

# GENERAL FEEDBACK FOR ESSAYS

## Content (40%)

Your interpretation should be in depth, comprehensive and academic. Always address the asked part. It should be evident in your outline, which should be self-explanatory in nature. Essays/Outlines that give related information without addressing the asked part do not qualify.

The whole essay should be relevant. Even if 1-2 arguments are irrelevant the essay will not pass.

Distribution of topic should be according to the demand of the topic statement i.e. if there is one scoring point it should be given more weight, if there are 2 or more scoring points all should be given equal weight.

All claims made in the essay must be substantiated. Out of 15-17 arguments at least 9-10 should be academically backed with proper references. The rest should be backed by either case studies or generally known information.

Evidence must be authentic and come from proper and authentic academic sources.

Newspapers do not qualify as an academic source. Illustrations and vague mentions of events do not qualify as academic evidence.

Essays that are lacking in evidence do not qualify.

## LANGUAGE (25%)

Focus on enhancing your grammar as any essay with 4-5 grammatical mistakes does not pass.

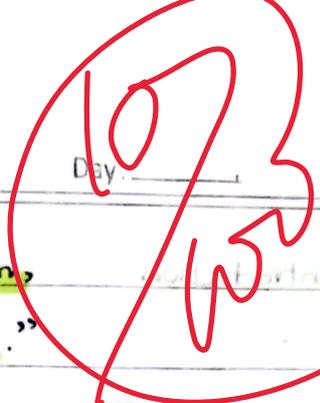
Your essay must be in the tone and tense of the topic statements. Essays that fail to comply do not pass.

Your sentence structure should be simple, yet clear and diversified.

Vocabulary used should be simple, clear and concise. Expression should always be formal and academic.

You are never to write in 1st and 2nd person pronouns.

You must always use the given keywords and your topic for your thesis statements and



This isn't an essay.

This is not an outline. No number system, no distinction between sub and main headings.

Not relevant. This isn't a gender question. This is an essay.

This isn't an Intro. It's too short, no overview of essay no attention grabber and no thesis statement.

Introduction

The statement "One is not born a woman but becomes one" appears simple yet carries a meaning that deeply challenges long standing social beliefs

No contractions

this line doesn't question the assumption if womanhood is purely biological or natural instead, it argues that society plays central role in shaping what it means to be a woman

It doesn't question if, it states that it is not

The idea is uncomfortable because it forces us to rethink traditions that have been accepted for centuries without questioning if women cannot naturally submissive, emotional, or dependent, then the entire justification for their historical subordination collapses

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for their historical subordination collapses

No ifs and buts in an essay. Your argument shouldn't be conditional.

Understanding the Statement

De Beauvoir doesn't argue the biological fact that female are born. What she questions is the social meaning attached to that fact. Becoming a woman in her view is gradual process shaped by upbringing, social expectations, moral codes and cultural norms. Society teaches women what to desire, what to tolerate and how to behave even how much to dream. This process begins early and continues

The point isn't what her view is, the point is what the statement means.

throughout life, making womanhood less of an identity, more of a social assignment.

### Biology and Myth of Destiny:

For a long time, biology has been used as an excuse to justify inequality. Women were considered weaker, less rational and emotionally unstable due to their biological makeup. De Beauvoir strongly challenges this idea. She argues that biology may explain physical differences but it does not determine character, intelligence or destiny. Menstruation, pregnancy or child birth do not naturally make women passive or 'obedient'. These traits are learnt, not inherited.

### Gender vs Sex

One of the most important contributions of this statement is the distinction between sex and gender. Sex refers to the biological difference, while gender refers to roles, behaviors and expectations created by society. A girl is a born female, but she becomes 'woman' by learning how society expects her to behave. This difference explains why ideas of femininity vary across cultures and time.

periods. If genders were purely natural > it would look the same every where, which clearly it doesn't

### Childhood socialization

The process of becoming women began in childhood from a very young age > girls are treated differently from boys. They're encouraged to be quiet > polite > caring > obedient. Boys on the other hand are allowed to be loud > adventurous and assertive. Girls are taught to adjust > compromise and sacrifice while boys are taught to lead and decide. Over time > these lessons shape personalities and ambitions.

### Family as First institution

The family plays crucial role in reinforcing gender roles > in many households, daughters are expected to help with domestic work while sons are given more freedom. Girls are taught responsibility early > often at the cost of their independence. Parents may unconsciously discourage daughters from taking risks or pursuing unconventional goals. Thus, the idea of womanhood as nurturing

Task

How does that shape their identity?  
No analysis  
no evidence  
to validate  
the point.

Analysis

and self-sacrificing is passed down as tradition rather than questioned as a choice.

### Education and Gender Conditioning

Even educational institutions contribute to the process. Textbooks, classroom interaction and teacher expectations often reinforce stereotypes. Boys are encouraged to pursue science, technical fields, leadership etc while girls are subtly guided towards softer, career options like caregiving etc. When girls excel, they are praised for their hardwork, while boys are praised for intelligence. This shapes confidence and self-perception in powerful ways.

### Patriarchy and Power:

At the core of this process lies patriarchy, a system where power is largely held by men. Patriarchy does not always operate through force; often, it works through normalization. Women are taught that their subordinate position is natural, moral or even honorable. Overt inequality becomes invisible because it is accepted by tradition. De Beauvoir highlights how women are treated as the

'Other' while men are seen as standard human beings.

### Economic Dependence of women:

Economic dependence has been one of the strongest tools used to keep women subordinate. When women lack access to education, employment or property, they become dependent on men for survival. This dependence limits freedom and choice.

De Beauvoir argues that true liberation is impossible without economic independence.

A woman who cannot support herself is often forced to accept roles and relationships that restrict her individuality.

### Marriage as a social institution:

Marriage has historically been presented as a woman's ultimate goal. While it can be meaningful partnership, it has often functioned as a system of control. Women are expected to sacrifice personal ambitions for family stability. Society judges unmarried women harshly, while married men face little criticism. The unequal pressure reveals how marriage

is used to define women's worth rather than men.

### Motherhood and Idealization

Motherhood and is another role deeply tied to womanhood. Women are expected to find complete fulfillment in being mothers. While motherhood can be deeply rewarding, its idealization under pressure doesn't do any good. Women who become mothers, or who struggle with motherhood, are often labelled selfish or inadequate. De Beauvoir criticises this compulsory expectation, arguing that no role should define a woman's entire identity.

### Control of the Female Body

The female body is constantly regulated by society. From dresscode to beauty standards, women are taught how to look, sit, walk, and speak. At the same time, they are judged for failing to meet impossible standards. This constant scrutiny turns the body into a source of anxiety rather than freedom. Even if we look at it medically, there's a whole bill passed on being pro life in us.

where abortions are illegal, Men having a say in anything to do with women's body when they don't even fully understand how it works. Making abortions illegal when they are necessary in certain medical conditions.

Making them illegal and having a say or not giving a choice to a whole other gender which they don't medically or emotionally understand is a whole another level of audacious. De Beauvoir points out that controlling women's bodies is a way of controlling women's lives.

Language, media and representation

Language and media reinforce these ideas in a subtle way. Women are often portrayed as emotional, dependent or decorative. Their achievements are overshadowed by discussion of appearance. Movies, advertisements, and social media continue to present narrow definitions of femininity. Repeated exposure to these images shape how women see themselves and how society treats them.

Criticism of de Beauvoir's view

Despite its importance, Beauvoir's argument is not without criticism. Some argue that she underestimates biology, while others point out that her experiences were shaped by western society. Intersectional feminists argue that race, class and culture also shape womanhood however their criticism do not reject her ideas; they expand it. They show that becoming a woman is not a single experience but a complex and varied process.

Contemporary Relevance

Even today her statements remain relevant. Although women have gained legal rights and opportunities, social expectations still persist. Women continue to face pressures regarding marriage, motherhood, appearance and behavior. The statement reminds us that inequality is learned, not natural and what is learned can be challenged and changed.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the idea that one is

not born a woman but become one <sup>(initial)</sup>  
exposes the social mechanisms that shape  
female identity. ~~It reveals how tradition~~  
~~, institutions and power creates limitations~~  
~~that appear natural but are actually~~  
constructed. Simone de Beauvoir's statement  
remains ~~powerful because it encourages~~  
critical thinking and resistance. By understand-  
~~ing how womanhood is formed, society~~  
can begin to imagine a future where  
women are free to define themselves,  
not according to imposed roles, but acco-  
rding to their own choices and aspirations.