

National Institute of Open Schooling
Secondary Course - Economics
Lesson 2 : Human wants
Worksheet - 2

1. You must have seen people around you involved in some kind of job or business. Have you ever wondered why do these people work? Explain the reasons thereof.
2. Need, Desire and Wants are all different. Do you think a person can satisfy all of her/his wants? If not, why? If yes, how? Explain this with a suitable example, clearly distinguishing between Need, Desire and Want.
3. “Wants are unlimited and keep on changing yet a single Want is satiable” Can you explain what does this statement imply?

Read the following case and answer the questions that follow (Question 4 and 5):

4. Roshni is a travel enthusiast and travels a lot. She recently was planning a trip to Manali with her friends, for which she had also saved Rs. 20,000 over the past few months. But suddenly her father has an accident and needs immediate hospitalization and the treatment is likely to cost approximately the same amount which is Rs. 20,000. Now, Roshni is faced with two choices, either to travel or the get her father treated.
If Roshni is a rational person, in your opinion which option would she choose and why?
5. Can you think of more such situations where one Want may become more prominent and urgent than other? Elaborate.

Read the given case and answer the question that follow (Question 6 and 7):

Amit’s mother, Anita is a professional chef and works for a five-star hotel. Her monthly salary is Rs. 1,00,000. Since she is mostly busy with the work, she has arranged for a maid for her house to cook food for her family and the maid is paid Rs. 10,000 per month. Anita has a friend Kavita who lives nearby and is also a qualified chef but she is a stay home mother and takes care of her family. Kavita doesn’t hire any maid for the household chores including cooking. She cooks food for her family at her own out of natural love and affection.

6. Can you categorize the services of Anita, her maid and Kavita in some specific category of Wants?
7. Do you think Kavita is not working outside because she is getting salary from her family? If not, what difference do you observe between the services performed by Anita and Kavita. Explain this case in reference to types of Want.

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8. Wants are unlimited and keep on changing. We have different Wants at different times. In your opinion, is it necessary to satisfy all Wants or some Wants can easily be avoided? Cite a relevant example differentiating Necessary and Unnecessary Wants for existence of human life.

“Gandhiji always advocated controlling of one’s wants so that we can have a satisfied life and we do not have to indulge into wrong deeds or practices to satisfy unlimited wants out of our limited resources.” On the basis of given statement answer the following questions (Question 9 and 10).

9. Do you think it is possible to limit our Wants?
10. Why did Gandhiji advocated that to have a satisfied life one needs to control her/his Wants?