

English-302

Chapter:11 Reading with understanding

Summary of part 1

Restoring childhood

This passage talks about “child servitude” implicitly and also emphasizes on how labour of girls is considered detrimental to their development.

Important points from the text:

- People are blind to female labour since it is regarded as unprofitable and lacking in commercial worth. The society is indifferent to domestic labour of girls since it is seen as non-remunerative and these jobs lack visible market worth.
- The exploitation of a boy working on gem stones in a tiny manufacturing facility in Jaipur is clearly identified; nevertheless, the similarly dangerous job of a girl mowing grass on a steep mountain slope in Garhwal is not recognised. This concept is insufficient for understanding the severity of children's work.
- The majority of child workers in India are cultivators and agricultural labourers.
- Child labour in India is primarily concerned with the degrading circumstances of children who work in dangerous industries. Many studies have also been conducted on self-employed and "street" youngsters in major cities. The data on child labour in India focuses heavily on the dehumanising conditions of children working in dangerous sectors such as the match and fireworks factories in Sivakasi (Tamil Nadu) or the glassworks of Firozabad (U.P.). Many studies have been conducted on self-employed and "street" youngsters in Delhi, Bombay, Bangalore, and other major cities.
- The invisibility of rural child labourers reflects an urban favouritism in Indian government, research, and the media, as well as the widespread belief that rural life is relatively idyllic. These children are perhaps the most visible manifestation of the denial of a child's right to a healthy childhood.

Important words from the passage:

1. Non-remunerative: free, unpaid
2. Nurturing: bring up/care for
3. Hazardous: dangerous
4. Servitude: the state of being completely subject to someone.
5. Domestic chores: household work
6. Idyllic: happy/pastoral life

Evaluate yourself:

1. What do you mean by child servitude?
2. Why do you think rural childhood workers are ignored today?
3. “India has a strong focus on the dehumanizing conditions of children.” Explain this line in your words.

Summary part 2

Marketing of coconut products

Tamil Nadu and Kerala account for highest production of coconut oil, and in Kerala coconut oil is used as a common cooking medium. Palm oil and palm kernel are 2 main substitutes of coconut oil. Palm oil prices are globally cheaper and it mainly dominates the Indian market. The demand of coconut oil has remained sluggish and it is important to augment and diversify the production of coconut based commodities such as coconut water, coconut cream etc.

Important words from the passage:

1. Primarily: first and foremost
2. Augmenting: making something bigger
3. Sluggish: inactive/quiet
4. Commodities: products

Evaluate yourself:

1. Where is coconut water mainly used for cooking.
2. What can be done to promote coconut based commodities?
3. Why does Palm oil dominate the market?

Do you know?

One in 10 children is labouring in the global economy today. These children have the highest illiteracy rates in the world, since they frequently miss out on the opportunity to enter school. Slavery, human trafficking, prostitution, and activities that directly impair a child's physical, mental, and moral well-being are classified as the "Worst Forms of Child Labor." Child labour is defined as any employment that jeopardizes a child's health, personal development, or education.

Extend your horizon:

Who is a child labour according to you? What are your views on “child servitude”?

Meet a child labour in your area and talk to him/her about his perspectives towards job, education and future. Write your conversation on a piece of paper.