

新冠病情：国际妇女节

- 1 新型冠状病毒自中国而全球蔓延之际，世界迎来第 109 个三八国际妇女节，中国一线抗疫女医护人员和疫区女性的状况受到媒体关注。

新冠病毒流行大爆发，中国一线抗疫医生中女性超过 50%，女性护士超过 90%；她们既是抗疫医生、护士，也是母亲、妻子、恋人、女儿。

- 5 《三联生活周刊》（Sanlian Life Weekly）讲述了 2 名武汉女护士和 1 名湖北女医生的故事 — 2 名护士都感染了新冠病毒住院隔离，她们的孩子都在哺乳期，疫情爆发后被迫断奶；女医生也是在诊室感染了病毒，家里儿媳刚生了孩子还不到一个月。《财新网》则记述了一位名叫李珊珊的新冠孕妇的经历 — “一个人在产科住了半个月，家人因感染新冠肺炎分散在四个地方，她咬牙撑起了这个四处离散的家”。
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类似的故事在中国不计其数，很多都被媒体详细报道。

- 还有一些则较少见诸主流媒体，比如在一线抗疫的女医护人员需要女性卫生用品，一度急缺，而这一需求却被一些执行官员认为无关紧要，民间捐助卫生巾、安心裤、考拉裤等物品因为不属于“政府必备物资”而在输送过程中遇到各种阻碍。
- 15

另一例，甘肃省援助湖北的第三批医疗队中 14 名女护士出发前被集体剃光头发，《兰州晨报》网发布视频，不但有护士流泪的痛苦表情，还有剪下的头发被一只手拎着以炫耀姿态晃动的镜头，激起民愤，被斥为“对女性的消费、不尊重乃至精神与行为的双重侵犯”。

- 20 中国女性权益观察人士指出，世界妇女大会 25 年前在北京举行，也通过了《北京宣言》和《行动纲领》，但在现实层面情况不容乐观，最明显的表现之一是

出于商业和其他目的打着“女神”旗号造舆论，而女性的实际境况和需求却被遮盖、忽略、曲解，甚至被利用。

25 联合国妇女署承认，对世界上大多数妇女和女童来说，性别平等方面真正的变革极其缓慢，有些领域甚至出现倒退风险。

因此，第 109 个国际妇女节的主题是人人为了争取性别平等努力，集腋成裘，细流汇聚而成湖海，是为“集体个人主义”（collective individualism）。

Word List

- 蔓延 v. to spread
- 一线 n. Frontline
- 爆发 v. to break out, to erupt, to explode...
- 讲述 v. to give an account...
- 住院隔离 v. to be hospitalised and isolated/quarantined
- 哺乳 n. breast-feeding
- 断奶 v. to wean (a child)
- 儿媳 n. daughter-in-law
- 孕妇 n. pregnant woman
- 不计其数 fig. countless, numerous
- 见诸 n. reader
- 急缺 n. urgent need
- 捐助 v. to donate
- 卫生巾 n. sanitary pad
- 剃 v. to shave (head)
- 民愤 n. public outrage
- 观察人士 n. observer
- 造舆论 v. to create a fuss (over sth.)
- 集腋成裘 idiom. Many small contributions add up to something big

Questions

Re-read lines 1- 2:	Marks
1. What attracted media attention this International Women's Day?	1
Re-read lines 3-4:	
2. What percentage of front-line medical workers are female?	2
3. Apart from being medical workers, how else are these women are described?	2
Re-read lines 5-9:	
4. Describe in detail what the women experienced during the COVID-19 outbreak.	4
Re-read lines 11-14:	
5. What difficulties did women face on the front line?	3
6. How did the public help?	1
Re-read lines 15- 18:	
7. Why were the public outraged?	3
Re-read lines 19 – 22:	
8. What did observers point out?	1

9. How is the actual situation with regards to women's rights treated? 2

Re-read lines 23- 26:

10. What does the UN say about the situation of gender equality? 1

11. Why is Michael Galway concerned about Afghanistan and Pakistan? 2

Now consider the article as a whole:

12. What is the writer's overall purpose in writing about this subject? 7

Justify your response with close reference to the points made and the language used.

13. Translate the underlines section into **English**: (lines 5 - 7) 20

Total: 49 marks

The Answer Scheme is on the following page.

Answer Scheme

Q No.	Expected Response	Max Mark
1.	- (The status of) Front line female medical workers (1) and women in epidemic areas within China (1)	1
2.	- 50% of China's front-line doctors are women (1) and more than 90% of front-line nurses are women (1)	2
3.	- They are not only front-line medical workers but also mothers, wives, lovers and daughters. (Listing just two obtain 1 mark, listing more than two obtain 2 marks)	2
4.	- The two nurses were infected with COVID-19 and hospitalised (1) Their children were breastfeeding and had to be weaned (1) The female doctor contracted the virus in the clinic (1) and her daughter-in-law had just given birth less than a month ago (1) A pregnant woman who contracted COVID-19 was stuck on the maternity ward for half a month (1)	4
5.	- Female medical workers needed menstruation products (1) which were in short supply (1) because officials deemed their need insignificant (1)	3
6.	- The public privately donated sanitary pads (1) and menstruation products (1)	1
7.	- 14 female nurses had their head shaved (1) which was recorded/ a video was published (1) showcasing the nurses crying (1) and the shaved hair was shown-off to the camera (1)	3
8.	- Beijing held the UN World Conference on Women 25 years ago (1)	1
9.	- The actual situation and needs of women (1) are covered up/ignored/misinterpreted (1)	2
10.	- Real changes in gender equality are incredibly/extremely slow (1) and in some areas there are even risks of regression (1)	1
11.	1. The writer wants to bring more attention to the work female medical workers did on the COVID-19 front-line.	7 7 or 5:

	<p>2. The writer wants to bring more attention to the difficulties female medical workers suffer on the front-line that people don't think about.</p> <p>3. The writer wants to emphasis the hard work but also the hardships and obstacles the female medical workers had to overcome on the front-line.</p> <p>4. The writer references female medical workers accounts on their experiences on the front-line and of having COVID-19.</p> <p>5. By referencing the real-life experiences of female medical workers the writer brings more credibility to the piece.</p> <p>6. Women's issues in times of crisis can be forgotten; issues such as a shortage of menstruation supplies can greatly hinder the work of female medical workers; the author wants to bring more attention to the unseen obstacles that women face.</p>	<p>Clear, concise and reflective answer, drawing references from the text that are entirely appropriate, analytical in nature which demonstrate a sophisticated and accurate reading of the text.</p> <p>3 or 1:</p> <p>Provided an answer which may contain some degree of misreading, but which offers some evidence of appropriate inferencing skills.</p> <p>0:</p> <p>Simply regurgitating information from the text with no attempt to draw references.</p>
12.	<p><u>《三联生活周刊》 (Sanlian Life Weekly) 讲述了 2 名武汉女护士和 1 名湖北女医生的故事 — 2 名护士都感染了新冠病毒住院隔离，她们的孩子都在哺乳期，疫情爆发后被迫断奶；女医生也是在诊室感染了病毒，家里儿媳刚生了孩子还不到一个月。</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sanlian Life Weekly tells the story... - ...of two female nurses and one female doctor in Hubei. - Two nurses were infected with COVID-19... - ...and were hospitalised/ quarantined and hospitalised/ isolated and hospitalised. - Their children were breastfeeding... 	<p>20</p> <p>The translation into English is allocated 20 marks. The text for translations will be divided into numbers of sense units. Each sense unit is worth 2 marks, which will be awarded according to the quality and accuracy of the translation into English. In assessing the candidate's performance, the descriptions detailed below will be used. Each sense unit will be awarded one of the marks shown.</p> <p>2 - Good: Essential information and relevant details are understood and conveyed clearly and accurately, with appropriate use of English.</p> <p>1- Satisfactory: Essential information is understood and conveyed clearly and comprehensibly, although some of the details may be translated in an imprecise or</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ...and were forced to wean... - ...after the outbreak; ... - ...the female doctor also contracted the virus in the clinic... - ... and her daughter-in-law has just given birth... - ... less than a month ago. 	<p>inaccurate manner. The key message is conveyed in spite of inaccuracies and weaknesses in the use of English.</p> <p>0- Unsatisfactory: The candidate fails to demonstrate sufficient understanding of the essential information.</p>
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