

Started: 29 July 2024

Pre-writing Attempting

Thinking for next idea.

ESS-2000

Requirements: $\frac{1}{3rd}$ of total

Total = 395 words
Required = 151 words

Besant, while discussing class ^{identity} ~~status~~ of Middle class in 9th century expressed that it was very distinct from upper class and was not included in society. Men were considered socially acceptable and respectable only if they belonged to either Army, Navy or a rich family. Middle class willingly accepted social hierarchy of that time. Over time, Middle class grew in ~~the~~ population and became more self-aware and confident about their importance. They started to critically analyse elite life and became concerned about values they believed were important. Unlike past, being respectable became key concern. Although, variations in opinion existed about the standard behaviours ~~for~~ ^{still,} for ~~the~~ respectability. There existed some ~~un-~~generally ~~accepted~~ acceptable standards - which included avoiding drinking ~~and~~ wild behaviours ~~and~~ - for defining a respectable ~~person~~ ^{men} irrespective of ~~his~~ their social status.

words → 127

Topic - "Evolution of Middle-class identity since 9th century"

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS.....Maximum Marks: 100

Q1. MAKE A PRÉCIS OF THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE IN ABOUT ONE THIRD OF ITS LENGTH. Suggest a suitable title also. (20)

Besant describing the middle class of the 9th century wrote " In the first place it was for more a class apart. "In no sense did it belong to society. Men in professions of any kind (except in the Army and Navy) could only belong to society by right of birth and family connections; men in trade—bankers were still accounted tradesmen—could not possibly belong to society. That is to say, if they went to live in the country they were not called upon by the county families and in the town they were not admitted by the men into their clubs, or by ladies into their houses... The middle class knew its own place, respected itself, made its own society for itself, and cheerfully accorded to rank the deference due."

Since then, however, the life of the middle classes had undergone great changes as their numbers had swelled and their influence had increased.

Their already well –developed consciousness of their own importance had deepened. More critical than they had been in the past of certain aspects of aristocratic life, they were also more concerned with the plight of the poor and the importance of their own values of society, thrift, hand work, piety and respectability. Thrift, hand work, piety and respectability as examples of ideal behavior for the guidance of the lower orders. Above all they were respectable. There were divergences of opinion as to what exactly was respectable and what was not. There were, nevertheless, certain conventions, which were universally recognized: wild and drunker behaviors were certainly not respectable, nor were godlessness or avert promiscuity, not an ill-ordered home life, unconventional manners, self-indulgence or flamboyant clothes and personal adornments.