

Name: _____ Date: _____

Women Change the World

Q1. "Rashsundari Devi was not a superstitious woman". Discuss.

Ans. _____

Q2. Mention the changes that occurred with emergence of new ideas about education and learning in 19th century?

Ans. _____

Q3. How do you think stereotypes, about what women can or cannot do, affect women's right to equality?

Ans. _____

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Q1. "Rashsundari Devi was not a superstitious woman". Discuss.

Ans. Rashsundari Devi was a housewife from a rich landlord's family. At that time, it was believed that if a woman learnt to read and write, she would bring bad luck to her husband and become a widow. She was not superstitious, so she took this belief as false and taught herself how to read and write in secret, well after her marriage. At the age of 60, she wrote her autobiography in Bangla.

Q2. Mention the changes that occurred with emergence of new ideas about education and learning in 19th century?

Ans. In the nineteenth century, many new ideas about education and learning emerged. Schools became more common and communities that had never learnt reading and writing started sending their children to school. But there was a lot of opposition to educating girls even then. Yet many women and men made efforts to open schools for girls. Women struggled to learn to read and write.

Q3. How do you think stereotypes, about what women can or cannot do, affect women's right to equality?

Ans. Stereotypes, about what women can or cannot do, affect women's right to equality:

- i. Many girls do not get the same support that boys do to study and train to become doctors and engineers.
- ii. In most families, once girls finish school, they are encouraged by their families to see marriage as their main aim in life.