1.5 pts)

since despite so that as well as although therefore

- 1 the sun was shining it wasn't very warm.
- 2 We thought that, we were in the area, we'd stop by and see them.
- 3 I'll send the letter express she gets it before Tuesday.

E Correct the mistakes in the following sentences. (1.5 pts)

- 1 We went along silently on tiptoe **in order to not** disturb anyone.
.....
- 2 I **will completely finish** the work by next June.
.....
- 3 She started a degree but **dropped out from** university after only a year.
.....

F Complete the following exchange. (3 pts)

Your older brother is listening to loud music while you want to revise your lessons.

- (Complain to your brother of the loud music.)
.....
- (Make a request. Ask your brother to turn down the volume.)
.....
- (Accept your brother's apology.)
.....

III WRITING (10 POINTS)

You have received the following email from an e-pal of yours.

Write to me as soon as possible and tell me about one of the books or films you've read or seen. Which one was it? What genre does it fall into? Who are the main characters? What was it about? Did you like it?

Take care

Jean

Write an answer.

March 4th, 2016

Dear Jean,