

PASSAGE 2

Rural development lies at the heart of any meaningful development strategy. This is the only mechanism to carry the message to the majority of the people and to obtain their involvement in measures designed to improve productivity levels. Rural population exceeds 70 percent of the total population of the country, despite a rapid rate of urbanization. Average rural income is 34 percent less than per capita urban income. A large part of under employment is still concealed in various rural activities particularly in the less developed parts of the country. For centuries, the true magnitude of poverty has been concealed from view by pushing a large part of it to the rural areas. This set in motion a self-perpetuating mechanism the more enterprising and talented in the rural society migrated to the cities in search of dreams which were seldom realized. Such migrants added to urban squalor. The relatively more prosperous in the rural society opted for urban residence for different reasons. The rural society itself has in this way systematically been denuded to its more enterprising elements, as rural areas developed the character of huge and sprawling slum. Development in the past has touched rural scene mainly via agricultural development programmes. These are essential and would have to be intensified. Much more important is a large scale rural water supply and village electrification as a part of the change in the physical environment and primary education and primary health care as the agents of social change. The task is to provide modern amenities as an aid for bringing into motion the internal dynamics of the rural society on the patch leading to increase in productivity and self-help, changing the overall surrounding, while preserving coherence, integrated structure and the rich cultural heritage of the rural society.

(296 words)

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→ Write a precis of the following passage and also suggest a suitable title.

Title: Importance of Rural Development

Development in rural areas is the need of the hour. With the increase in urbanization, rural areas are left behind with basic facilities. Holding a population of more than seventy million, still their per capita income is thirty-four percent less than urban population. Poverty and unemployment are the worst and basic factors which are contributing to the migration of rural population to the urban areas with a dream of better life expectancy. Despite, focusing only on agriculture and irrigation system many other social services should be provided to the rural areas to help them and to preserve their culture.

(101 words)



PASSAGE 1

The answer is emphatically: No. For real beauty is as much an affair of the inner as of the outer self. The beauty of a porcelain jar is a matter of shape, of colour, of surface texture. The jar may be empty or tenanted by spiders, full of honey or stinking slime – it makes no difference to its beauty or ugliness. But a woman is live, and her beauty is, therefore, not skin deep. The surface of the human vessel is affected by the nature of its spiritual contents. I have seen women who, be the standards of a connoisseur (an expert in art) of porcelain, were ravishingly lovely. Their shape, their colour, their surface texture were perfect. And yet they were not beautiful. For the lovely vase was either empty or filled with some corruption. Spiritual emptiness or ugliness shows through. And conversely, there is interior light that can transfigure forms that the pure aestheticians would regard as imperfect or downright ugly. (The Beauty Industry) by Aldous Huxley (169 words)

Questions

1. What does the writer say about the porcelain jar? (4)
2. Explain what the writer says about the beauty of a woman. (4)
3. How would you explain "spiritual emptiness". (4)
4. What is your idea of beauty in a human being? (4)
5. Suggest a suitable title for the passage. (4)
6. Write a précis of the passage. (4)

→ Comprehension Passage

Question # 1:

According to the writer, the beauty of a porcelain jar depends upon its shape, color and surface texture. It might be empty from inside or can have anything but this does not effect its external beauty and appearance.

Question # 2:

Talking about the beauty of a woman, the writer says that her beauty is a reflection of her internal spiritual beauty and kindness. The beauty of a woman is not effected by her external appearance but by her inner self.

Question # 3:

According to the passage, spiritual emptiness means the inner flaws of a woman. She might be attractive through her physical appearance but she is full of corruption internally.

Question # 4:

To me, beauty in a human being is always a product of his internal self. Skin color and physical features are unworthy if he is corrupt from inside. Internal beauty always shape external appearance.

Question # 5:

The best suitable title for this passage is:

The Real Beauty

