4.3 Feminist Thinkers: Mary Wollstonecraft and Betty Friedan: 10-minute Pack

EDEXCEL 9PL0 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. Short-answer items may use brief sentences. For levels-marked questions, write structured responses with accurate political knowledge, named thinker references and clear evaluation where required. The final question is the 30-mark essay.

1 State the year Mary Wollstonecraft published A Vindication of the Rights of Woman and name its author as required for A-level Politics topics on feminist thinkers.

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

2 State two legal or civic domains from which Mary Wollstonecraft argued women were unjustly excluded in A Vindication of the Rights of Woman, 1792.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

3 Explain Mary Wollstonecraft's argument about why equal education is essential for women's rational development, as discussed in A Vindication of the Rights of Woman, 1792.

(Total for Question 3 is 3 marks)

4 State one concrete policy area Friedan advocated to improve women's access to employment and education in The Feminine Mystique, 1963.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

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Mark scheme · 4.3 Feminist Thinkers: Mary Wollstonecraft and Betty Friedan: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

1792 and Mary Wollstonecraft cao	**B1**

Answer: 1792, Mary Wollstonecraft.

Question 2

one accurate domain, e.g. education cao	**B1**
a second accurate domain, e.g. property rights or citizenship/political participation cao	**B1**

Answer: Education; property rights or citizenship/political participation.

Question 3

identifies Wollstonecraft's claim that women are rational beings capable of moral reasoning	**B1**
explains that she argued lack of education produced artificial weaknesses and vanity, not natural inferiority	**B1**
explains the consequence: equal education would enable women to be independent, virtuous citizens and equal partners	**B1**

Answer: Wollstonecraft argued women are rational beings and that denying them education creates apparent weaknesses like vanity and dependence rather than natural inferiority. Equal education would develop women's capacity for moral reasoning and independence, enabling them to be virtuous citizens and partners rather than merely ornamental companions.

Question 4

states one relevant policy area, e.g. access to higher education or childcare provision to enable women to work	**B1**
brief development linking the policy to increased employment or education opportunities	**B1**

Answer: Examples: expanding access to higher education for women; improving childcare provision so women can combine paid work with family responsibilities.

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