Comprehension Practice (Past Paper 2023)

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Ans 1: Majority of people have always lived simply, and most of humanity still struggles on a daily basis to eke out a meager existence under dire circumstances. In industrialized countries, people have luxury of more goods and services than they need to survive. On basis of meterial wealth North Americans and Europeans should be happiest People on earth, but according to Happy Planet Index 2012, they are not. This shows there is no relation between materical wealth and happiness.

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Limit your answers to 5-7 lines

Ans 2: Voluntary Simplicity begun as experimental lifestyle and evolved into a revolution, which spread through books, magazines, communities of like-minded, internet etc. Voluntary Simplicity movement sought to reduce consumption of goods and (services) energy. According to author Voluntary means free and conscious choice to make appropriate changes to enrich life spiritually. Simplicity refers to lack of clutter, or eliminating all those things habits and ideas that take control over our lives and cause distraction. To practice voluntary Simplicity one must differentiate between what one wants. The beauty of voluntary simplicity is that it is philosophy and not dogma. How one goes about depends on indivials character, culture and climate.

Ans 3: The growing consumerism of modern society is feared due to its growing environmental consequences.

There should be at least two sentences in the answer.

Ans 4: There are many influences which makes it difficult for people to reduce their consumption patterns, as in a consumer society where advertising bombards us with messages that without this, that, and the other product, we are unsuccesful, undesirable, and unimportant, being clear on what you really need and resisting what you don't can be an ongoing struggle.

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Ans 5: The challenges of voluntary Simplicity in an economy are more as the living with less is erroneously equated with poverty and social inferiority. Whereas the rewards include less consumption, and more resources for future generation. More time for yourself and your loved ones by less activity. Less stress and more relaxation and better health. Less worry and more enjoyment and more fulfillment in life.