

**SÈRIE 5****Modern Slavery**

Choose the best answer according to the text. Only ONE answer is possible.

[0.5 points each correct answer. Wrong answers will be penalized by deducting 0.16 points.

There is no penalty for unanswered questions.]

1. In ancient civilizations, slaves were...
  - a) usually captured in battles and then killed.
  - b) the foundation of nations.
  - c) **very often people who were captured from enemy armies**
  - d) special kinds of people that were good for war because of their muscles.
  
2. In ancient civilizations...
  - a) only people of different races and religions were enslaved.
  - b) slavery was considered a bad thing.
  - c) the basic human rights of slaves were more respected than today.
  - d) **justifications to enslave people were different from today.**
  
3. In earlier periods in history...
  - a) there were more forced laborers than slaves.
  - b) forced laborers received little money but they were treated better than slaves.
  - c) **the number of slaves was less than in present times.**
  - d) there were 27 million more slaves than today.
  
4. Today...
  - a) slaves work much harder than ever before.
  - b) slaves always have to belong to a different ethnic group from that of their masters.
  - c) **there are forms of exploitation that are equivalent to slavery.**
  - d) there are laws that protect slaves from mistreatment on the part of their masters.
  
5. Slavery exists today...
  - a) because it is still legal in some countries with corrupt governments.
  - b) because international legislation does not apply to people of all ages, sex and races.
  - c) only in Brazil, West Africa and Eastern Europe.
  - d) **in contradiction with existing laws against it.**
  
6. According to the text, women and children nowadays...
  - a) are no longer vulnerable to be exploited as slaves.
  - b) are only enslaved in Eastern Europe and West Africa.
  - c) **are affected by forms of slavery, as men and people of all ages are.**
  - d) cannot be legally enslaved in Brazilian agricultural estates, only men can.
  
7. According to the text, social, demographic and economic developments...
  - a) will allow corrupt government officials to become slaves some day.
  - b) have forced many people to leave the cities and work as forced laborers in the fields.
  - c) **are some of the most important factors for the return of slavery.**
  - d) are the cause of wars where victors enslave the losers rather than killing them.

8. One of the main differences between contemporary and ancient forms of slavery is that...
- a) **slaves are now cheaper and easier to replace.**
  - b) over the last 50 years laws have been passed which make slavery legal.
  - c) women and children were better treated before.
  - d) slaves get paid much better today.

## LISTENING COMPREHENSION

### Ruth Manorama - Winner of the 'Alternative Nobel Prize'

In this radio programme you are going to hear some new words. Read and listen to them. Make sure you know what they mean.

*fund*: finançament / financiación

*on behalf of*: en favor de

*reluctant*: reticent / reacio

*burden*: càrrega, pes / carga, peso

*boldly*: amb atreviment / con atrevimiento

*courage*: coratge / coraje

Ready?

Now read the questions on the next page. Read them carefully before listening to the radio programme.

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Welcome to 'Celebrities' our weekly interview programme. In today's programme I will interview Ruth Manorama, one of the winners of the so-called 'Alternative Nobel Prize.' Ruth Manorama has spent most of her life campaigning on behalf of her Dalit community in India; the Dalits are also known as the *untouchables*. A few days ago Ruth and this year's other two winners received their awards at a ceremony in Sweden.

*Adapted from an interview in "Outlook" (BBC Radio - World Service)*

[now listen to the interview]

Presenter: Good afternoon, Ruth, and welcome to our weekly programme. And first of all, congratulations!

Ruth: Thank you, thank you very much.

Presenter: Now, these 'Right Livelihood Awards' obviously are a great honour, and they are prestigious, and all that, but on a practical level they come with more than 200.000 US dollars in prize money, which I would expect is a welcome addition to your campaign funds.

Ruth: Yes, yes, even though I would get about 90.000 dollars only. The prize is shared with the other winners.

- Presenter Right, okay, but 90.000 dollars in India will still go a long way to help your campaign, won't it?
- Ruth: Yes, yes, definitely. I'm going to contribute that towards building a women's centre, a centre where women would be sheltered. ... It will be a women's resource centre.
- Presenter And when you say *women*, are you talking particularly about Dalit women?
- Ruth: Yes, mostly Dalit women. If other women want to come they would also be entertained, but mostly Dalit women from the urban and the rural areas, the centre would be for them.
- Presenter Now, you live in Bangalore. You were born in the 1950s in Madras, which is also a very large city. When you were a child and growing up as a Dalit in Madras, what was it like to be a young Dalit at that time?
- Ruth: Well, I was in Madras, and the area that I lived in was mostly a Dalit colony. So, in the Dalit colony we didn't have much problem with discrimination, but of course being brought up in a kind of semi-village in the city I had to go through some serious economic problems every day, and at that time basic facilities were not available. So it was really hard, both economically and socially.
- Presenter When you say basic facilities, do you also include education as one of the basic facilities your people did not have access to?
- Ruth: Well, in my house we didn't even have electricity, you know, so there were enormous economic problems one had to go through from a young age. And then one had to walk to school for a very long time, and a very long distance, and you know, I always thought: why can't I study in some school nearby, but my mother wanted me to go to a far away *good* school.
- Presenter I see, and when you were studying, was that the time when you became ..., that you started being a campaigner, or were you a natural-born social campaigner?
- Ruth: When I was at school, and then at college, I was always involved in social activities, so I usually participated in them and any type of discrimination that I saw I usually went and protested about it. But my campaign in defence of Dalit women actually started in 1987.
- Presenter: And I suppose that campaign did not have an easy start either.
- Ruth: You are right. No it wasn't easy at all. Although I knew very well the problems of being a Dalit woman in urban as well as in rural areas, as an organizer—a young woman organizer—I had serious problems. You know, everyone was very reluctant to accept the idea of Dalit women getting organized to fight for their rights.
- Presenter: So how did it all start?

Ruth: Well, from the 1970s onwards I was working with the poor in general, but then I realized that Dalit women were much poorer than others, suffered violence much more than others, and suffered caste discrimination, which is an additional burden on them. Being a Dalit woman I became aware of that: the *untouchable* women, specifically in villages in the rural areas of India, these women go through enormous social, economic and cultural discrimination.

Presenter: Ruth, you have two daughters I believe. Just briefly, looking ahead, do you think they are going to grow up in a very different, and in a better world perhaps than you did?

Ruth: Definitely. I am already, you know, getting on in life, able to talk about the issues very boldly, because there is a little more courage to talk. People do not like it when you talk about this issue, so I am able to talk boldly because only by talking the truth I feel that there will be liberation for our people. Look at my children, my children say things like "Who is to say what caste we belong to", "Who is to call us *untouchable*?" You know? They are much more direct; they are saying that given an opportunity any human being can grow intelligent, provided there are opportunities, they can always come up very well in life.

Presenter: Well Ruth, I'm afraid we've run out of time. Thank you very much for being with us, and the best of luck to you and your campaigns.

Ruth: Thank you.

### QUESTIONS

Choose the most appropriate answer according to the text. Only one answer is correct. Look at number 0 as an example.

[0.25 points each correct answer] [Wrong answers will be penalized (-0.08)]

1. According to the text, Ruth will...
  - a. be getting 200.000 US dollars in prize money.
  - b. be getting 90.000 US dollars in prize money.**
  - c. share the 90.000 US dollars with the other winners.
  - d. contribute 200.000 US dollars in building a new women's centre.
  
2. The women's centre Ruth wants to build will...
  - a. be mainly for Dalit women.**
  - b. only be for Dalit women from rural areas.
  - c. only be for Dalit women from urban areas
  - d. be mostly for young women.
  
3. When Ruth was a young woman living in the city of Madras,
  - a. she hated living in a Dalit colony.
  - b. she got away from the Dalit colony and went to live in the city centre.
  - c. she had economic difficulties.**
  - d. she suffered from social discrimination everyday.

4. As a child, Ruth had to walk to school a long distance because...
- there were no schools near her house.
  - the schools nearby had no electricity.
  - her family was poor and could not afford to pay for transport.
  - her mother thought the schools near her house were not good enough.**
5. Ruth started campaigning on behalf of Dalit women in 1987,...
- when she was at school.
  - before she got involved in social activities.
  - after she had finished college.
  - after she had been involved in activities against discrimination.**
6. Ruth did not have an easy start as a social campaigner because...
- people would not understand why Dalit women should fight for their rights.**
  - she knew the problems of being a Dalit woman.
  - people thought she was too young and inexperienced.
  - Dalit women themselves did not want to be organized to fight for their rights.
7. What motivated Ruth's campaign in defence of Dalit women's rights?
- She was very poor and that was the only way to earn money.
  - Dalit women in villages are much poorer than "untouchable" women in cities.
  - She felt the situation of Dalit women was worse than that of other poor women.**
  - She saw that "untouchable" women were privileged and did not suffer discrimination.
8. Ruth thinks that in order to improve the situation of Dalit women in the future...
- people should stop being bold about this issue.
  - one needs to explain the truth and talk about it with courage.**
  - Dalit women should stop comparing themselves with the "untouchables."
  - one has to give an opportunity to bold and intelligent children