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Scope of Home Science

1.1 Introduction

If you happen to ask a layman, what he understands by the term Home Science, his answer most likely will be that it is a subject about household chores and home making and is meant only for girls. This is a common misconception about Home Science, which is a well developed discipline in education. Its scope extends far beyond the 'home' and is not limited to cooking, laundry, needlework and home decoration alone. In fact, Home Science is the only subject which trains the students for two important goals in life — (i) caring for the home and family and (ii) a career.

Moreover, in present times when men and women are sharing responsibilities in every walk of life, training for efficient home making and better living is as important for men as for women. Similarly, the various job opportunities in the field of Home Science are not limited to only women but men too can avail of them.

In this lesson, you will study about the scope of Home Science and the different opportunities in the field of Home Science.

1.2 Objectives

After reading this lesson, you will be able to :

- appreciate the scope of Home Science;
- identify various vocational areas related to the field of Home Science;
- state the different job opportunities available under each vocational area;
- differentiate between opportunities for self employment and wage employment under each vocational area;
- discuss the significance of home-based self-employment.

1.3 Scope of Home Science

As discussed in the Introduction, there is a lot of misconception about what is covered under the subject of Home Science. To put it in very simple words,

“Home Science is the application of many sciences and arts towards achieving healthier and happier homes.”

It is concerned with our daily life — the food we eat, the houses in which we live, the clothes we wear, family relationships, bringing up children and the proper use of resources to achieve maximum happiness. Home Science helps young boys and girls to understand their role and responsibilities in the family and community. It helps them in the management of resources and also prepares them as responsible future parents.

As Senior Secondary students of Home Science, you can make use of your knowledge of Home Science in three types of situations :

- to help solve existing problems in the family
- to lay the foundation for building happy homes
- to prepare for future employment.

Home Science trains students for a wide variety of vocational areas and each of these areas offers a number of jobs. Fig. 1.1 shows the different vocational areas covered under the field of Home Science.

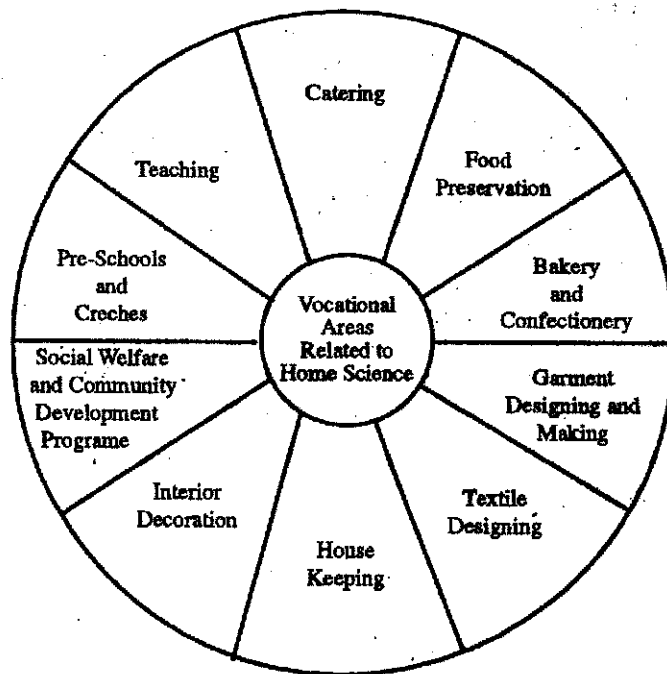


Fig. 1.1 : Vocational areas related to Home Science.

Each of the vocational areas stated in the figure offers a variety of job opportunities.

1.4 Job Opportunities Under Different Vocational Areas of Home Science

(A) Catering

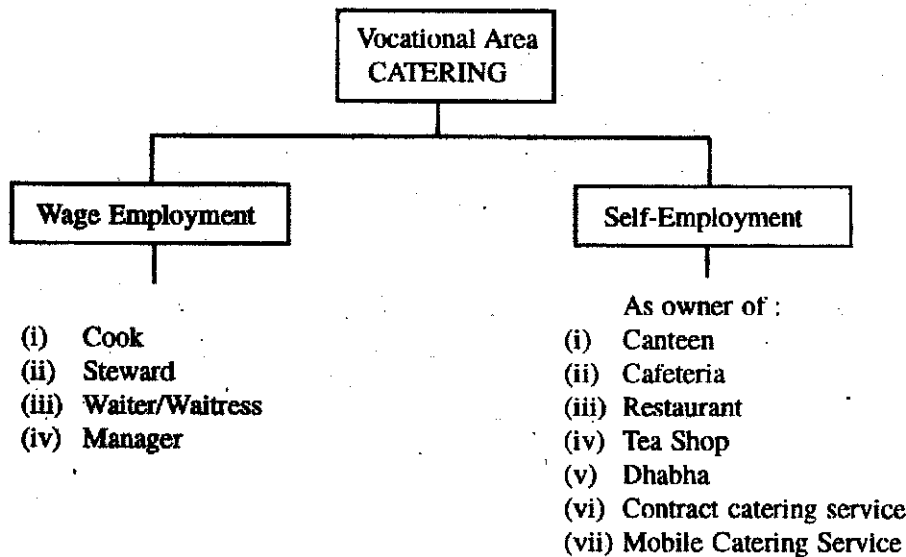
Before we study the different job opportunities available under each of the vocational areas related to Home Science, we must understand the concepts of wage employment and self-employment. To understand these concepts, Let us take the example of the vocational area of Catering. A cook who works in a hotel for someone and earns wages

is a wage employee. In contrast, a person who establishes his/her own restaurant is self-employed.

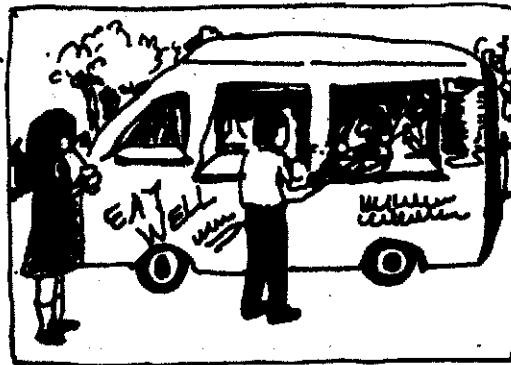
Wage employment means that you work for another person or organisation and receive wages or salary for your services.

Self-employment means that you are the owner of an enterprise which you run and finance.

Keeping the above two categories of job, i.e. wage employment and self-employment in mind, the job opportunities under catering can be stated as follows :



You must have visited a canteen, a cafeteria, a restaurant, a tea shop, a dhabha sometime. Any one of these can be established as a self-employment unit. You must be familiar with the term 'Contract Catering Service'. It involves taking on contracts for the supply and serving of meals at weddings, parties, functions, festivals, etc. Mobile catering service is also becoming very popular in big cities and towns. It is a food service or restaurant on wheels. Vehicles with food service move from one place to another. Have you seen such a van? The concept of supplying packed meals at work places has also become very popular nowadays.



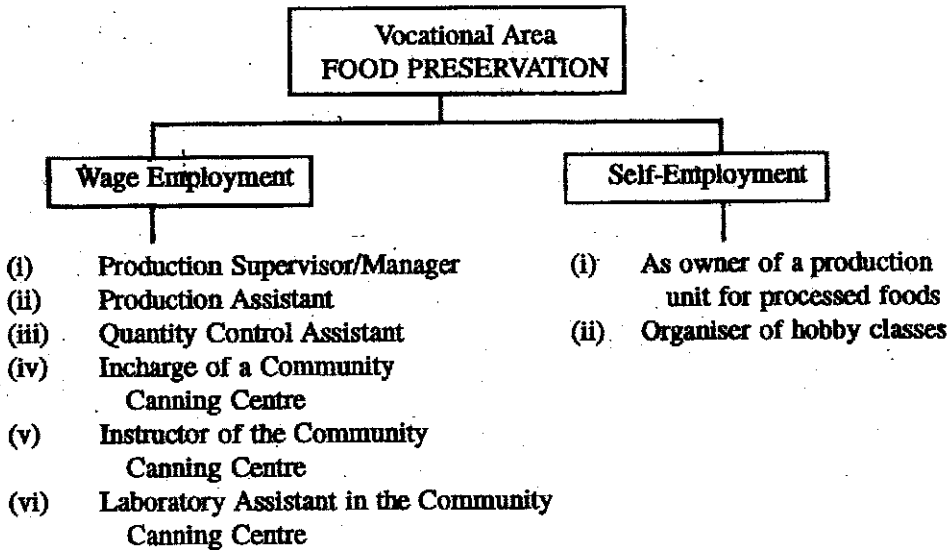
INTEXT QUESTIONS 1.1

1. Tick mark (✓) the most appropriate answer from the four choices given :
 - (i) Home Science provides training for
 - (a) home making
 - (b) care of the children and home
 - (c) care of home and a career
 - (d) cooking and home decoration
 - (ii) Home Science is meant for
 - a) only girls
 - b) only boys
 - c) neither boys nor girls
 - d) both boys and girls
 2. Complete the following statements:
 - i) Job opportunities in the field of Home Science are available for both and
 - ii) Working for someone to earn a living is called employment.
 - iii) Setting up your own enterprise to earn a living is called employment.
 3. List any five vocational areas related to Home Science.
 - (i)
 - (ii)
 - (iii)
 - (iv)
 - (v)
 4. Out of the following, tick mark (✓) those which are self-employment ventures :
 - (i) Waiter in a restaurant
 - (ii) Running your own tea shop
 - (iii) Manager of a hotel
 - (iv) Contractor of a catering service
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(B) Food Preservation

You must have seen many varieties of jams, jellies, squashes, pickles, etc., which are sold in the market. Various types of canned and bottled eatables are also becoming popular. Besides these, 'papads', wafers and many other convenience foods are also available. What are convenience foods? These are foods that are pre-treated or pre-cooked to some extent and can be easily made ready-to-serve in a few minutes. That is why these are called convenience foods. Some examples of such foods are gulab jamun mix, idli mix, pulao mix and so on. I am sure you can add many more to this list.

All the above stated food stuffs are processed foods. Due to the increase in the demand of these food stuffs, the food processing industry is growing and the requirement for trained workers to take up different jobs in this area is also on the rise. Thus it becomes one of the major areas for employment in the field of Home Science and it offers the following jobs.

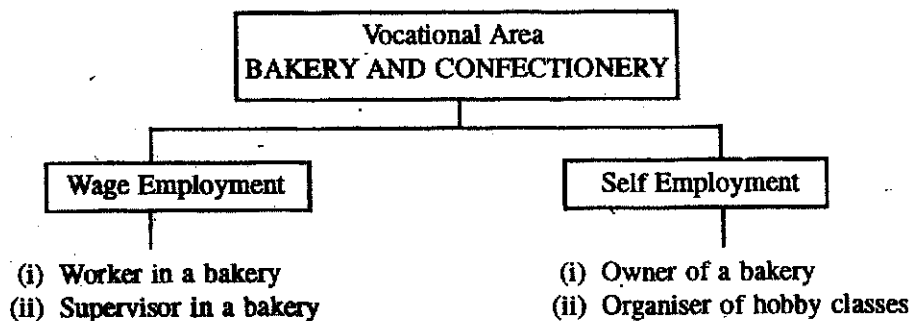


Under wage employment, the jobs from serial numbers (i) to (iii) are available in manufacturing units of processed foods. The jobs from serial numbers (iv) to (vi) are available in Community Canning Centres set up by the government in almost all the cities and towns of the country.

Where self-employment in this area is concerned, you can establish your own production and manufacture one or more processed food stuffs like jams, jellies, squashes, pickles, papads, etc. National Open School offers a course on "Food Processing" for the Senior Secondary students. In case you or anyone is interested, you can take the course and set up your own unit. You can also organise hobby classes for interested people to provide them training in preparation of processed foods at home.

(c) Bakery and Confectionery

Bakery and confectionery products like cake, pastries, biscuits, patties, breads, buns, sweetmeats, snacks, etc., are becoming as much a part of our lives as the preserved food stuffs. This too is an area of great employment potential. Let us examine what job opportunities are available in the area of Bakery and Confectionery.



Bakeries manufacturing breads, cakes, biscuits, etc., are present everywhere now. All big hotels too have their own bakery units. These offer wage employment. For self-

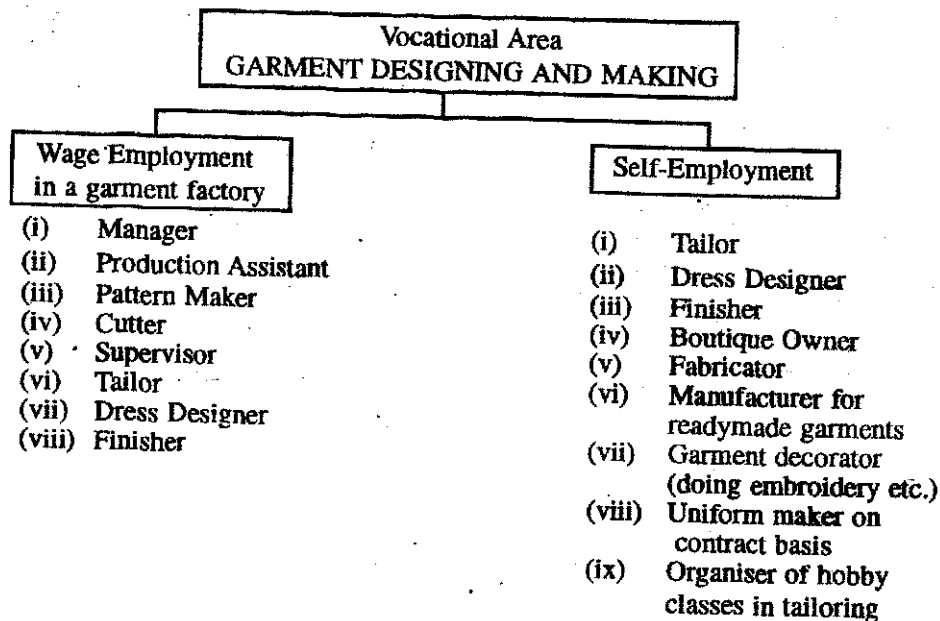
employment, you can set up your own bakery or organise hobby classes for those who wish to learn how to prepare baked food stuffs. You can take up the course on "Bakery and Confectionery" being offered by National Open School for the Secondary School level students.

INTEXT QUESTIONS 1.2

1. Which of the following belong to the category of self-employment?
 - (i) Owner of a jam factory
 - (ii) Manager in an apple juice factory
 - (iii) Baker in the bakery of a hotel
 - (iv) Owner of a bakery
2. List the job opportunities under self-employment in the vocational area of Bakery and Confectionery.
 - (i)
 - (ii)
3. State the job opportunities related to food preservation available in the Community Canning Centre :
 - (i)
 - (ii)
 - (iii)

1.5 A) Garment Designing and Garment Making

Clothing is one of the basic necessities of human beings. Nowadays, because of the domestic and occupational demands, most of us cannot find time for making our own clothes and depend on tailors or readymade garments. Further, more and more people have become fashion-conscious, which has led to an increased demand for well designed clothes. In India, the garment export industry has also been expanding. All these factors have created many specialised jobs related to the area of garment designing and making, which are stated below :



As you must have noticed, certain jobs such as those of a tailor, dress designer and finisher have been stated under both self-employment and wage employment. You can have your own private business, doing these jobs, or you may work in production units or factories of others. For example, a self-employed designer creates his/her own designs and sells them to garment manufacturers. On the other hand, another dress designer may be on the pay-roll of one garment manufacturer and be a full time employee of a garment factory. Similarly, a finisher may have his/her own unit where she receives stitched garments and performs only the finishing jobs which includes hemming, stitching buttons, ironing, etc. and after this she returns the garments to their manufacturers. Under wage employment a finisher comes under a separate category of workers in the garment manufacturing industry. Tailors too can find self-employment as well as wage employment.

Wage employment in this area is available in garment factories and garment export houses where garments are manufactured at large scale. Different persons are employed for each job such as making shirts, each step of the process is handled by a different worker, i.e. the pattern maker, cutter, tailor, finisher, etc. Each person performs only the job she is employed for.

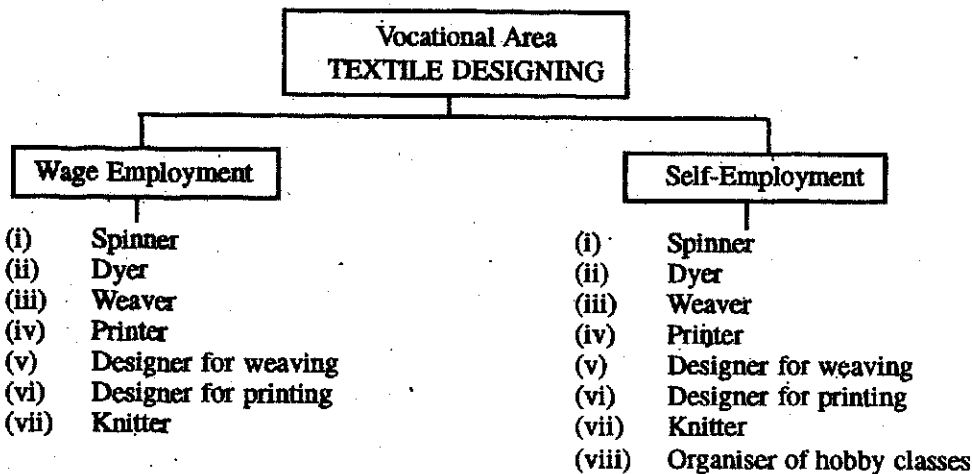
Boutique is another term you may be aware of. Shops selling fashionable clothes in keeping with the latest trends are called boutiques. Not only do they make available prevailing styles, they also create new styles and fashions. Boutiques have become very common in almost all big cities. At times, besides clothes, boutiques also sell accessories which go with clothes such as bags, belts, shoes, jewellery, etc.



Let us have another look at the list of job opportunities stated under self-employment in this vocational area. You must be familiar with all the jobs stated there except fabricators. Fabricators are tailors who collect cut material from garment factories. After stitching, the garments are sent back to the factories. Finishing of garment is not the responsibility of the fabricators.

(B) Textile Designing

The term 'Textile Designing' covers weaving, dyeing and printing of textiles or fabrics. The textile industry offers many jobs and there is great deal of scope for self-employment also.



As you can all see, all the jobs except 'organiser of hobby classes' are common to both self-employment and wage employment because these can be carried out by a person in her own factory/shop/production unit or she may be employed by someone to do these jobs. Organising hobby classes in tie and dye, batik, fabric painting, block printing, etc. is an avenue of self-employment.

Printers are one of the major category of workers in the area of textile designing. These include block printers, screen printers, tie and dye printers, and batik printers. A printer may perform all the above types of printing or may specialise only in one type of printing.

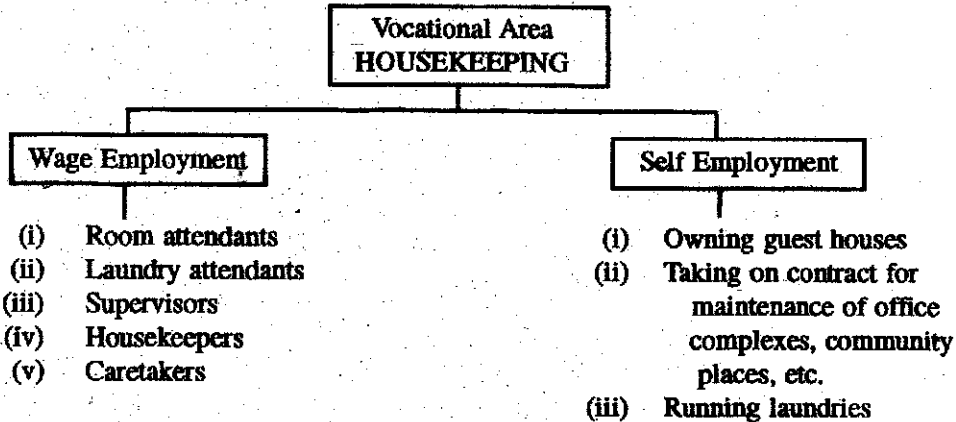
Another point which must be understood is that designers for weaving and printing are different from weavers and printers. The designer only creates designs and prepares samples which are given to the weavers and printers for actual production. The process of large scale weaving and printing, as per the sample provided by the designers, is carried out by the weavers and printers.

INTEXT QUESTIONS 1.3

1. Give two reasons for the increase in the job opportunities in the area of garment designing and making.
 - (i)
 - (ii)
 2. State three job opportunities related to the area of garment designing and making, which are common to both self-employment and wage employment.
 - (i)
 - (ii)
 - (iii)
 3. Tick mark the most appropriate answer :
 - (i) Textile designing means
 - (a) printing on textiles
 - (b) weaving of textiles
 - (c) weaving, dyeing and printing of textiles
 - (d) using textiles for making garments
 - (ii) A designer
 - (a) weaves a pattern
 - (b) creates a pattern
 - (c) prints a pattern
 - (d) creates, weaves and prints a pattern
 - (iii) A designer can engage in
 - (a) self employment only
 - (b) wage employment only
 - (c) any employment
 - (d) both self and wage employment
 4. State any five job opportunities under wage employment related to the vocational area to Textile Designing.
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1.6 (A) Housekeeping

House keeping does not only mean looking after your own house. In hotels, hospitals, guest houses, etc., housekeeping exists as a separate department which is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the establishment. There are a large number of jobs available in this area.

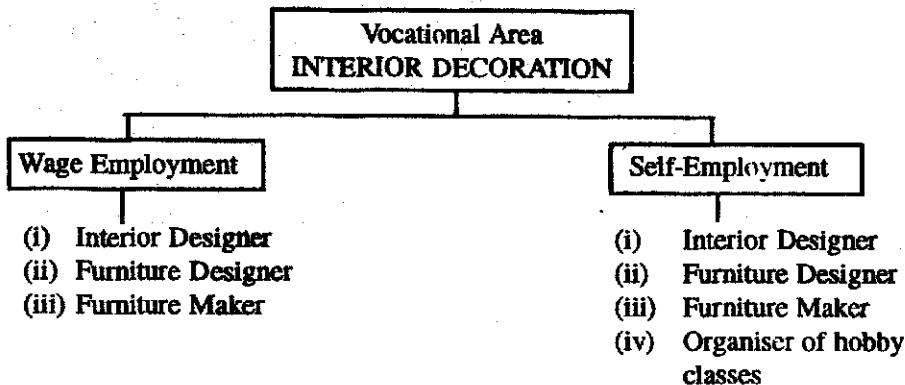


Under wage employment, the jobs are available in hotels, motels, airports, holiday homes, clubs, hospitals, guest houses, hostels, office premises, etc.

For self employment, one can maintain one's own guest house or run a laundry or take contracts for cleanliness and maintenance of offices, departmental stores, commercial buildings and places of public interest like museum, art galleries, parks, etc. National Open School offers courses on 'Housekeeping' and 'Laundry Services' for Senior Secondary and Secondary students respectively.

(B) Interior Decoration

Have you ever noticed that two houses or rooms with similar basic plan and structure may look very different from inside? The difference may result from the manner in which the interior has been done. By interior we mean the type and colour of the paints, the type of floor and floor covering, the arrangement of lights, the furniture and its placement, the wall decorations and so on. Interior decoration thus includes the final finish and beautification of the interior of a building. Now-a-days interior decorators are in great demand for decorating buildings, residential houses, shops, show rooms, etc. The following job opportunities are available in the vocational area of Interior Decoration.



All job opportunities except organising hobby classes are common to the category of wage employment as well as self-employment. An interior designer or a furniture

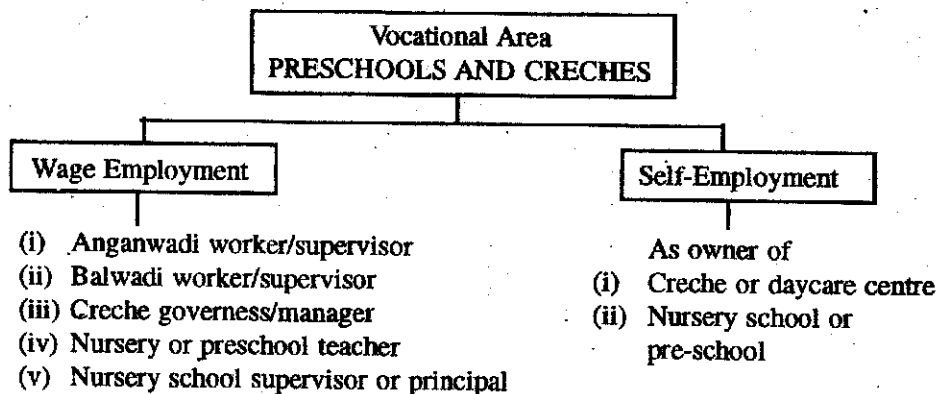
designer/maker may work for someone else or she may have her own business. As a self-employment venture she may organise hobby classes for people who are interested to learn about different aspects of interior decoration.

INTEXT QUESTIONS 1.4

1. Write 'True' or 'False' against the following statements :
 - (i) Jobs in housekeeping are available only in hotels.
 - (ii) Interior decoration includes the final finish and the beautification of the interior of a place.
 - (iii) Interior decoration as a vocational area has scope only for wage employment.
 - (iv) Housekeeping means the decoration and upkeep of your own house.
 - (v) Running a laundry is also a type of housekeeping.
2. List out any three categories of jobs which are available under wage employment in the area of housekeeping.
 - (i)
 - (ii)
 - (iii)

1.7 (A) Preschools and Creches

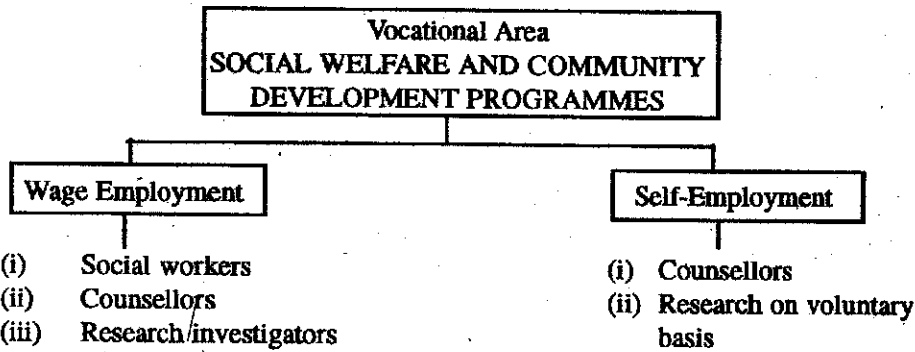
All over the world, it has been realised that the care and training provided to children in the first six years of their lives is extremely important. This has led to the establishment of preschools in almost all cities, towns and villages in our country. Creches and daycare centres have also come up to take care of children of working parents. All this has created a large number of jobs in this area.



For those of you who wish to establish your own day care centre, National Open School offers a course on 'Play Centre Management' for the Senior Secondary students.

(B) Social Welfare and Community Programmes

This is one of the important vocational areas in the field of Home Science which offers wage employment in programmes run by voluntary and governmental organisations for the welfare of the society. One can create an avenue of self-employment also in this area by establishing creches, daycare centres, nursery schools or pre-schools.



Wage employment in this area is available in the form of posts of social workers, counsellors and research investigators in programmes for women, children, old people, youth, drug addicts, alcoholics, people with psychological, health or economic problems, etc. Such programmes are run by institutions like women and child welfare organisations, old people homes, hospitals, schools, colleges and other educational institutions, large industrial homes, etc.

If interested in self-employment, one can start one's own counselling service or conduct research in this area.

INTEXT QUESTIONS 1.5

1. For each of the following, state whether it comes under wage employment or self employment by writing 'WE' or 'SE' respectively against it :
 - (i) Owner of a nursery school
 - (ii) Caretaker in an orphanage
 - (iii) Preschool teacher
 - (iv) Anganwadi worker

2. State any five types of institutions where social workers are required.
 - (i)
 - (ii)
 - (iii)
 - (vi)
 - (v)

3. Mention four job opprotunities in the category of wage employment from the 'Preschools and Creches' area of vocation.
 - (i)
 - (ii)
 - (iii)
 - (iv)

1.8 Teaching

This is one of the most important vocational areas in the field of Home Science. In almost all schools, Home Science and Home Science-related activities are taught for which teachers with educational background of Home Science are required. Home Science

teachers are required for following levels of education :

- (i) Home Science exists as a compulsory subject in many girls' schools in classes VI, VII and VIII.
- (ii) It exists as an elective subject in classes XI and XII or the intermediate level.
- (iii) In all classes, i.e. from I to XII, Home Science-based activities like meal planning, tailoring, baking, printing, community service, personal and environmental hygiene, needle work, craft, etc. are taught as work experience or hobbies.
- (iv) In classes XI and XII of the vocational stream, many Home Science-based courses of two years duration are offered. Examples of these are Food Preservation and Processing, Preschool and Creche Management, Commercial Garment Making, Dress Designing, Catering, etc.
- (v) There are colleges of Home Science which offer Bachelor Degree course in Home Science. Besides the Home Science colleges, there are other degree colleges which offers subjects related to Home Science as electives at graduate level. Some of these subjects are Food and Nutrition, Child and Family Welfare, etc. In many states of India, general course in Home Science is offered as one of the electives at graduate level.
- (vi) Polytechnics, Industrial Training Institute, Institute of Hotel Management and Catering etc. also offer courses related to Home Science.
- (vii) Training centres of Anganwadi workers and other community workers also require teachers from the field of Home Science.

INTEXT QUESTIONS 1.6

1. State whether the following statements are true or false :
 - (i) Home Science is taught at many levels of school education.
 - (ii) Some courses of Home Science are taught at the undergraduate level also.
 - (iii) Teachers with a background of Home Science are preferred for training Anganwadi workers.
 - (iv) The vocational stream at the intermediate stage has no Home Science-based courses.

1.9 Home-Based Self-Employment

You already know the meaning of self-employment. However, self employment ventures can be of the following two types :

- (a) **Industry-Based Self-Employment** : A self-employment venture may involve a large sum of investment for machines, factory and manpower. The output of such a venture may also be large to cater to big orders. This type of self-employment unit may be in the form of a small-scale or large-scale industry.
- (b) **Home-Based Self-Employment** : A self-employment enterprise may be based at home and involve inexpensive machinery, small financial investment and small number of workers. Such endeavors normally deal with a limited number of consumers or users. This type of self-employment is called home-based self-employment.

Let us now examine a few examples of 'Home-Based Self-Employment'. You must have come across someone in your neighbourhood who stitches clothes at home on order.

Similarly, there may be someone who buys biscuits in large quantities from the wholesale dealers and packs them in smaller packets for sale. Both these are common examples of home-based self-employment because in both the cases, the place of work is home and the business is on small scale.

This type of self employment is particularly useful for men and women who have families and homes to look after, for whom it may not always be possible to take up full time wage employment or start a business which may keep them out of their homes for long hours, and who may not have enough money for investment in the business.

Let us think of some more examples of home-based self-employment. Yes, *papad* making; preparation of jams, pickles and jellies; baking cakes and preparation of snacks like biscuits, sandwiches, etc. All these things can be prepared in one's own kitchen and supplied to shops or sold from home.



Running hobby classes and teaching small groups of interested persons is another example of home-based self-employment. If you examine the self employment category of all the vocational areas stated earlier sections, you will find that home-based self-employment in the form of running hobby classes is possible in almost all the vocational areas.

Another example of home-based self-employment, which is fairly-recent development, is providing packed meals to offices. This is becoming very popular in big cities. One can prepare a meal for 10-12 persons in one's own kitchen and supply it during lunch hour to customers on a regular basis.

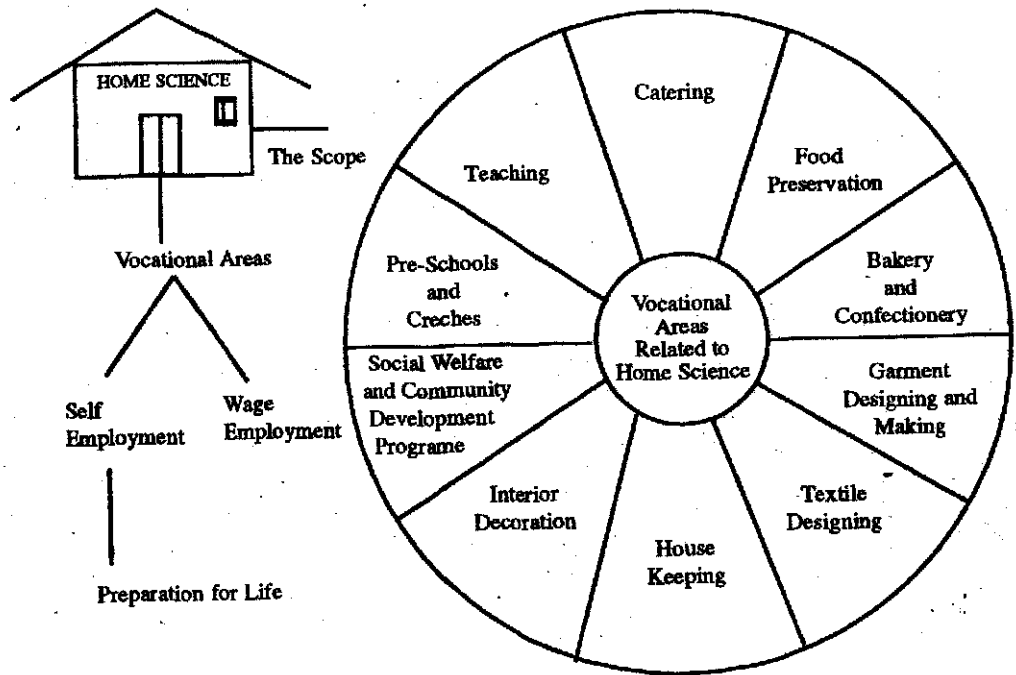
INTEXT QUESTIONS 1.7

1. List five examples of home-based self-employment.
 - (i)
 - (ii)
 - (iii)
 - (iv)
 - (v)
 2. What do you mean by 'Home-Based Self-Employment'.
 - (i)
 - (ii)
-

1.11 Terminal Exercises

1. List the different vocational areas related to the field of Home Science.
2. What is the difference between wage employment and self-employment? Explain with the help of an example.
3. Explain the term 'Home-Based Self-Employment' with the help of examples.
4. State three job opportunities in the category of wage employment and three opportunities in the category of self-employment, in any of the vocational areas related to Home Science.

1.10 What You Have Learnt



1.12 Answers to the Intext Questions

1.1. 1. (i) c (ii) d

2. (i) men, women or boys, girls

(ii) Wage

(iii) self

3. Refer to Fig. 1.1 and mention any five of the areas stated there.

4. (ii) and (iv)

1.2 1. i) and (iv)

2. i) Owner of a bakery

ii) Organiser of baker classes

3. i) Incharge of the Community Canning Centre

ii) Instructor of the Centre

iii) Laboratory Assistant of the Centre

1.3 1. Any two of the following :

i) Due to lack of time, most people cannot find time to stitch their own clothes and so they depend on tailors.

ii) The demand for well designed clothes is increasing because more and more people are becoming fashion conscious.

iii) Garment export industry has been expanding and has generated many jobs.

2. (i) Tailor
(ii) Dress Designer
(iii) Finisher
3. (i) c (ii) b (iii) d
4. Any five of the following
i) Spinner
ii) Dyer
iii) Weaver
iv) Printer
v) Designer for weaving
vi) Designer for printing
vii) Knitter
- 1.4 1. (i) False (ii) True (iii) False (iv) False (v) True
2. Any three of the following :
(i) Room attendant
(ii) Laundry attendant
(iii) Supervisors
(iv) Housekeepers
(v) Caretakers
- 1.5 1. (i) SE (ii) WE (iii) WE (iv) WE
2. Any five of the following :
(i) Woman and child welfare organisation
(ii) Old people houses
(iii) Hospitals
(iv) Schools
(v) Colleges and other educational institutions
(iv) Large industrial houses
3. Any four of the following :
(i) Anganwadi worker / Supervisor
(ii) Balwadi worker / Supervisor
(iii) Creche manager
(iv) Preschool teacher
(v) Nursery School Supervisor or Principal
- 1.6 1. (i) True (ii) True (iii) True (iv) False
1. Refer to Section 1.5 and mention any five examples
2. A self-employment enterprise which is based at home and involves inexpensive machinery, small financial investment, small number of workers and deals with a small or limited number of customers is called home-based self-employment.