

Comprehension (CSS 2023)

Q1: How important is happiness to most people, and what is the relationship between material wealth and happiness?

Happiness is crucial for most people. It is link to the lifestyle of an individual. However, there is a complex relationship between material wealth and happiness. Material wealth does not guarantee a happy life. As it is seen, wealthy North American and European countries do not place in the world happiest rank issued by the Happy Planet Index 2012. Thus, It is understandable that material wellbeing does not assure happiness.

Q2: How does the author characterize the concept of 'Voluntary Simplicity' as a movement and as a philosophy?

The author characterizes voluntary simplicity as movement and philosophy. It is movement because it struggles to minimize the utilization of resources and its effects on the environment. Voluntary simplicity is also a philosophy because it provides an individual freedom to make decisions to enrich its life in deeper and spiritual ways. Therefore, one can say that voluntary simplicity is a movement and philosophy to take individual decisions for the collective betterment.

Q3: what impact is feared by the growing consumerism of modern society?

The growing consumerism can produce severe impacts in modern society. It can create a condition for future generations where they will be unable to survive due to insufficient resources. It can turn the individuals into marketing machines. In this way, it is feared that growing consumerism can produce severe impacts on modern society.

Q4: what influences make it difficult for people to reduce their consumption patterns?

People find it difficult to reduce the consumption pattern. People create a self

Conceive notion, if they reduce the consumption pattern they will fall into the social inferiority stigma. Moreover, their self-centered mindset believes that they require more goods and services for their survival. Thus, people myopic viewpoint about life making it difficult for them to reduce the consumption patterns.

Q5 what are challenges and rewards of voluntary simplicity?

Voluntary simplicity brings both challenges and rewards. The major challenges include maintaining a healthy balance between the needs and desires, and leaving the comfort zone of luxurious life. However, it also gives reward by creating a sense of community service.

ensuring environmental sustainability,
and providing mental
peace and good health.