

MIDTERM EXAM LETTER

40% of Exam

Dr. Jones is one of your colleagues at a theological college. She specializes in feminist theology and is currently a leading translator of a Bible featuring inclusive language. One day she walks into your office to report to you that she had just done a study of the word ‘barren’ in the Old and New Testaments. She discovered that when a human reproductive difficulty is recorded it appears only in association with the woman. Dr. Jones complains, “See, here is another example of patriarchal oppression against women. It is only women who are the problem when a reproductive difficulty arises in the Bible—never men! However, modern medicine has proven that men can also be ‘barren’ and source of infertility.”

At that very moment you are called to meet the dean and your response to Dr. Jones’ complaint will have to wait. After some thought you believe the most appropriate response is a written one.

YOUR TASK IS TO WRITE THAT LETTER

καταβαλλω σπερμα στειρος στερεος

זרע זרע עקר עקר

These are NOT sentences, but ancient terms that you will find helpful in writing the letter.