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| **Why we work - Jacaranda** | |
| **Question** | **Suggested answer** |
| 1 | Five important reasons that people work are to earn an income, to improve their standard of living, to gain prestige and status, to obtain self-satisfaction and to make friends.  The primary reason that people work is to earn a living, but work also contributes value to a person’s life in many other ways.  The benefits of paid work include earning money, improving living standards, gaining status and prestige, obtaining self-satisfaction, making friends and helping others.  Feeling a part of the work environment is important to workers.  Most people sell their labour to an employer, not an employee. An employer is a person or an organisation hiring others to work for them.  The most common forms of income are wages and salary. Pocket money is not considered income.  The type of work someone does is often used to measure that person’s status and prestige.  Voluntary workers play an essential role in our society. Voluntary agencies include country fire brigades, Meals on Wheels, and the State Emergency Service (SES). |
| 2 | Examples of voluntary work include rural fire fighting and some other emergency services; classroom helper; gardening; meal preparation and delivery; visiting or befriending the elderly or hospital patients; and fundraising. |
| 3 | Responses will vary. It would be anticipated that you would agree with most of the reasons for why people work; however, you do need to explain your answer. |
| 4 | The teenage girl with her first pay packet was able to improve her standard of living by using her income to pay for new clothes. By earning income she was able to satisfy her needs and wants. |
| 5 | 1. We purchase goods and services to satisfy our needs and wants. 2. Voluntary work is just as important as paid work because they both play an essential role in our society. 3. The income I will earn from my job will help me to improve my living standard. 4. We can improve our standard of living by working. 5. Self-satisfaction is important because there are more rewards from working than money. |
| 6 | Everyone’s lists will differ according to their opinion. |
| 7 | While earning an income is important in order to purchase needs and wants, the work that a person does also contributes to making society a better place. For example, a health worker such as a nurse or doctor helps others and also derives personal satisfaction from doing so. |
| 8 | Voluntary workers play an essential role in our society and economy. Many people in the local community work for voluntary agencies such as country fire brigades, Meals on Wheels or the State Emergency Service. They receive no financial payment. |
| 9 | * To earn an income * To improve living standards * To gain status and prestige * To obtain self-satisfaction * To make friends * To help others |
| 10 | Your response should discuss the different reasons that people work. Some people may focus on the extrinsic values of work, (such as pay, working hours) and others may choose to focus on the intrinsic values of work (the quality of work itself, if it makes them happy and improves their wellbeing). All work, paid and voluntary, is valuable in different ways. |