

C2 Mark Scheme – *Marriage*

Read the newspaper article ‘Why men won’t get married anymore’ in the separate Resource Material.

- 1.1 a) Name one celebrity who has recently married? [1]
- George Clooney OR Benedict Cumberbatch OR Eddie Redmayne
- b) Marriage in Britain is at its lowest level since what date? [1]
- 1895
- c) How many men doubt that they are the biological fathers of their partners’ children? [1]
- 1.2 million
- 1.2 How does the writer show that marriage is on the decline because men are being treated unfairly? [10]

Some points that candidates may explore:

- Headline states men aren’t getting married ‘anymore’
- Sub-heading suggests they’re ‘second class citizens’
- Starts with the contrast - celebrities who have taken the ‘plunge’ and yet marriage figures have ‘plunged’
- Labels them a ‘diminishing band of brothers’ - phrase suggests a collective of men that are choosing to stand by each other in protest (language of the battleground)
- Simile ‘dying out faster than a mobile phone battery’ suggests its declining at speed
- Offers a statistical perspective to show the decline
- The language of war is presented again with ‘an army of women’ – contrasts with ‘band of brothers’ and furthers the idea that men are on the losing side/being victimised
- ‘men are on strike’ because they have reason to protest
- Quotes expert Dr Helen Smith to outline what men will lose/highlights the risks
- She justifies the male argument with “men are being smart”
- The writer uses the real-life account of Ray Palour as a warning
- The tone is sardonic ‘oh no’ to highlight the unfairness
- Makes women out to be money-orientated by referring to ‘WAG’ culture with the simile “like an aggressive disease”
- The writer belittles marriage by suggesting it will end in divorce ‘when the marriage is over’
- Make it appear like women are favoured which highlights the man’s second-place position ‘renowned for favouring the wife’
- Advice offered by the lawyer and commentator
- The state has ‘relegated the father to the lowest point ever’
- Presents the historical perspective with bias by claiming it wasn’t through ‘privilege’
- Further villainises women by presenting the stats on paternity claims
- Men have been left ‘abused, belittled and exploited’

- Final words 'something needs to be done' suggests the situation is really bad for men today

To answer the following questions, you must read the extract called 'Advantages of Marriage' on the opposite page.

1.3

- a) Why might a bachelor avoid marriage? [1]
- fear of a few irritations OR selfish anxiety to live without responsibility
- b) How many candidates presented themselves to the Holborn Union? [1]
- twenty-one candidates
- c) What is a married man in his own home described as? [1]
- King

- 1.4 "In this extract, the writer suggests marriage for men as the best way to be happy and successful". How far do you agree with this statement? [10]

Some points that candidates may explore:

- Conveys marriage as a 'great blessing' that men may cut themselves off from
- Unmarried men give themselves to heavier burdens
- He quotes "if you are a single man, you shall carry double" as key advice
- Loneliness "none has friends" suggests only married men have true friends or has a "home in his old age"
- Repetition of 'None' suggests certain luxuries are limited to married men
- Lists benefits to being married such as 'comfort of the domestic home' or 'the affections of his children' - he will miss out on a great deal if not married
- No one will miss or mourn a "old bachelor"
- A single man 'he may sicken and die in a hotel with plenty of attendants about him' suggests a lack of meaningful relationships
- A man receives "constant care and love" from his wife
- People will "prey" on him / chased for his money – he is in danger of being a victim
- Holborn Union – "the best men were all married" hints that single men are somehow flawed and/or they gain success through marriage
- The suggestion is that married men are better "character, workmanship, appearances" – due to having the comfort of marriage
- Married men can "retrieve" their situation better when falling into "misfortune"
- "although all abroad be darkness and humiliation" – shows the world is not kind and life can be difficulty to show how marriage is a comfort
- "little world of love at home over which he is king" Metaphor indicates power and nobility in marriage
- Ends with final advice for men to find "safety in marriage"

To answer the following questions, you must use both texts.

- 1.5. Using information from both texts, explain briefly in your own words what advice is given to men regarding marriage.

[4]

Richard A Wells (Advantages of Marriage)

- Single men will 'carry double' a burden
- Man 'should choose health and happiness promised by marriage, over fear'
- 'Man should choose marriage if he wishes to be successful' as single men do not seem as employable
- Life is hard 'darkness and humiliation' so they need a wife as a comfort
- Single men die alone / unloved
- Single men should find their "safety in marriage"

Peter Lloyd (Why Men Won't Get Married Anymore)

- he must get a 'pre-nuptial' agreement
- otherwise 'steer clear altogether'
- be in a relationship, even live together
- don't get married
- men need to think carefully about how much "they're willing to lose"
- "a prolonged strike may be the only answer"

Overview: Wells warns of dangers to men of NOT getting married whereas Lloyd warns of the dangers to men in getting married.

- 1.6 Both of these texts are about marriage for men.

[10]

Compare:

- the writers' views on marriage
- how the writers try to convey their views

The writers' views on marriage

Richard A Wells (Advantages of Marriage)

- 'cuts himself off from a great blessing' – presents the view that non-married men are disadvantaged
- marriage provides less "burdens" – men don't have to "carry double"
- marriage protects man and stops him being taken advantage of 'chased for his money'/'prey'
- marriage makes men better in 'character, workmanship and appearance'
- marriage helps men to get on in life and survive any "misfortune"
- 'man should choose marriage if he wishes to be successful'.
- marriage presents man with 'health and happiness'

Peter Lloyd (Why Men Won't Get Married Anymore)

- men are 'second class citizens' in marriage
- marriage 'rewards' for men are 'far less than they used to be'
- refers to many negative aspects of marriage, including being 'edited out of your children's lives' if all goes wrong (uses 'your' to emotively appeal)
- 'they will lose their friends, their respect, their space' – too much to lose for men
- message to men is to 'steer clear altogether' – scaremongering tone from Baldwin
- 'marriage laws have left men abused, belittled and exploited' – starkly negative view

How the writers try to convey their views

Richard A Wells (Advantages of Marriage)

- repeats 'none' to highlight what can be gained through marriage - almost that unmarried men are nothing
- uses the 2nd person to create a distanced, factual tone
- lists the many benefits of marriage from a male viewpoint
- presents an anecdotal example from the 'Holborn Union' to show what marriage can offer – infers bachelors are losing their place / less worthy
- contrasts the "darkness and humiliation" of the world with the comforts of home
- man is all powerful in his home where he reigns as 'king' metaphor connotes power and importance

Peter Lloyd (Why Men Won't Get Married Anymore)

- plays on the word 'plunge' to show marriage is losing its place in society for men (take the plunge/marriage figures have plunged)
- "it's dying out faster than a mobile phone battery" – exaggerated comparison to allude to the decline
- quotes experts who verify the male position being second-class/victimised
- refers to a negative example of divorce 'Ray Palour' to show marriage bleeds men of their money
- highlights the unfairness of marriage today by using the historical perspective of '200 years ago'
- uses stats to highlight man's vulnerability in terms of parentage '1.2 million men'
- 'marriage laws have left men abused, belittled and exploited' – 3 words together for emphasis
- men are 'second class citizens' in marriage – repeated in headline and in last paragraph for emphasis of men's disadvantaged position

Overview

- Very one-sided views – Lloyd is starkly negative whereas Wells is highly positive
- Wells proposes marriage elevates social position whereas Lloyd suggests marriage bleeds men of money
- Lloyd suggests there's so much to be lost and Wells suggests there are only gains
- Lloyd villainises women but Wells glorifies the relationship and the gains offered by marriage