



	Exercise N°	Professor's Name	Mark
<b>Part I</b>	1. Reading Comp.	.....	.../20
	2. Paraphrasing	.....	.../24
	3. Cloze	.....	.../16
	<b>Total Part I (Min. 31)</b>		.../60
<b>Part II</b>	4. Essay	.....	.../40
	4. Essay Recorrec.	.....	.../40
	4. Essay Final mark	.....	.../40
	(do NOT fill in)	<b>Total Part II (Min. 21)</b>	.../40

CARRERA DE TRADUCTOR PÚBLICO  
ENTRANCE EXAMINATION - SEPTIEMBRE 2013

NOMBRE y APELLIDO: .....

Nº de ORDEN:..... PAPER 1

## Men's Liberation

What's the matter with men? Men are "in decline." The "war on boys" has begun. "The End of Men" is upon us. There's certainly some substance to these claims. A growing number of women have gone off to work. Men's share of the labor force has declined from 70 % in 1945 to less than 50 % today, and in big cities, young, single, childless women earn 8% more than their male peers. Women have matched or overtaken men as a percentage of students in college and graduate school, while men have retained their lead in alcoholism, suicide, homelessness, violence, and criminality. If men are going off the rails, how do they get back on track?

Although some men have turned to old models of manhood for salvation this only perpetuates the problem. To confront new challenges the same way they dealt with earlier upheavals (by blaming women, retreating into the woods, or burying their anxieties beneath machismo) does nothing to help men secure sustainable jobs, or be better fathers in an economy that's rapidly outgrowing Marlboro Manliness.

What's required, then, is not a reconnection with the past but a liberation from it; not a revival of the old role but an expansion of it. It's time for a New Macho: a reimagining of what men should be expected to do in the two realms -home and work- that have always determined their worth.

The modern standards aren't much better. Despite apparent progress—young couples believe in co-parenting and sharing the household chores—very little has actually changed. The average wife still does roughly double the housework of the average husband: the equivalent of two full workdays of additional chores each week. Even when the man is unemployed, the woman handles a majority of the domestic workload and child care. If both parents are working, women spend 400% more time with the kids. Meanwhile, the number of fatherless kids in America has nearly tripled since 1960, and the percentage of men who call themselves stay-at-home dads has stalled below 3%. The old roles, say sociologists, are hard to shake.

It's clear that we've arrived at a crossroads—only today the prevailing codes of manhood have yet to adjust to the changing demands on men. We're not advocating a genderless society, a world in which men are "just like women." We're not even averse to decorative manhood, or the kind of escapism that men have turned to again and again—think Paul Bunyan, Tarzan, and bomber jackets—when the actual substance of their lives felt light. If today's men want to be hunters, or metrosexuals, or metrosexuals dressed in hunting clothes, they should feel free.

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But they need to be more than that, too. On the surface, the New Macho is a paradox, a path to masculinity paved with girly jobs and dirty diapers. Dig a little deeper, however, and it begins to make sense. If men embraced parental leave, women would be spared the stigma of the “mommy track”—and the professional penalties (like lower pay) that come along with it. If men were involved fathers, more kids might stay in school, steer clear of crime, and avoid poverty as adults. And if the US achieved gender parity in the workplace—an optimal balance of fully employed men and women—the gross domestic product would grow by as much as 9%, according to a recent study by the World Economic Forum.

Ultimately, the New Macho boils down to a simple principle: in a changing world, men should do whatever it takes to contribute their fair share at home and at work. Policymakers and employers should do whatever they can to help them. After all, what’s more masculine: being a strong, silent, unemployed absentee father, or actually fulfilling your half of the bargain as a breadwinner and a dad?

PART I (Minimum Passing Mark: 31 points)

PAPER 1

**1. READING COMPREHENSION**

**In your own words, answer the following questions about the passage above.**

A. What does the title “Men’s Liberation” mean? What ties should men break free from? What kind of model does the author propose?

B. What benefits will the change in model bring about?

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2. USE OF ENGLISH: PARAPHRASING

Use the words given and rewrite these sentences by adding 2 or more words.  
DO NOT change the meaning

A. The modern standards aren't much better

**Hardly** .....

B. What is required is not a reconnection with the past but a liberation from it

**It is a liberation** .....

C. To confront new challenges the same way they dealt with earlier upheavals does nothing to help men

**It would be helpful**.....

.....  
D. If men embraced parental leave women would be spared the stigma of the “mommy track”

Were .....

### 3. USE OF ENGLISH: CLOZE EXERCISE

Fill in the blanks with **ONLY ONE WORD**

(1)..... is growing evidence that roles can be expanded. For example, new fathers in Sweden no (2)..... rush back to work, leaving the mother to (3)..... the kids by herself. Why? In 1995, Sweden passed a simple (4)..... revolutionary law: couples would lose one month of leave (5)..... the father was the one who took it. A second use-it-or-lose-it month was (6)..... in 2002, and now more than 80% of Swedish fathers take 4 months (7)..... for the birth of a new child. And 41% of companies now formally (8)..... fathers to go on parental leave. (9)..... put, men are expected to work less and father more.

(10)..... shifts are already underway around the world. In Germany, the percentage of new fathers (11)..... take a break has jumped sevenfold since the country passed its own Swedish-style law. In Japan the government honors dedicated fathers (2)..... spotlighting male child rearing. And with new paid-leave laws in Britain, the U.S. is now the only (13)..... country that doesn't bankroll a bonding period for (14)..... parent. This could change (15)..... than you think. Recent polls show that most of Republicans, Democrats and independents now (16)..... the idea of paid paternity leave.

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PART II (Minimum Passing Mark 21)

### 4. ESSAY WRITING (350-400 words)

*Skeptics argue that men are “designed” for some gigs and not for others. But while no one would claim that men and women don't have their differences, women long ago proved that gender essentialism doesn't determine what kind of work they can do. Today women still serve as teachers, nurses, and social workers. But they're also CEOs, soldiers, and secretaries of state. The time has come for a similar expansion of what men can do for a living.*

- Read the extract above and write an opinion essay
- Be tidy and orderly
- Write the total word count at the end
- In your essay, use and underline the following structures:
  1. A *mixed conditional*.
  2. A non-defining relative clause
  3. The expression “*Not only....*” at the beginning of the sentence

PLUS A WIDE RANGE OF CONNECTORS AND VOCABULARY



(MMK035) Student's Name:  
ESSAY: (cont'd)

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TOTAL WORD COUNT:

Does not include structures requested		Spelling Mistakes	
Does not include ideas requested		Punctuation mistakes	
Poor use of language		Poor contents / poor ideas	