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*"Tale of Genji" reading questions*

Reading 1: "Men Hold Forth on Women"

Please access the reading at this website:

<http://chnm.gmu.edu/wwh/modules/lesson2/lesson2.php?menu=1&s=5>

1. What do the characters say about finding the perfect woman?
2. What do the characters say about women who run away to convents?
3. According to the characters, how should women react when their husbands have other romantic/sexual "adventures"?

Reading 2: "Chinese Literacy in Women"

Please access the reading at this website:

<http://chnm.gmu.edu/wwh/modules/lesson2/lesson2.php?menu=1&s=6>

1. What did "learning" consist of for men in this period?
2. What did "learning" consist of for women?
3. How does the young man feel about being taught by his wife?
4. What is the meaning of To no chujo's poem to his love-interest?
5. What is the meaning of the woman's response (poem)?
6. What do the men say about education and learning for women in the end?

Discussion questions:

1. What can we learn about attitudes toward men and women at this time? What do the passages tell us about the status and roles of women in society?