

Questions 13–23 are based on the following excerpt from Charlotte Perkins Gilman’s “Politics and Warfare,” which appears in *The Man-Made World: Our Androcentric Culture* (1911).

There are many today who hold that politics need not be at all connected with warfare; and others who hold that politics is warfare from start to finish. 1

The inextricable confusion of politics and warfare is part of the stumbling block in the minds of men. As they see it, a nation is primarily a fighting organization; and its principal business is offensive and defensive warfare; therefore the ultimatum with which they oppose the demand for political equality—“women cannot fight, therefore they cannot vote.” 2

Fighting, when all is said, is to them the real business of life; not to be able to fight is to be quite out of the running; and ability to solve our growing mass of public problems; questions of health, of education, of morals, of economics; weighs naught against the ability to kill. 3

This naïve assumption of supreme value in a process never of the first importance; and increasingly injurious as society progresses, would be laughable if it were not for its evil effects. It acts and reacts upon us to our hurt. Positively, we see the ill effects already touched on; the evils not only of active war, but of the spirit and methods of war; idealized, inculcated, and practiced in other social processes. It tends to make each man-managed nation an actual or potential fighting organization, and to give us, instead of civilized peace, that “balance of power” which is like the counted time in the prize ring—only a rest between combats. 4

It leaves the weaker nations to be “conquered” and “annexed” just as they used to be; with “preferential tariffs” instead of tribute. It forces upon each the burden of armament; upon many the dreaded conscription; and continually lowers the world’s resources in money and in life. 5

Similarly in politics, it adds to the legitimate expenses of governing the illegitimate expenses of fighting; and must needs have a “spoils system” by which to pay its mercenaries. 6

In carrying out the public policies the wheels of state are continually clogged by the “opposition”; always an opposition on one side or the other; and this slow wiggling uneven progress, through shorn victories and haggling concessions, is held to be the proper and only political method. 7

“Women do not understand politics,” we are told; “Women do not care for politics”; “Women are unfitted for politics.” 8

It is frankly inconceivable, from the androcentric viewpoint, that nations can live in peace together, and be friendly and serviceable as persons are. It is inconceivable also, that, in the management of a nation, honesty, efficiency, wisdom, experience and love could work out good results without any element of combat. 9

The “ultimate resort” is still to arms. “The will of the majority” is only respected on account of the guns of the majority. We have but a partial civilization, heavily modified to sex—the male sex. 10

13. The author’s main purpose in the passage is to
- A. argue for women being drafted
 - B. criticize colonialism
 - C. present a pacifist philosophy
 - D. criticize the male-dominated society
 - E. protest tariffs

14. In paragraph 2, the author maintains that men support their position on equality for women based upon which of the following approaches?
- A. begging the question
 - B. a syllogism using a faulty premise
 - C. an appeal to emotion
 - D. circular reasoning
 - E. an *ad hoc* argument
15. Using textual clues, one can conclude that “androcentric” most probably means
- A. robot-centered
 - B. world-centered
 - C. female-centered
 - D. self-centered
 - E. male-centered
16. In addition to indicating a direct quotation, the author uses quotation marks to indicate
- A. the jargon of politics and warfare
 - B. the coining of a phrase
 - C. a definition
 - D. the author’s scholarship
 - E. that the author does not take responsibility for her words
17. In paragraph 4, “increasingly injurious as society progresses” is reinforced by all of the following except:
- A. “ill effects already touched on” [paragraph 4]
 - B. “active war” [paragraph 4]
 - C. “weaker nations to be ‘conquered’ and ‘annexed’” [paragraph 5]
 - D. “illegitimate expenses of fighting” [paragraph 6]
 - E. “Women do not understand politics” [paragraph 8]
18. According to the author, men view the primary purpose of government to be
- A. educating the people
 - B. solving the “mass of public problems”
 - C. obtaining as much power as possible
 - D. economics
 - E. health
19. The argument shifts from a discussion of warfare to a discussion of politics in the first sentence of which of the following paragraphs?
- A. paragraph 4
 - B. paragraph 5
 - C. paragraph 6
 - D. paragraph 7
 - E. paragraph 9
20. The tone of the passage is best described as
- A. ambivalent
 - B. reverent
 - C. condescending
 - D. accusatory
 - E. indifferent
21. The style of the passage can best be described as
- A. poetic and emotional
 - B. editorial and analytical
 - C. mocking and self-serving
 - D. preaching and moralistic
 - E. authoritative and pretentious
22. To present her argument, Gilman primarily uses which of the following rhetorical strategies?
- A. process
 - B. definition
 - C. cause and effect
 - D. narration
 - E. description
23. “It,” as used in paragraphs 4, 5, and 6, only refers to
- A. “Fighting is to them the real business of life” [paragraph 3]
 - B. “evil effects” [paragraph 4]
 - C. “man-managed nation” [paragraph 4]
 - D. “preferential tariffs” [paragraph 5]
 - E. “spoils system” [paragraph 6]