Fill in the gaps with the words from the box:

frivolous	lap of luxury	strapped	insatiable
emulate	lavish	takes precedence	intrinsic

In a society plagued by substance abuse, 1)_____ spending habits and people who are 2)_____ for time and money, it is no wonder that hedonistic philosophy has become so popular. After all, who wouldn't want to live in the 3)_____ enjoying life to the fullest? But as appealing as this may sound, I cannot buy into this hedonistic philosophy. Don't get me wrong! Far be it from me to deny that happiness and pleasure are important aspects of a fulfilling life, but I truly believe that 4)_____ satisfaction comes not from the pursuit of one's own pleasure, but from the gratification you get from doing something for someone else. Unfortunately, hedonism seems to diminish the importance of genuine human connections. Seeking individual pleasure often 5)_____ over fostering deep and meaningful relationships. Another aspect that surprises me about hedonism is the 6)_____ hunger for material possessions. Consumerism has reached alarming levels, with individuals constantly desiring the newest gadgets, fashion trends, and luxury items. Hedonistic lifestyles are further perpetuated by the rise of social media. Platforms like Instagram and TikTok allow people to showcase their 7)_____ experiences, often leading others to feel inadequate or unsatisfied with their own lives. It sends a signal that such a lifestyle is not only attainable but also desirable. As a result, people are influenced to 8)_____ these hedonistic behaviours, further fuelling the abundance of such lifestyles in our society.

The Elegant English Club
C1 & C2
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