

Block 2

2008-10-25

Högskoleprovet

Svarshäfte nr.

DELPROV 3

ELFf

Delprovet innehåller 20 uppgifter.

Anvisningar

Detta prov innehåller ett antal engelskspråkiga texter av olika längd. Till varje text hör en eller flera uppgifter, var och en med fyra svarsförslag. Endast ett är rätt, nämligen det som passar bäst i det givna sammanhanget.

Observera att du ska lösa uppgifterna med ledning av den information som ges i respektive text.

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På nästa sida börjar provet som innehåller **20 uppgifter**.

Provtiden är 35 minuter.

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Disability

There has been a long history of bestowing social power according to physique, with a hierarchy of physical traits – gender, race, ability – determining social privilege and economic opportunity.

The right to vote, for example, has been determined both by gender and by race, with black men and women in South Africa denied the right to vote until 63 years after white women attained this right for themselves. In many countries disabled people may still be prevented from voting due to the inaccessibility of polling centres. Although discrimination based on notions of gender or racial inferiority is now widely contentious, the assumption that disability justifies diminished opportunities remains comparatively unchallenged. The onset of chronic illness or injury, for many people, is the experience of a fall from privilege.

From Bhutan to Canada disabled people claim that the problems they face are produced by social attitudes and by forms of exclusion that result from these attitudes. They contend that the marginalisation they experience results not from their impairments, but from their being classified as deviant from culturally valued norms.

The World Health Organisation categorises disabled individuals based on the degree to which they conform to, or deviate from, culturally specific “norms” of physique, activity and social participation. No other minority group is subjected to this level of analysis, such that an in-depth classification of individuals’ differences is seen as a prerequisite for determining their needs, constructing policies or providing services.

The WHO’s classifications were ostensibly designed to help identify unmet needs among disabled people. It would perhaps be more fruitful to ascertain how people who have illnesses, injuries and impairments manage their lives in a world designed to suit the needs of “normals” and how communities could be changed to meet the needs of all citizens.

Disabled people are sometimes referred to euphemistically as “people with special needs”, which leads to the development of “special” services, for example, parallel

systems of transportation and education that are inferior to those services provided other citizens. Disabled people contend that they do not have special needs, but the same needs as anyone else.

The link between poverty and disability is well documented. The majority of the world’s disabled people live in absolute or relative poverty. The UN estimates that some 20 million people in the world who require a wheelchair for basic mobility do not have one.

Poverty can be both a cause and an effect of physical impairments. In the developing world poor nutrition, wars, landmines, unsafe working conditions and disease increase the numbers of people with impairments, particularly among the poor.

Physical and policy barriers conspire to restrict access to education, transportation, credit and employment to those who conform to physical norms, almost guaranteeing poverty for the world’s disabled citizens. Compounding this inequity, international non-governmental organisations have generally shown little interest in disabled people.

While many societies are making efforts to ensure that social opportunities are not dictated by race or gender, disability remains beyond the radar of many activists and academics. Feminist activists, for example, have drawn attention to the metaphorical “glass ceiling” of sexism that prevents women’s ascent to high-paying jobs but have been curiously silent about the literal barriers of ableism that prevent disabled women and men from gaining access to even basic levels of employment. Globally the most common occupation for disabled people is begging.

Disability – indifferent as it is to age, religion, race or social class – is fundamental to the human experience. It is also the one dimension of devalued human status to which we are all vulnerable. By assuring social inclusivity and physical access to disabled people today, we might be making the world fairer for ourselves and our children tomorrow.

KAREN WHALLEY HAMMELL, GUARDIAN WEEKLY



Questions

1. What is said in the first two paragraphs?

- A Disabled people lack the legal right to vote in many countries
- B Questionable views on disability are still quite widespread
- C Disabled people are seeing clear improvements in their lives
- D The political aspects of disability are at last attracting attention

2. Which of the following statements is true of disabled people, according to the text?

- A They tend to play down the social dimension of their physical status
- B The WHO's categorisation of them is too sweeping to be of real use
- C Their biggest trouble is people's insensitivity to their physical problems
- D The society in which they live fails to accept them as ordinary people

3. What is claimed about disabled people's "special needs"?

- A The existence of such needs is denied by disabled people
- B Great progress has lately been made in determining these needs
- C Defining their special needs remains an urgent task for the authorities
- D Disabled people agree that their needs differ from those of other people

4. What are we told about disability in relation to poverty?

- A Poverty is no big problem for disabled people in rich Western countries
- B Poor people tend to be at higher risk than others of becoming disabled
- C Poverty in the developing world usually results in some form of disability
- D Poor conditions as such hardly mean greater likelihood of disability

5. Which of the following statements best represents one of the writer's main points?

- A Disabled people's conditions have received a lot of international attention in recent years
- B Most of the physical problems of disability are in the process of being solved
- C Important steps have been taken to make the public see disability as "normal"
- D Physical impairments are less important for disabled people than the way they are looked upon by other people



The Lives of Marilyn Monroe

From a review of a book by Sarah Churchwell

When she died of a barbiturate overdose on the night of Aug. 4, 1962, Marilyn Monroe was 36 years old, which means that her posthumous career has by now exceeded its earthly counterpart. Or, to put it in the terms made famous by Elton John and Bernie Taupin, her candle burned out long before her legend ever did. It is this legend, more than the facts behind it, that is the subject of Sarah Churchwell's book. Her intent is not, as it has been for so many biographers, scandalmongers, conspiracy theorists and littérateurs, to unveil the real Marilyn, but rather to show that it is precisely the attempts to discover such a Marilyn that have turned her from a magazine model and movie star into an icon, a myth and a metaphor.

Those words figure prominently in Churchwell's lexicon, and they signal that *The Many Lives of Marilyn Monroe* is less a work of biography than a work of interpretation, one that frequently takes flight into abstraction: "The many lives of Marilyn are a talking cure for our lingering, persistent fears about sex, knowledge, the female body and death."

Well, maybe. But it seems more likely that the lives in question represent a way for writers of all stripes to cash in on our persistent fascination with celebrity. It isn't that Churchwell is wrong, but that she has a habit of subjecting her insights to a rhetorical inflation that ends up weakening them. She loses the interesting particulars of Monroe's life and afterlife in pronouncements about sexual politics, the nature of the self, the relationship of reality to appearance.

But beneath its sweeping statements and despite its excessive length and lumpy architecture, Churchwell's book performs a useful critical function. It is in large measure a sustained, strenuous critique of the lazy thinking, sloppy research and overall softheadedness that characterize so much popular biographical writing.

The literature on Monroe presents an especially rich trove of such lapses. The books Churchwell surveys disagree on the facts of Monroe's early life and premature

death, but they attain remarkable unanimity in depicting her as psychologically unstable, a creature of instinct rather than intellect and a victim – of the studio system, of her own sexuality, of wide-ranging conspiracies.

The aura of victimhood, a mixture of self-destructiveness and martyrdom, arises from her death, the circumstances of which remain a continual source of uncertainty and fascination. While Churchwell herself cautiously endorses the theory that Monroe's overdose was accidental, she also anatomizes the competing hypotheses of suicide, murder and a bad enema administered by Monroe's doctor.

True to her cultural studies training, Churchwell takes an approach to scholarship that doesn't require knowing more than those she critiques, but only the ability to sound more knowing. Sometimes this lends her argument an unwarranted archness, and a few inconsistencies of its own, as she twits biographers at one moment for being overly credulous, at others for being too skeptical.

But her own skepticism is, for the most part, well applied, and as she churns through acres of overwrought prose (occasionally producing some of her own), a more credible account of Monroe starts to emerge, which Churchwell fleshes out in a coda called "My Marilyn." While her intellectual scruples prevent her from claiming this version as yet another real Marilyn, it does at least conform to the facts of the star's career – from pinup model to one of Fox's top box-office attractions – rather than to speculations about her split personality, her sexuality or her symbolic status.

Above all, Churchwell's book is a reminder that Monroe was a complicated human being, a fact obscured by the aura of her fame and by those who insist on treating her as a symbol, a myth, a case study.

A. O. SCOTT, THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW



Questions

6. What is implied about Marilyn Monroe in the opening paragraph?

- A In Churchwell's view, the intriguing thing about her is how she came to be perceived after her death
- B Most earlier writers have treated her as an image rather than as a person
- C Despite her legendary career, her private life can hardly be described as in any way exceptional
- D Churchwell has used new facts to draw a different picture of her

7. How does the reviewer feel about Churchwell's way of discussing Monroe?

- A Her tendency towards abstract analysis cannot hide her obsession with fame
- B She is especially good at formulating her observations in a striking fashion
- C Her interest in general questions sometimes obscures her main topic
- D She seems to have a talent for presenting deep ideas in everyday language

8. What is said about earlier descriptions of Monroe's life?

- A They differ a great deal in their portrayal of her personality
- B They show many typical weaknesses of modern biographies
- C They give surprisingly few details about her life outside her film career
- D They exaggerate factual accuracy at the expense of a good story

9. How does the reviewer judge Churchwell's opinions of previous books about Monroe?

- A Churchwell obviously has a good deal more knowledge about her subject than earlier Monroe biographers
- B Churchwell's reasoning suffers from a lack of critical distance from the Monroe myth
- C Churchwell is not always fair in her critical discussion of other writers' views on Monroe
- D Churchwell's reactions to earlier speculations about Monroe are largely unjustified

10. What is the reviewer's overall impression of Churchwell's book?

- A Despite certain stylistic and other shortcomings, it provides the definitive version of Monroe's life
- B Its main problem is that it does not clearly distinguish facts from opinions
- C On the whole, it fails to seriously challenge the myth of Monroe as a victim of tragic circumstances
- D It highlights the difference between Monroe as a person and as an image



AND HERE ARE SOME SHORTER TEXTS:

The Jokkmokk Effect

Today, in Iceland and Sweden, girls consistently outperform boys in math and physics. In Sweden the gap is widest in the remote regions in the north. That may be because women want to move to the big cities farther south, where they would need to compete in high-tech economies, while men are focused on local hunting, fishing and forestry opportunities. The phenomenon even has a name, the Jokkmokk effect, a reference to an isolated town in Swedish Lapland.

SMS Advertising

SMS purports to be an ethical form of advertising, since people must consciously opt in to receive the initial message. But there are already signs of abuse. SMS scams are becoming more frequent because the rewards – lucrative kickbacks from phone operators – outweigh financial penalties. Still, most SMS ads are legitimate, since global brands don't want their names associated with scams.

Linnaeus

Before Linnaeus, systems of classification were often highly whimsical. Animals might be categorized by whether they were wild or domesticated, terrestrial or aquatic, large or small, even whether they were thought handsome and noble or of no consequence. Linnaeus made it his life's work to classify all that was alive according to its physical attributes. Taxonomy – i.e. the science of classification – has never looked back. But Linnaeus was not flawless. He made room for mythical beasts and 'monstrous humans' whose descriptions he gullibly accepted from seamen and other imaginative travellers.

Question

11. What is the main point here?

- A Doing science in school is considered unmanly by many male students
- B Personal motivation is a key factor in students' educational results
- C The Jokkmokk effect refers to a uniquely Swedish state of affairs
- D Lapland has a tradition of playing down the importance of education

Question

12. What can be concluded here?

- A The future of SMS marketing is doubted by many business people
- B Global companies are ignoring the low penalties of SMS abuse
- C Consumers should be on their guard against dubious SMS ads
- D The risk of abuse in SMS advertising is likely to disappear

Question

13. What are we told about Linnaeus?

- A His main principles for classifying nature are open to doubt
- B He introduced a consistent basis for biological description
- C His belief in non-existent creatures ruined his scientific reputation
- D He failed to question the relevance of non-physical features in biology



Scottish Weddings

Couples from around the world are flocking to the bucolic backdrops of Scotland to exchange their vows. The wedding trend is such a heavy money-maker that Scotland has been excluded from the new British legislation designed to prevent sham marriages. Under the new law, a bride or bridegroom from outside the European Union will have to be interviewed at a special registration center, which will check on their immigration status, before being wed in either England or Wales. But that will not be the case in Scotland unless evidence emerges that the country has become a magnet for bogus marriages.

Meditation

While meditation is catching on quickly among Europeans, it's absolutely huge in the U.S. – 10 million American adults now say they practice it in some form regularly, twice as many as a decade ago. Meditation classes today are being filled by mainstream people who don't own crystals or subscribe to New Age magazines. For upwardly mobile professionals convinced that their lives are more stressful than those of the cow-milking and butter-churning generations that preceded them, meditation is the smart person's bubble bath.

University Education

The expansion of higher education in recent years has let down children from low-income families and led to a sharp rise in less able students from wealthy families going to university, according to new research. It shows that government plans to give 50% of under-30s a university education by 2010 will reinforce class divisions in the education system. It concludes that plans to increase access to higher education for children outside the middle classes will fail without the introduction of generous grants and scholarships.

Question

14. What is suggested here in relation to Scottish weddings?

- A Their economic importance motivates a welcoming attitude to marriages between non-EU citizens
- B Immigration in general is less controversial in Scotland than in Wales
- C The Scottish authorities have decided to deal with the urgent problem of fake weddings between foreigners
- D Marriages involving couples from overseas have so far been rare

Question

15. What is said here?

- A Meditation is no longer limited to special kinds of people
- B Support for meditation in the U.S. seems to have come to a standstill
- C Europeans tend to remain skeptical about the blessings of meditation
- D Meditation today mostly appeals to career-minded business people

Question

16. What is implied here?

- A The chief aim of higher education should be to reduce social differences
- B Universities will need to take special steps to attract students from low-income backgrounds
- C Today's higher education is unfair to students from wealthy families
- D Social classes are likely to be more evenly distributed among future university students



In the following text there are gaps which indicate that something has been left out. Look at the four alternatives that correspond to each gap and decide which one best fits the gap. Then mark your choice on your answer sheet.

Neophobic Rats

Fearful types may meet their maker sooner, at least among rats. Researchers have for the first time connected a personality trait – fear of novelty – to an early death.

Sonia Cavigelli and Martha McClintock, psychologists at the University of Chicago, presented unfamiliar bowls, tunnels and bricks to a group of young male rats. Those **17**_____ to explore the mystery objects were classified as “neophobic.”

The researchers found that the neophobic rats produced high levels of stress hormones, called glucocorticoids – typically involved in the fight-or-flight stress response – when faced with strange situations. Those rats continued to have high levels of the hormones at random times throughout their lives, indicating that timidity is a fixed and stable trait. The team then set out to examine the cumulative effects of this personality trait on the rats’ health.

Timid rats were 60 percent more likely to die at any given time than were their outgoing brothers. The causes of death, **18**_____, were similar for both groups. “One hypothesis as to why the neophobic rats died earlier is that the stress hormones negatively affected their immune system,” Cavigelli says. Neophobes died, on average, three months before their rat brothers, a significant gap, **19**_____ that most rats lived only two years.

Extrapolating from the doomed fate of neophobic rats to their human counterparts is difficult. “But it means that something as simple as a personality trait could have physiological **20**_____,” Cavigelli says.

CARLIN FLORA, PSYCHOLOGY TODAY

Alternatives

17.

- A determined
- B hesitant
- C required
- D curious

18.

- A unfortunately
- B likewise
- C however
- D accordingly

19.

- A considering
- B suggesting
- C confirming
- D accepting

20.

- A causes
- B disturbances
- C factors
- D consequences

