

UNIT 6

Dignity of Labour

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Students Learning Outcomes:

On the completion of this unit, the students will be able to:

- skim text to answer questions.
- scan to locate an opinion.
- distinguish fact from opinion.
- locate examples to support an opinion.
- write a research report.
- illustrate the use of tenses.

Pre-reading:

- Discuss the importance of different sorts of professions for the society.

Life without work is worthless, meaningless, dull and boring. It is work that fills life with joys and happiness. It doesn't mean that every sort of activity falls in the category of work. Only that activity deserves to be called a work which is productive and beneficial for an individual or a society. The work of a sweeper is as sacred and noble as that of a bureaucrat or a doctor.



A busy man remains happy and healthy whereas an idle person is always gloomy and sick. That's why even the richest men do some sort of work to avoid boredom. It is idleness that eats into the very soul of a man.

Work makes a man optimist and develops in him confidence and pride.

It must be kept in mind that there is no disrespect attached to any profession. A person who tills the land, works in coal mine, factory or builds houses is as honourable as the president of a country.

Our beloved Hazrat Muhammad (ﷺ) drove sheep in the pasture, drew water from the well, mended his shoes and did various sorts of menial work though he is the cause of creation of the whole universe and the most beloved person of Allah Almighty.

It is quite necessary for a man to choose such profession which is compatible to his nature and likings, otherwise he will get fed up with it. It would be wise to have a high purpose. The dignity of labour is now recognized all over the world. If the workers come to realize the dignity and importance of labour, they will feel confident and never fall prey to inferiority complex. They require to develop a strong conviction of the value of work, only then they will be able to wield the scepter of power in the world.

Moreover, the workers must be convinced of the fact that no work is inferior to another work. The distinction made between one work and another is purely man-made. If there is no body to sweep our streets or manage our sewerage system, the whole city, that we live in, will turn into a heap of garbage, which will, in turn, cause the spread of diseases. If the tillers of land refuse to grow wheat and vegetables, we shall definitely starve to death. If the factories stop working, we shall have no clothes to wear and no shoes to put on. There are hundreds of more reasons which compel us to believe in the dignity and value of labour.

It is quite true that life is action and not contemplation. Man's life is only determined by his actions. It is not enough to know but to act according to knowledge, is the main purpose of life. However, much knowledge a person may have, unless he applies it in solving the world's problems, he is good for nothing. A sweeper, in comparison with him, is far more a dignified

person. If Sir Syed Ahmed Khan has become immortal, it is just because of his great services to his nation.

A worker should work for the love of work and not for money. It is necessary for him to take joy in doing his work. He must put his soul and heart into his work. Constructive work provides us with joys and happiness. Work is the blessing of Allah Almighty. According to Hazrat Muhammad (ﷺ) the hands of a labourer are dear to Allah Almighty.

In the words of a great scholar, “Allah is there where the tiller of land is tilling the soil and the path-maker is breaking the stones.”

The Holy Quran says, “Varily, we have created man in toil.”

Life is the name of continuous struggle and hard work. If we look into the causes of the rise and fall of nations, we shall definitely conclude that it was the efforts and hard struggle of them which took them to the height of glory and when they became lethargic and lazy, they met their final doom.

Quid-e-Azam has rightly pointed out the importance of work in his famous saying, “Work, Work and Work”. It is a sort of an advice and a philosophical point containing profound wisdom, which indirectly points out the method of achieving glory in the comity of nations.

Reading and Thinking Skills

1. Answer the following questions.

- i) What would the life be like without work?
- ii) Why is an idle person always gloomy and sick?
- iii) Which works did Hazrat Muhammad (ﷺ) do?
- iv) What will happen if there is no one to sweep our streets?
- v) What is the value of a worker before God?
- vi) Why is every profession important for a society?
- vii) What will happen when a nation becomes lazy and lethargic?
- viii) Which nations have achieved glory through toil and hard work?

2. Mark the sentences as true or false.

- i) It is work that fills life with joys and happiness. ☐
- ii) An idle man is always happy and healthy. ☐
- iii) Hazrat Muhammad (ﷺ) did many sorts of works like grazing sheep, mending his shoes and drawing water from the well. ☐
- iv) The dignity of labour is not yet recognized by the world. ☐
- v) The distinction made between one work to another is not man-made. ☐
- vi) If the tillers of land refuse to grow wheat and vegetables, we will definitely starve to death. ☐

3. Fill in the blanks.

- i) A busy man remains and healthy.
- ii) A person who tills the land, works in coal mine, factory or builds houses is as honourable as the of a country.
- iii) The workers must be convinced of the fact that no work is to another work.
- iv) It is true that life is action and not
- v) If a nation becomes lazy, it will

Fact and Opinion

A fact is something that can be proven. An opinion is a belief that may be true, but cannot be proven.

For example:

- i) There are five rooms in our school. (fact)
- ii) Our school is very beautiful. (opinion)

Activity

Work in groups of five to ten. Read a selection and identify facts and opinions. Discuss all facts and opinions with justification and write down ten facts and ten opinions from that.

Writing Skills

Research Report

Write a research report of atleast three paragraphs about "The sewerage system of your area" focusing the following questions:

- a) What is sewerage system?
- b) How does poor sewerage system affect the health of community?
- c) Who is responsible for bad or poor sewerage system in your area?
- d) Can the whole community work together to keep the area clean?
- e) Solutions or measures to improve the sewerage system in your area.

Note: Collect data or information by interviewing community people, visiting and observing the area, reading books and getting information from internet, etc.

Grammar

Use of all Tenses

Present Simple

- Repeated actions that happen in the present.
e.g. He drinks milk daily.
- Actions that happen in general in the present.
e.g. The Sun rises in the East.
- Set events that will happen in the near future.
e.g. We go to Karachi next week
- Current facts.
e.g. If we mix red and green, we get yellow.

Past Simple

- Completed actions that happened in the past.
e.g. He passed his test yesterday.

- A duration of time in the past.
e.g. She always carried an umbrella.

Future Simple

- A specific action in the future.
e.g. Ali will go to Khuzdar tomorrow.
- A promise
e.g. I will pay you ten thousand rupees.
- A plan
e.g. We will stay at Pishin.
- A prediction
e.g. It will rain in the next month.

Present Perfect

- Actions that happened at an unspecified time in the past.
e.g. Ahmed has travelled overseas several times.
- Actions that started in the past and continue to the present.
e.g. The children have felt sick ever since they ate lunch.
- Past experiences (at an unspecified time)
e.g. We have eaten at that restaurant once or twice.

Past Perfect

- An action that happened before another action in the past.
e.g. The aeroplane had taken off before they reached the airport.
- For duration before something that finished in the past.
e.g. I met him in Dubai in 1980. I had seen him last five years before.

Future Perfect

- Completed action happening before something in the future.
e.g. They will have left for Chaman before you go to see them.
- For duration before something in the future.
e.g. I will have written the essay by that time.

Present Continuous

- An action that is happening (or not happening) now.
e.g. I am reading a novel now.
- A continuous action currently in progress.
e.g. I am learning English.
- A planned action happening in the future.
e.g. They are going to Islamabad tomorrow.

Past Continuous

- An action going on at some time in the past.
e.g. When I saw him, he was playing tennis.
- For persistent habits in the past.
e.g. He was always speaking loudly.

Future Continuous

- An action going on at some time in the future
e.g. When I get home, my children will be doing their homework.

Present Perfect Continuous

- Talk about events which started in the past and still be continuing.
e.g. Umer has been living next door to me for two years.

Past Perfect Continuous

- To describe an ongoing action that started in past and continued for some time in past.
e.g. He had been teaching English for ten years before he retired.

Future Perfect Continuous

- To describe an ongoing action that will complete in future.
e.g. She will have been serving as a social worker for two years when we leave the city.

Activity

Re-read the unit "Dignity of Labour", find out sentences of each tense and write in your notebooks.