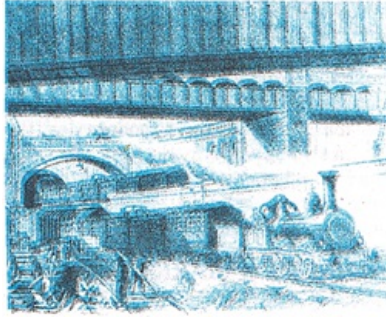


Work, Life and Leisure

HOTS Questions - Work Life and Leisure

1) 103 According to newspaper cutting given below, how did travel by undergrounds railway cause health hazards? What



message did they want to communicate?

Answer:

Compartments were filled with passengers who often smoked pipes. The atmosphere was a mixture of sulphur, coal dust and toxic fumes from the gas lamps above, leading to asphyxiation of passengers. The message, according to passengers, underground railway was that should be discontinued for they were a menace to health.

2) Why was legislation to control the nuisance of air pollution difficult? When was the first Act passed in this regard?

Answer:

Passing laws to control air pollution was not easy because the factory owners and steam engine owners did not want to spend on technologies that would improve their machines to prevent air pollution. Secondly, smoke was not easy to monitor and measure. The smoke abatement Acts were passed in 1847 and 1853 in London, but they did not always work to clear the air.

3) "Calcutta had a long history of air pollution." In view of this statement examine the reasons for air pollution in Calcutta.

Answer:

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| (i) The inhabitants of Calcutta inhaled grey smoke specially in winter. |
| (ii) Since the city was built on marshy land, the resulting fog combined with smoke to generate thick black smog. |
| (iii) High levels of pollution was a consequence of huge population that depended on dung and wood as fuel in their daily life. But the real pollutants were industries and establishments that used steam engines run on coal. |
| (iv) The high content of ash in Indian coal was a problem. |

4) What is referred to as 'Haussmanisation' of Paris?

Answer:

In 1852, Louis Napoleon III wanted to rebuild the city of Paris and appointed Baron Haussmann, the chief architect, as the perfect of the seine. His name has come to stand for the forcible reconstruction of cities to enhance their beauty and impose order. The poor were evicted from the centre of Paris. For 17 years after 1852, Haussmann rebuilt Paris. Straight broad avenues or boulevards and open spaces were designed and full-grown trees were transplanted. By 1870, one-fifth of the streets of Paris were Haussmann's creation. Bus shelters and tap water were introduced. The whole process is referred to as Haussmanisation of Paris.

5) Why well off Londoners supported the need to build housing for the poor in the 19th century?

Answer:

supported the need to build housing for the poor because: The existing one-room housing for the poor

was a serious threat to public health. They were overcrowded, badly ventilated and lacked sanitation. Fire hazards caused serious worries. Moreover, there was widespread fear of serial disorder. After the 1917 revolution workers became conscious about their rights. It is also true that a large number of people began to recognise the need for better housing for the poor.

6) Examine the historical processes involved in the development of cities.

Answer:

Historical process that involved in urbanisation was as follows:

(i) The rise of industrial capitalism.
(ii) The establishment of colonial rule in many parts of the world.
(iii) Development of democratic ideals.
(iv) Migration from rural to urban areas for various reasons.

7) Examine the difficulties faced by people due to construction of underground railways.

Answer:

Though underground railways were a great help to the people of London, these created great difficulties and problems for the people during the period of its construction. To clear the area of construction many houses were knocked down, streets broken through and stopped, deep pits and trenches were dug creating enormous heaps of earth. It is believed that to make 2 miles of railway, 900 houses were destroyed. The London railway led to massive displacement of London poor.

8) How was the family life transformed in an industrial city of London?

Answer:

Industrialisation and urbanisation had great impact on traditional family system. Ties between members of household were loosened and the institution of marriage tended to break down among the working class families. In upper and middle class families, the life of the women was made easier by domestic maids who did all household chores at a low wage. But still they faced a feeling of isolation. Family as an institution was breaking down-joint family giving way to nuclear families.