

CHAPTER 1

REVIEW OF OCCUPATIONS

Objective

This is to give a brief review of different occupations in our society so that the students can classify them thereafter.

1.1 Introduction

Occupation, like production, can be classified according to the nature of the work or industry in which people work or are employed. Consequently, people may be said to engage in industrial activities or commercial activities or services which can be direct or indirect.

1.2 Classification of Occupation

Broadly, productive occupations, i.e. occupations having utility for human beings, can be divided into two categories: (i) Production of goods, and (ii) Production of services. That is, for any occupation to be productive, it must be either producing goods or producing services which satisfy human wants or needs.

Classification of Occupations Producing Goods

Occupations producing goods can be further divided into:

- (i) **Extractive or Primary Producers:-** These are concerned with obtaining basic materials from their natural locations. Examples are farmers who till the farm and produce food and cash-crops, and the miners who mine the gold, coal, petroleum, iron ore, etc.
- (ii) **Manufacturing Workers or Manufactured Goods Producers:-** This category turns raw materials in (i) above into finished products. Examples are those who process tea, coffee and all other beverages that we drink, and those who refine petroleum into the petrol and the kerosine we use.
- (iii) **Construction Workers:-** This is a term reserved for those engaged in construction activities such as building of houses, roads, water dams, etc. Examples are, quantity surveyors, bricklayers, engineers; motor vehicle mechanics, radio and television assembly workers.

Classification of Occupations Producing Services

- (i) **Producer of Direct Personal Services:-** These give direct personal services to their clients or employers. Examples are, services of hair dressers and barbers, medical

doctors and teachers to their clients, drivers, cooks and stewards also give personal service to their employers.

- (ii) **Producers in Indirect Personal Services:-** These provide indirect but essential services which are mostly felt when they are not provided. Examples are, police and military forces, the judges and public prosecutors.
- (iii) **Commercial Service Workers:-** This category of workers give utility of place and ownership to finished goods, in the same way "conversion"™ workers give utility of form to raw materials and mineral resources. The commercial workers assist in transporting finished goods to final consumers. Examples are, warehouse, transport and communication workers. Bankers too, fall into this category for making cash available to their customers.

An Alternative Classification of Occupations

Occupation has been classified in Economics as:

- (i) **Primary Industry Workers:-** This category performs the same functions as primary extractive workers, i.e. taking mineral resources and raw materials from the soil, e.g. the farmers and the miners.
- (ii) **Secondary Industry Workers:-** This group performs the job of converting raw materials and resources into finished products, i.e. performing the same job as "conversion"™ or construction workers.
- (iii) **Tertiary Industry Workers:-** This is the same as commercial workers. This group bridges the physical gap between the manufacturers and the transport industry workers.

This explain the popular saying in commerce and economics, that production is not complete until raw materials are turned into finished products and brought home to the consumers.

However, it must be added that one person might belong to two or more occupations. A good example is a professor who is a farmer and also a playwright.

In like manner, in the alternative classification, the finished product of an industry, e.g. paper mills, might be the raw materials to another industry e.g., the printing industry.

Summary

Two methods of classification have been adopted here and the two are harmonized: These classifications are as in commerce and as in economics.

Classification as in Commerce:

- (i) **Extractive Occupations:-** Bringing out raw products in their crude/ natural form - e.g., mining, fishing, farming, etc.

- (ii) **Manufacturing Occupation:-** Conversion of raw materials into finished products, e.g., production of plastics/furniture, cornflakes, etc.
- (iii) **Construction Workers:-** Builders of highways, roads, bridges and houses, e.g., the engineers.
- (iv) **Workers on (a) Direct Service e.g. -** doctors, teachers, hairdressers and **(b) Indirect Service -** lawyers, judges, policemen and the soldiers.
- (v) **Commercial Service Workers:-** Those who work in commerce i.e., buying and selling, banking and finance, transport, etc.

Classification as in Economics

- (i) **Primary Industry Workers:-** i.e. extractive occupation in commerce.
- (ii) **Secondary Industry Workers:** - known as manufacturing in commerce.
- (iii) **Tertiary Industry Workers:-** These are commercial workers, e.g. trading, transport, banking, warehousing and other services.

Revision Questions

A. Essay Questions

1. Compare and contrast extractive and manufacturing industries.
2. Why is a direct service worker different from an indirect service worker?
3. Why is it that production is not completed until it reaches the consumer?
4. Explain why some workers are referred to as Tertiary Industry Workers - Give five examples.
5. (a) Discuss how a worker can belong to more than one occupation at a time.
(b) Give five examples.

B. Objective Questions

1. Secondary production has to do with changing the
 - A. shape of raw materials through construction operations.
 - B. physical form of raw materials into finished goods.
 - C. utility of raw materials by an engineering process.
 - D. nature of raw materials through manufacturing processes.

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2. The manufacture of goods and the provision of services that lead to the satisfaction of people's wants is

- A. production
- B. labour
- C. entrepreneur
- D. exchange

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3. The obtaining of raw materials from the land or sea is classified under
- A. Commercial Services
 - B. Extractive Industry
 - C. Constructive Industry
 - D. Direct Services

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4. One of these does not belong to the group
- A. Ware-housing
 - B. Communication
 - C. Transportation
 - D. Teaching
5. One of these is not an example of Primary Industry Workers
- A. Miners
 - B. Farmers
 - C. Fishermen
 - D. Engineers
6. The factory manufacturing cornflakes, belong to
- A. Manufacturing Occupation
 - B. Constructive Occupation
 - C. Extractive Occupation
 - D. Direct Services
7. Which one of these groups is a complete classification of occupations?
- A. Secondary Industrial Workers, Manufacturing Workers
 - B. Primary Industry Workers, Secondary Industry Workers, Tertiary Industry Workers
 - C. Teachers, Farmers and Dentist
 - D. Tertiary, Primary and Extracting

Use the following information to answer questions 8-10

- A. The workers that bring out raw materials in a crude form, e.g. Fishermen.
 - B. The workers that render indirect services, e.g. Policemen.
 - C. The workers that build the highways e.g. the engineers.
 - D. The workers that render direct services
8. Construction Workers
- A

- B
- C
- D

9. Lawyers and Judges

- A
- B
- C
- D

10. Miners and Farmers

- A
- B
- C
- D

Project

1. List some of the occupations engaged in by close members of your family.
2. Which occupations are the commonest in your locality?

N.B: Arrange answers to (1) and (2) into commercial categories. Also arrange the occupations below into various categories.

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Engineers | Estate managers | Pilots |
| Chemists | House building | Library assistants |
| | Engineers | |
| Doctors | Artists | Teachers |
| Pharmacists | Coffin makers | Professors |
| | Gardeners | Instructors |
| | | Despatch riders |
| Library | House keepers | Hair dressers/Barbers |
| Attendants | Night watchmen | Chauffeurs |
| | Maids | Bankers |
| Librarians | Book Binders and Insurance brokers | |
| | Printers | |
| Auditors | News casters | Farmers |
| General Managers | A Crew of T.V. | |
| | Workers | Lawyers |
| Managing Directors | Film Producers | Judges |
| | Actors/Actresses | The Army |
| | | The Police |

Store keepers
Road workers

Shoe makers
Tailors

Bishops
Pastors

Preachers

Miners
The Lay Readers

The Politicians
Palm-wine tappers

Entertainers
Footballers

Boxers
Wrestlers

Local blacksmiths

Dock workers
Forwarding agents
House cleaners
Bus conductors
Bricklayers

The President
Lawmakers (members of
the State Assembly)

Bursars
Accountants
Fishermen

Brewers of beer and
soft drinks

Mechanics
Car assembly workers
Petrol attendants
Civil engineers
Native cloth weavers
Native cloth dyers