EXERCISE 4

Here is one answer. Compare your answer with this one.

People spend a lot of time watching television. Many think that this is a waste of time but others say it is helping to educate us.

Everybody knows that television is a good vehicle to get information across to people. Although some people watch television only for entertainment purposes, the majority of them use it as an educative instrument. People who think that watching television is merely a waste of time are wrong because they only see it as an entertainment instrument. Nearly every programme has some educational element in it.

Of course there are some drawbacks with television in our country but they are basically related to poverty. Firstly in some places the majority of people cannot afford a television set, and secondly some people do not have electricity in their areas. Let us take, for instance, a campaign to combat cholera, which is transmitted on television. People in the rural areas who do not have television sets will not be able to watch this important programme. So for these people the best way to get information to them is by using radios or notice boards in their villages.

On the whole I do think that television is a useful tool to educate people, but we need to reduce the levels of poverty in our societies so that everyone can afford a television set.

EXERCISE 5

Should we have more women in parliament?

The representation of women in parliament in our country is about 3% which is very small compared to 97% male representation. This is not only true for this sector of labour but of all the other important sectors in the country such as education, health, economy, transport, tourism, etc.

This situation goes back to the time of our ancestors, when they defined the place of a woman as being in the home, and the role of men as being the breadwinners. I do not think that there is such a thing as women's work and men's work.

With the advent of women liberation movements it is time that some people changed their opinions. People should now talk about equal rights for women and men. Certain jobs which in the past were regarded as men's jobs, can now be performed by women.

Thus we need more women in parliament so that they can discuss, hand in hand with men, ways of developing our country.