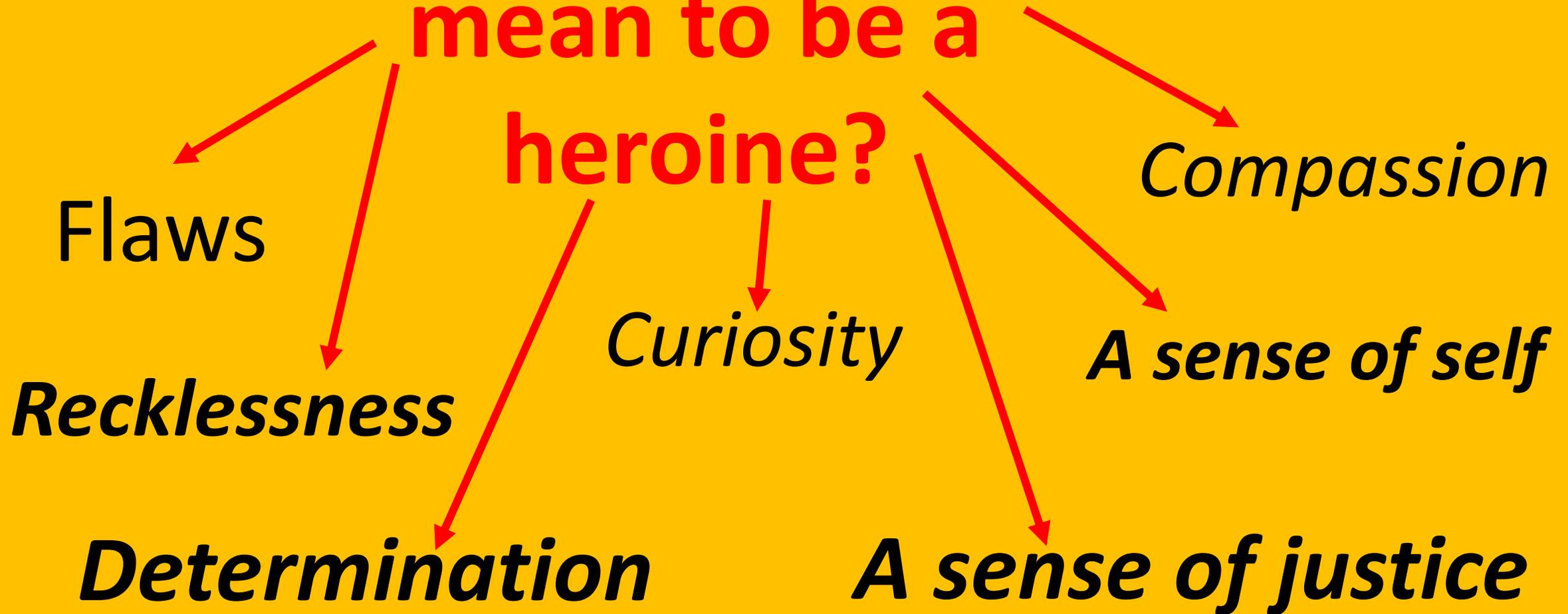
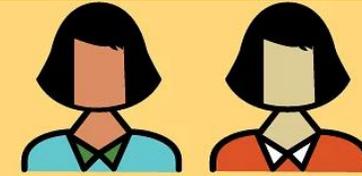


What does it mean to be a heroine?



The Bechdel test



1. Two Women

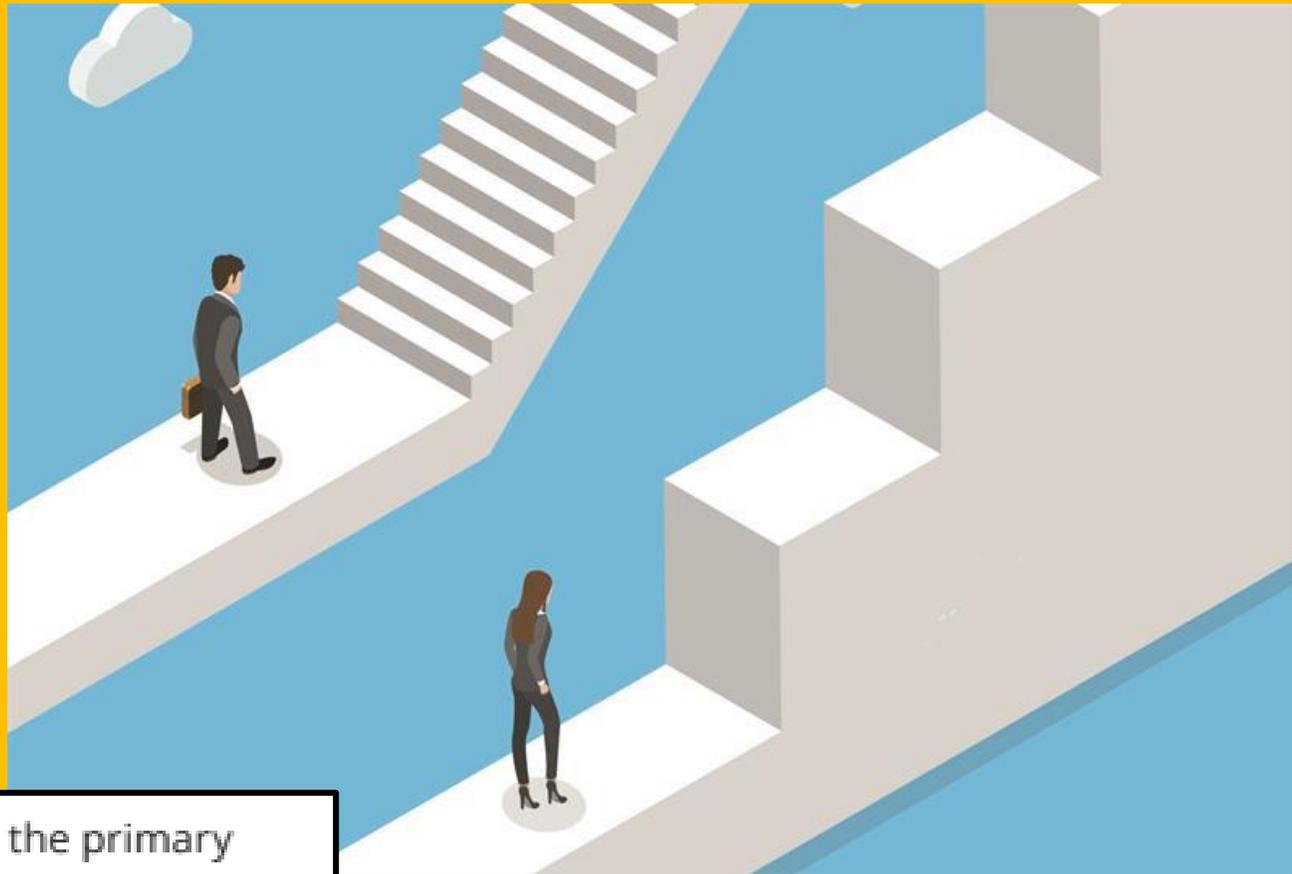


2. In Conversation



3. Not About a Man





1. Are women typically the primary caregivers in your country?
2. What jobs would you be surprised to see a woman doing?
3. What are traditional gender roles?
4. Are most households dual income?

GENDER INEQUALITY

VIRGINIA WOOLF



THE BLOOMSBURYS

THE WRITERS



Lytton Strachey



Virginia Woolf



EM Forster

THE THINKERS



Saxon Sydney-Turner



Leonard Woolf

THE ARTISTS



Duncan Grant



Vanessa Bell



Roger Fry



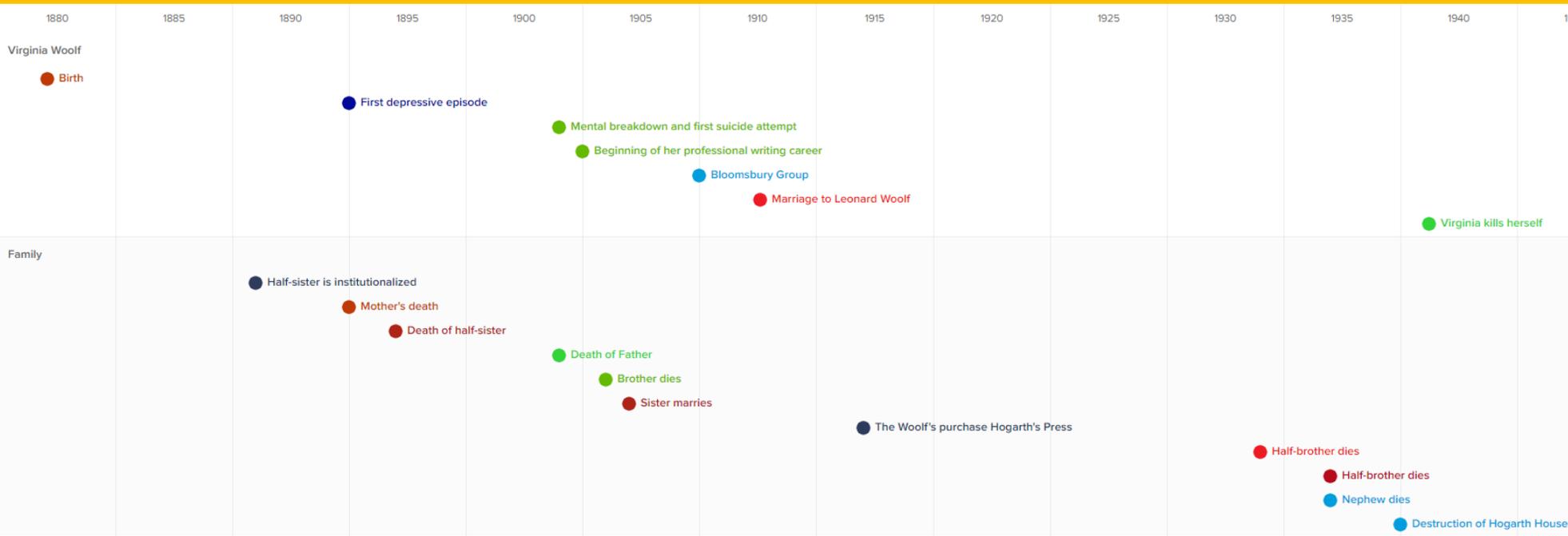
Clive Bell

THE ECONOMIST



John Maynard Keynes

THE ART CRITIC



A ROOM OF ONE'S OWN

What were the challenges of being a female writer during Elizabethan time?

A Room of One's Own is a **foundational** feminist text that theorizes the social and artistic roles of women. First published in Sep. 1929, the work is based on two lectures Woolf **delivered** in October 1928 at the University of Cambridge on the topic "WOMEN AND FICTION". The essay examines the educational, social and financial difficulties women have faced. It **deals** with the obstacles and prejudices that have **hindered** women writers.



Time



independent incomes



rooms of their own



“Be that as it may, I could not help thinking, as I looked at the works of Shakespeare on the shelf, that the bishop was right at least in this; **it would have been impossible, completely and entirely, for any woman to have written the plays of Shakespeare in the age of Shakespeare.** Let me imagine, since facts are so hard to come by, what would have happened had Shakespeare had a **wonderfully gifted sister, called Judith,** let us say. Very soon he got work in the theatre, became a successful actor, and lived at the hub of the universe, meeting everybody, knowing everybody, practising his art on the boards, exercising his wits in the streets, and even getting access to the palace of the queen. «

JUDITH

Meanwhile his extraordinarily **gifted** sister, let us suppose, remained at home. She was as **adventurous**, as **imaginative**, as **agog** to see the world as he was. But she **was not sent to school**. She had **no chance of learning** grammar and logic, let alone of reading Horace and Virgil. She **picked up** a book now and then, one of her brother's perhaps, and read a few pages. But then her parents came in and told her to **mend the stockings** or **mind the stew** and not **moon about** with books and papers. They would have spoken **sharply but kindly**, for they were **substantial people** who knew the conditions of life for a woman and **loved their daughter**— indeed, more likely than not **she was the apple of her father's eye**. Perhaps she scribbled some pages up in an apple loft on the sly, but was **careful to hide them** or set fire to them. Soon, however, before she was out of her teens, she was to **be betrothed to the son** of a neighbouring wool- stapler. She cried out that marriage was hateful to her, and for that she **was severely beaten** by her father. Then **he ceased to scold her**. He **begged** her instead not to hurt him, not to shame him in this matter of her marriage. He **would give her** a chain of beads or a fine petticoat, he said; and there were tears in his eyes. How **could she disobey him? How could she break his heart?**

WHAT'S JUDITH LIKE?

WHAT OBSTACLES HAS SHE TO FACE?

WHAT ARE HER PARENTS' DREAMS?

IS SHE HAPPY ABOUT HER DESTINY?

HOW DO YOU JUDGE HER FATHER'S BEHAVIOUR?

This may be true or it may be false— who can say?— but **what is true in it,** so it seemed to me, reviewing the story of Shakespeare's sister as I had made it, **is that any woman born with a great gift in the sixteenth century would certainly have gone crazed, shot herself, or ended her days in some lonely cottage outside the village, half witch, half wizard, feared and mocked at.**

For it needs little skill in psychology to be sure that a highly gifted girl who had tried to use her gift for poetry would have been so thwarted and hindered by other people, so tortured and pulled asunder by her own contrary instincts, that she must have lost her health and sanity to a certainty.

WHAT'S VIRGINIA FINAL THOUGHT ABOUT JUDITH AND WOMEN IN GENERAL?

IS IT STILL HAPPENING IN OUR SOCIETY?

The **force of her own gift alone drove** her to it.

She made up a small parcel of her belongings, let herself down by a rope one summer's night and took the road to London. She was not seventeen. *The birds that sang in the hedge were not more musical than she was.*

She had the quickest fancy, a gift like her brother's, for the tune of words.

Like him, she had a taste for the theatre. She stood at the stage door; she wanted to act, she said.

Men laughed in her face. The manager— a fat, loose- lipped man— guffawed.

He bellowed something about poodles dancing and women acting— no woman, he said, could possibly be an actress. He hinted— you can imagine what. She could get no training in her craft. Could she even seek her dinner in a tavern or roam the streets at midnight? Yet her genius was for fiction and lusted to feed abundantly upon the lives of men and women and the study of their ways. At last— for she was very young, oddly like Shakespeare the poet in her face, with the same grey eyes and rounded brows— at last Nick Greene the actor- manager took pity on her; she found herself with child by that gentleman and so— who shall measure the heat and violence of the poet's heart when caught and tangled in a woman's body?— killed herself one winter's night and lies buried at some cross- roads where the omnibuses now stop outside the Elephant and Castle.

GOING DEEPER

BIDEN'S CABINET

<https://edition.cnn.com/interactive/2021/politics/biden-cabinet-confirmations-tracker/>

SEX AND GENDER

<https://www.simplypsychology.org/gender-biology.html#:~:text=Sex%20refers%20to%20biological%20differences,women%20according%20to%20their%20sex.>

SHAKESPEARE'S SISTER, ITALIAN VERSION

https://www.liceofermibo.edu.it/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/La-sorella-di-Shakespeare_Woolf.pdf

VITA AND VIRGINIA

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wVN2L8g88_4