

TASK 1:

While comparing the two maps I become aware that the island has lost its natural atmosphere, which it seemed to have before it became a tourist “paradise”...

Obviously, before this development, you could see more trees, less concrete. You were more involved with nature. After the development into a “cash machine” the buildings have become bigger and less modest.

One also has to mention the changes in naming of places – no matter if these spots have become different to how they were before or not: A “Deepwater cove” is now mentioned in the new map as a place for “Deepsea diving” – not the place’s geographical feature is focused now but the kind of activity provided by the suppliers.

A lake surrounded by buildings – I admit, you cannot see neither from the wording nor from the symbols if these buildings are made of concrete or wooden – shows me one thing: the destruction of nature in order to make money. This is what comes into my mind first.

Furthermore, the replacement of “Fishing boats” with a “Wharf” causes me a headache as the first can be connoted with modest people fishing to feed their family and the latter with rich, superficial snobs practicing their all-time hobby: having fun!

(206 words)

TASK 2:

Ageing is, indeed an issue in Germany. People grow older, die later due to a good health-care, social security and wealth. When, additionally, people tend to make less children – firstly, in order to supposedly keep their wealthy lifestyle and, secondly, in order to be flexible with their jobs and, thirdly, in order to maintain their independence as an individual – then a country is faced with an ageing issue.

I am not happy that the word “problem” has been used in the task text. Thus do I avoid it as becoming old is NOT a problem itself!

The problem is the system. The problem is a world based on capitalist indignity. The problem is a structure with a central focus on “making money”. Our problem is the retirement concept depending on “manpower”. The young pay for the elders. And if you have less young people and more and more elderly people who do not work anymore then you get stuck. Then you have a problem. So it is the young people, if ever, the problem. Not the old ones! This leads to the, wrong inded, tendency that young people regard the older ones as a burden. What a mistake!

The system based on high-level performance of employees is rough. So, this work life makes us tired. But we do not profit from the wisdom and experience of elderly people. One example: A football team with only players in the age of early twenties might have more physical power then one team with players around thirty. I would still bet for the latter since their experience and routine will make up for the supposedly “physical disadvantage”.

In the current situation of Germany, I can say the following: Create a system which provides more jobs that employee love doing and in which they are not as much exploited as they are now. Then they will also be fit when they are older – mentally AND physically. Then you will have less people who want to retire. Plus: The partialisation of capital needs improvement. Divide it more justly :-)

(343 words)