

Composition

1) What is the function of opium?

The function of opium is sedative. It assuages pain, lessens irritation and intoxicates. Opium teaches the poor the blessings of endurance the greatest support to the existing economic order with its cardinal feature.

2) What does Marx mean when he says that "religion is the opium of the people"?

Marx says that "religion is the opium of the people". Religion as "opium" was that religion eased physical and mental sufferings of this life by promising greater prosperity and happiness in the next world. He claimed that religion helps in soothing the ~~irritation~~ irritation which inevitably exists between the opposing classes.

3) What according to Marx, is the scientific view of the nature of man?

According to Marx, religion is a scientific view of the nature of man. His social, political and even moral life was said to be governed by the manner in which things were produced at a certain point of history rather than by religious idealism.

1) What does the writer suggest when he says 'Perhaps he could not find time to study Islam?

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4. What do the students gain by tutorial work?

COMPREHENSION EXERCISE 5

Q: Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

"Religion is the opium of the people" is an oft-quoted saying of Karl Marx. The function of opium as is well-known is sedative. It assuages pain, lessens irritation and intoxicates. Thus, what Marx apparently meant when he described religion as "opium" was that religion eased physical and mental sufferings of this life by promising greater prosperity and happiness in the next world. He claimed that religion helps in soothing the irritation which inevitably exists between the opposing classes: it teaches the poor the blessings of ends the greatest support to the existing economic order with its cardinal feature, the exploitation of masses. In this view of history there can obviously be no place for a Transcendental Being. This was also supposed to be a scientific view of the nature of man. His social, political and even moral life was said to be governed by the manner in which things were produced at a certain point of history rather than by Faith in God or by religious idealism. Evidently, by religion Marx meant Christianity; perhaps he could not find time to study Islam.

Questions:

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2. What does Marx mean when he says that "religion is the opium of the people"?
3. What according to Marx, is the scientific view of the nature of man?
4. What does the writer suggest when he says "perhaps he could not find time to study Islam?"