Assessment Task: Needs; Wants and Unemployment

Needs and wants of unemployed people (Individual activity)

Read the case study below and answer the questions that follow.

Lindi is a single mother with two small children. She does not have a job and relies on her brother to provide for her needs. He buys food for her and she lives in the back room of his house with her children. Lindi receives a government grant for herself and her children, which she uses for buying clothes. But she cannot afford enough warm clothes or a heater in winter for her and the children. She pays her brother for boarding and lodging. If she has money left, she buys some sweets for the children and airtime for her cell phone.

Lindi does all the cooking and cleaning for her brother and his family and her two children. She is grateful that she and the children have enough to eat and a place to live, but she wishes she could have a better life – a better place to live, better clothes for her and her children and more free time. If only she could find a job! Her brother has a job and can buy many things he wants. The other day he bought a new TV and new furniture for his lounge. Lindi wishes she could buy a TV and some nice furniture. She would also like to buy her children some toys.

1. Which of Lindi’s basic needs are satisfied? [2marks]

2. Name two of Lindi’s basic needs that are not adequately satisfied. [2marks]

3. Which of Lindi’s wants are satisfied? [2marks]

4. Name three wants Lindi would satisfy if she could find a job. [2marks]

5. Who contributes more to consumption and therefore to economic growth, Lindi or her brother? [2 marks]
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<tr>
<th>Question number</th>
<th>Possible marks</th>
<th>Solution</th>
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| 1               | 10             | 1. Food and basic shelter. [2 marks]  
|                 |                | 2. Two of the following: warm clothes, heating in winter, a more adequate place to live (shelter). [2 marks]  
|                 |                | 3. Sweets for her children and airtime for her cell phone. [2 marks]  
|                 |                | 4. A TV, furniture, and toys for her children. [2 marks]  
|                 |                | 5. Lindi’s brother contributes more to economic growth. He contributes more to consumption, for he buys more goods than Lindi. [2 marks]  |