Many people say that we now live in ‘consumer societies’ where money and possessions are given too much importance. Others believe that consumer culture has played a vital role in improving our lives. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

The global economy has improved dramatically over the last few decades and the proliferation of mass consumerism has resulted. As far as I am concerned, it brings both positive and negative impacts on people’s lives in various ways. [it is better to save your opinion until the end of the essay and write here: “This essay discusses both sides of the argument and then I will give my own perspective on the matter.”]

It is true that increasing number of people tend to believe that there is a definite link between money and happiness. A Consumer society leads to money worship which in turn causes the indiscriminate pursuit of financial success, sometimes even at the cost of family, conscience as well as health. Because of working overtime constantly, there is a rising rate of young people suffering from serious disease like cancer. Moreover, over consumption of products usually creates extra amount of waste. Nowadays, people tend to buy things that they do not really need and throw them away and it is not only a waste of money and it is also a cause of environmental problem.

Despite all the above negative effects that consumerism causes, it is an undeniable fact that mass consumerism is the main driving force of economic growth. Firstly, the increasing demand of consumers results in the rising supply by manufactures and consequently, the overall economy will be booming. Also, there will be more job opportunities provided for individual people. Finally, by purchasing products or services, average people do benefit from enjoying a better quality of life. For example, the purchase of electrical household equipment, such as washing machine, does frees people from manual work and we they are able to have more time to relax.

To sum up, a consumer society has made the majority of people more materialistic which may lead to them going astray in their lives. However, consumerism is still the major reason that the economy boosts and individual people can benefit from it. [you need to make it clearer that the last paragraph is your opinion to be sure to fulfill all three requirements of the task = both sides and your opinion]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task response</th>
<th>Estimated Grade</th>
<th>[you need to make it clearer that the last paragraph is your opinion to be sure to fulfill all three requirements of the task = both sides and your opinion]</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6-7</td>
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Comment [u1]: This is misleading as it seems you will discuss advantages - but then the body of the paragraph is about disadvantages
Comment [u2]: Noun needed
Comment [u3]: You need to maintain the tense = present continuous tense
Comment [u4]: Or such as a washing machine
Other than this you answered all three requirements well.

| Cohesion and coherence | 6-7 | Paragraph 2 has a misleading topic sentence  
For this type of essay it is better to NOT put your opinion in the introduction.  
The final paragraph needs to more clearly indicate it is your opinion. |
|------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Vocabulary             | 7   | Errors with word choice  
mass consumerism has  **endued** resulted.  
Errors with word forms/endorings  
the indiscriminate pursue  **pursuit** of financial success |
| Grammar                | 6   | Errors with sentence structure  
, average people  **do** benefit from enjoying a better quality of life.  
, the overall economy  **will be** booming  
and throw them away and it is not only a waste of money and  **it is** also a cause of environmental problem.  
Errors with articles (a, an, the) you can do a quiz here:  
To sum up, a consumer society has made the majority of people more materialistic  
Passive form needed  
subject verb agreement |
| overall                | 6-6.5 | You need to make it clearer where you give your opinion  
Reduce common errors with vocabulary and grammar to ensure you can get to 7 in these areas. |

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