

VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT ex. 6

1 And so we had, as was **the norm**, live-in domestic help, who would often come from nearby rural villages.

- a the thing people aspired to
- b the usual thing
- c the middle class way

2 I was **startled**. It had not occurred to me that anybody in his family could actually make something.

- a ashamed
- b surprised
- c encouraged

3 Her **default** position toward me, as an African, was a kind of patronizing, well-meaning pity.

- a friendly or caring
- b necessary or compulsory
- c standard or automatic

4 Although I still get quite **irritable** when Africa is referred to as a country, ...

- a defensive
- b annoyed
- c confused

5 There were endless stories of Mexicans as people who were **fleeing** the healthcare system, ...

- a taking money from or using unfairly
- b avoiding using something
- c causing something not to work

6 ... **sneaking** across the border, being arrested at the border, that sort of thing.

- a moving secretly
- b coming in large numbers
- c travelling openly

7 ... we have big dreams of building libraries and **refurbishing** libraries that already exist ...

- a restocking
- b renovating
- c re-opening

Ex. 7

- 1 And for many years afterwards, I would have a _____ **desire** to taste ginger beer.
- 2 But the _____ **consequence** was that I didn't know that people like me could exist in literature.
- 3 So, the year I _____ **eight**, we got a new house boy. His name was Fide.
- 4 Now, the _____ **wisdom** was that Nigerians don't read literature.
- 5 ... it is 'nkali'. It's a noun that _____ **translates** to 'to be greater than another'.
- 6 ... such as the fact that 5,000 people apply for one **job** _____ in Nigeria.
- 7 The consequence of the single story is this: it **robs** people _____ dignity.
- 8 ... a remarkable man who left his job in a bank to _____ **his dream** and start a publishing house.

7 Complete the sentences in your own words. Then compare your sentences with a partner.

- 1 Unusual facts about foreign countries? I was pretty startled when I learned that ...
- 2 It's the norm when you travel abroad to ...
- 3 You can avoid being fleeced by dishonest taxi drivers if you ...
- 4 I'm not normally an irritable person, except when ...

5 Complete the conversations with the correct form of the verb.

1

A: Would you rather ¹ _____ (go) out to eat tonight or would you prefer ² _____ (me / cook) something here?

B: I don't mind, really, but if we are staying in, I'd just as soon ³ _____ (not / have) pasta again.

2

A: I prefer ¹ _____ (snowboard) to ² _____ (ski). What about you?

B: I don't really like either. I'd sooner ³ _____ (spend) my money on a nice summer holiday.

3

A: Would you prefer ¹ _____ (call) Jake or shall I?

B: I'd rather you ² _____ (do) it, if that's OK. I need to leave for work.

A: Oh, yes it has got quite late. Do you think it'd be better ³ _____ (wait) and call him later?

6 Correct the mistake in each sentence.

1 She is most naturally gifted student in the class.

2 Please can you speak quieter? I'm trying to concentrate.

3 The journey takes twice longer by car as it does on the train.

4 The sooner he arrives, the sooner can the meeting start.

5 The more complicated the idea is, more it is difficult to convince other people of it.

6 I'd rather we leave going to the movies for another night.