

NCERT Exercise Solution
Class 10th Social Science (History)

Chapter 6 – Work, Life and Leisure

Write in Brief

1. Give two reasons why the population of London expanded from the middle of the eighteenth century.

Ans: Because of the job opportunities given by its dockyards and industries, London was a magnet for migrating populations. By 1750, London was home to one in every nine persons in England and Wales. As a result, London's population continued to grow throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

During World War I, London began producing automobiles and electrical goods. This boosted the number of huge factories, which in turn increased the number of individuals who came to the city looking for work.

2. What were the changes in the kind of work available to women in London between the nineteenth and the twentieth century? Explain the factors which led to this change.

Ans: Between the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, changes in the types of jobs open to women in London were mostly driven by industrial and technological breakthroughs. As a result, women were forced to work in houses for a living, leading to an increase in the number of domestic servants. Some women began to make money by renting out rooms, tailoring, cleaning clothes, or creating matchboxes. However, with the outbreak of the First World War, women were able to re-enter the industrial sector.

3. How does the existence of a large urban population affect each of the following? Illustrate with historical examples.

(a) A private landlord

(b) A Police Superintendent in charge of law and order

(c) A leader of a political party

Ans: (a) A private landlord gains from raising the rent since he has more price control. As the population grew, so did the need for space; for example, high-priced building rentals were frequent in London and Bombay.

(b) Anyone concerned in law and order would face difficulties as urban populations grew. He would have to work hard to keep law and order because crime rates in cities are typically high. People in London, for example, hired police officers to combat rising nighttime crime.

(c) Political leaders would face increased voter turnout and, as a result, increased responsibility. Masses of people can be drawn to political causes in cities, as shown on the Bloody Sunday of November 1887 in London. On the one hand, the metropolitan nature of cities would compel him/her to be more secular and liberal. Extremism or conservatism, on the other hand, may earn them votes as a reactionary phenomenon, such as the emergence of Nazis in Germany or Liberal Democrats in France.

4. Give explanations for the following:

(a) Why well-off Londoners supported the need to build housing for the poor in the nineteenth century.

(b) Why a number of Bombay films were about the lives of migrants.

(c) What led to the major expansion of Bombay's population in the mid-nineteenth century.

Ans:

(a) In the nineteenth century, wealthy Londoners supported the need to provide houses for the poor for three reasons:

- Poor people's one-room cottages were viewed as a breeding ground for diseases and thus a threat to public health.
- Fire dangers were a concern in these overcrowded, poorly ventilated, unsanitary dwellings.
- There was widespread dread of societal chaos, particularly following the 1917 Russian Revolution. To avoid a poor revolt, housing programs were implemented.

(b) After the British authority replaced Surat with Bombay as its main western port, Bombay became a popular destination for employment seekers. The resulting expansion in trade and industry resulted in a large influx of people. As a result, migrants were (and continue to be) an essential aspect of Bombay. Most people in the film industry were migrants themselves, and they intended to use their work to highlight the plight of this group of people. As a result, a lot of Bombay films focused on the lives of migrants.

(c) In the mid-seventeenth century, Bombay replaced Surat as the East India Company's main western port. Later, by the end of the nineteenth century, it had grown into a significant administrative and industrial center. Throughout these years, the chances for trade and commerce, as well as jobs, have grown, making Bombay an appealing location for migrants.

Discuss

1. What forms of entertainment came up in nineteenth century England to provide leisure activities for the people.

Ans: In nineteenth-century England, various forms of entertainment emerged:

- One of the sources of leisure for the higher classes was an annual "London Season" of opera, theater, and classical music events.
- Pubs, talks, and political action meetings fulfilled the same purpose for the working classes.
- Libraries, art galleries, and museums were new forms of amusement made possible by the utilization of state funds; music halls and cinema theaters were also extremely popular with the lower classes.
- Factory workers were encouraged to enjoy coastal holidays to recharge their batteries after working in a polluted atmosphere.

2. Explain the social changes in London which led to the need for the Underground railway. Why was the development of the Underground criticised?

Ans: The construction of suburbs as part of the effort to decongest London resulted in the city being extended beyond the range where people could walk to work. Despite the fact that these suburbs had been developed, people could not be persuaded to leave the city and live far from their places of employment in the absence of any type of public transportation. The Underground Railway was built to address this housing issue. It was first chastised because:

- A newspaper commented on the dangers to one's health, asphyxiation (loss of oxygen), and heat.
- It was dubbed "iron monsters," which added to the city's chaos. In his novel 'Dombey and Son,' Charles Dickens highlighted the damaging process of construction.
- Approximately 900 buildings were demolished in order to construct two kilometers of railways.

3. Explain what is meant by the Haussmanisation of Paris. To what extent would you support or oppose this form of development? Write a letter to the

editor of a newspaper, to either support or oppose this, giving reasons for your view.

Ans: The term "Haussmannisation of Paris" alludes to the coercive renovation of towns in order to improve their appearance and enforce order. To decrease the chance of political insurrection and to beautify the city, the impoverished were removed from the center of Paris.

4. To what extent does government regulation and new laws solve problems of pollution? Discuss one example each of the success and failure of legislation to change the quality of

(a) public life

(b) private life

Ans: Government rules play a significant role in regulating pollution levels in cities. However, simply passing laws is insufficient. They must also be properly enforced. It is also true that people find ways to get around laws. So, in addition to legislation, the government must conduct active public awareness campaigns aimed at teaching the people about the needs and methods of managing pollution, as well as how they can enjoy their leisure time. Also, they have an interest in environmental governance.

Public life:

- Failure: The Underground train improved transportation but resulted in the demolition of several houses, displacing their residents.
- Success: The British state used public funding to support working-class amusement such as museums, art galleries, and libraries.

Personal Life:

- Failure: Because of the availability of one-room tenements and a lack of housing facilities for much of the industrial revolution period, families were divided into smaller groups. There have even been occasions where rural

residents were forced to leave their family behind and live alone in urban regions where they worked.

- Success: British officials developed houses in new suburbs to meet the housing needs of the working classes.