

General Certificate of Education
June 2003
Advanced Level Examination



**GENERAL STUDIES (SPECIFICATION B)
Unit 4 Conflict-Resolution**

GB4W

Wednesday 11 June 2003 Afternoon Session

In addition to this paper you will require:
an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is GB4W.
- Answer **all** questions.
- Read the passage and carry out the instructions.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.

Advice

- You will be assessed according to your ability to:
 - select and use a form and style of writing appropriate to purpose and complex subject matter;
 - organise relevant information clearly and coherently, using specialist vocabulary when appropriate;
 - ensure text is legible, and spelling, grammar and punctuation are accurate, so that meaning is clear.

Read the following passages and complete the tasks which follow.

1

Total for this question: 60 marks

Equal opportunities ‘damages health of women soldiers’.

An army doctor has found that women who join the Army are paying for equal opportunities with a higher risk of injury. Eight times as many women as men are discharged from the Army with injuries during basic training. The rate has more than doubled since the introduction in 1998 of identical training programmes for both sexes, from 4.6% to 11.1% under the new training regime, compared to below 1.5% for men.

‘Women face a much greater risk to their health than men,’ writes Lieutenant-Colonel Ian Gemmell.

‘Health and Safety guidance has been overlooked in the interests of meeting equal opportunity legislation.’

Women find the twelve-week initial training tougher than men because of differences in bone mass, strength and stride length. They are more likely to suffer feet, knee, back and leg pain and stress fractures of the tibia, foot and hip.

Until 1998 female army recruits did not have to reach the same level of fitness as men. The policy changed because too many women lacked the strength for the work that they were expected to do after their training was complete.

Source: The Times, 3 January 2002

Female fire fighter faces discrimination

A female fire fighter was removed from active service from the East Sussex Fire Authority because she was too small to do the job. At 5 feet 1 inch tall she had to stand on a stepladder to clean the fire engines and was unable to reach equipment stored high up on the tender.

Two male colleagues complained that her lack of height had led to them injuring themselves, as well as her, when they helped her remove a 45-foot ladder from the fire engine roof. She was also removed from duties that involved wearing chemical protection suits because the suits were several sizes too large for her.

As part of their training programme, fire fighters are required to perform physical tasks such as lifting a 50 kilogram weight, sprinting for half a mile, extending a ladder and rolling out lengths of hose in a prescribed period of time. A height requirement of 5 feet 6 inches was removed in 1996, but applicants have to be tall enough to ‘put a ladder back on a fire engine’.

The fire fighter was assessed by senior officers who decided that her upper-body strength was insufficient and she was removed from operational duties.

Source: Daily Mail, 30 January 2002

Write an objective report which communicates:

- (i) the nature of the problem outlined in these two articles; (15 marks)
- (ii) which parties you consider to be responsible for the problem and why; (15 marks)
- (iii) what measures might be taken to resolve the problem. (20 marks)

A further ten marks will be awarded for communicating in a concise and logical way in a form appropriate to report writing. (10 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS