

I can understand an article about the Amish community.

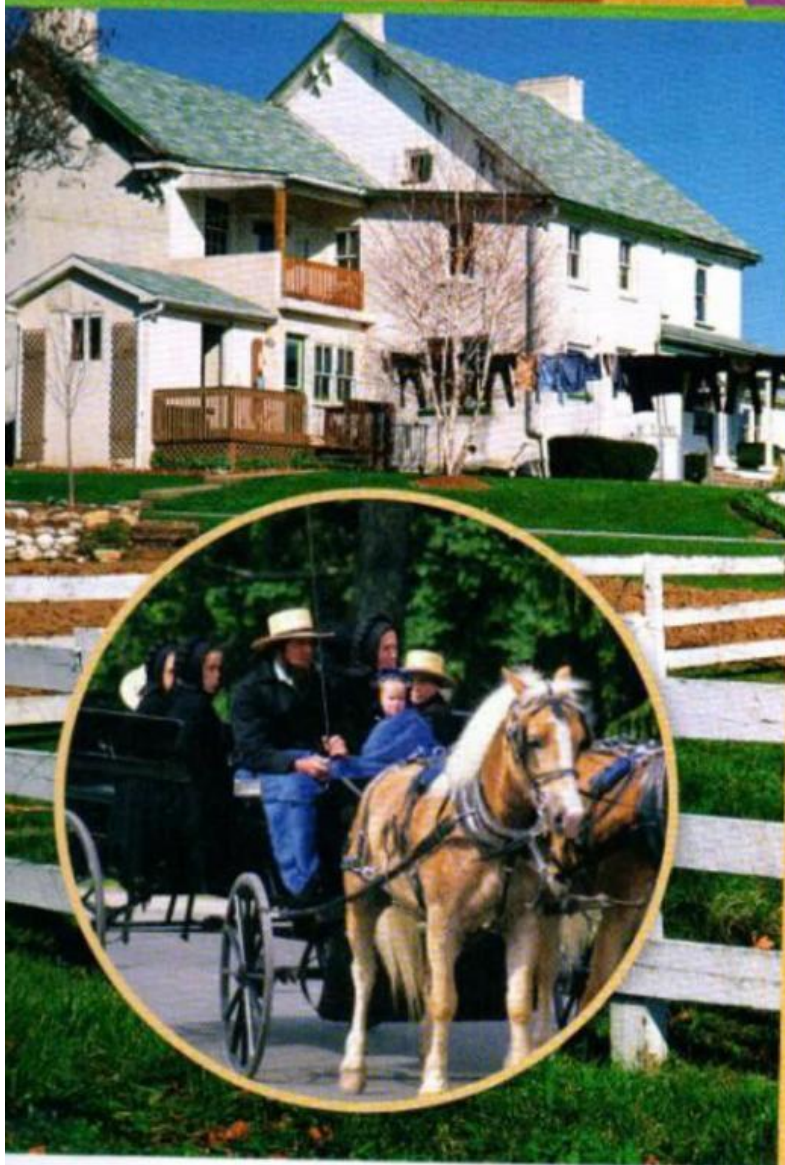
1 **SPEAKING** Look at the photos. Do the people look modern or old-fashioned? What is unusual about them?

2 Read the text. Match paragraph headings 1–4 with paragraphs A–C. There is one heading that you do not need.

- 1 Work and play
- 2 Special occasions and ceremonies
- 3 Growing up
- 4 Origins and appearance



A SIMPLE LIFE



A

The Amish are a group of religious communities. They are originally from Europe, but they now live in the USA and Canada. Because of their history, they don't speak English at home – they speak an old-fashioned German. Amish families are usually large, with six or seven children. Their clothes are the same as the first Amish families 300 years ago. The men wear black hats and dark suits. The women wear long dresses and black shoes. All married men have a beard, but no moustache. Their wives have long hair, but they always cover it.

B

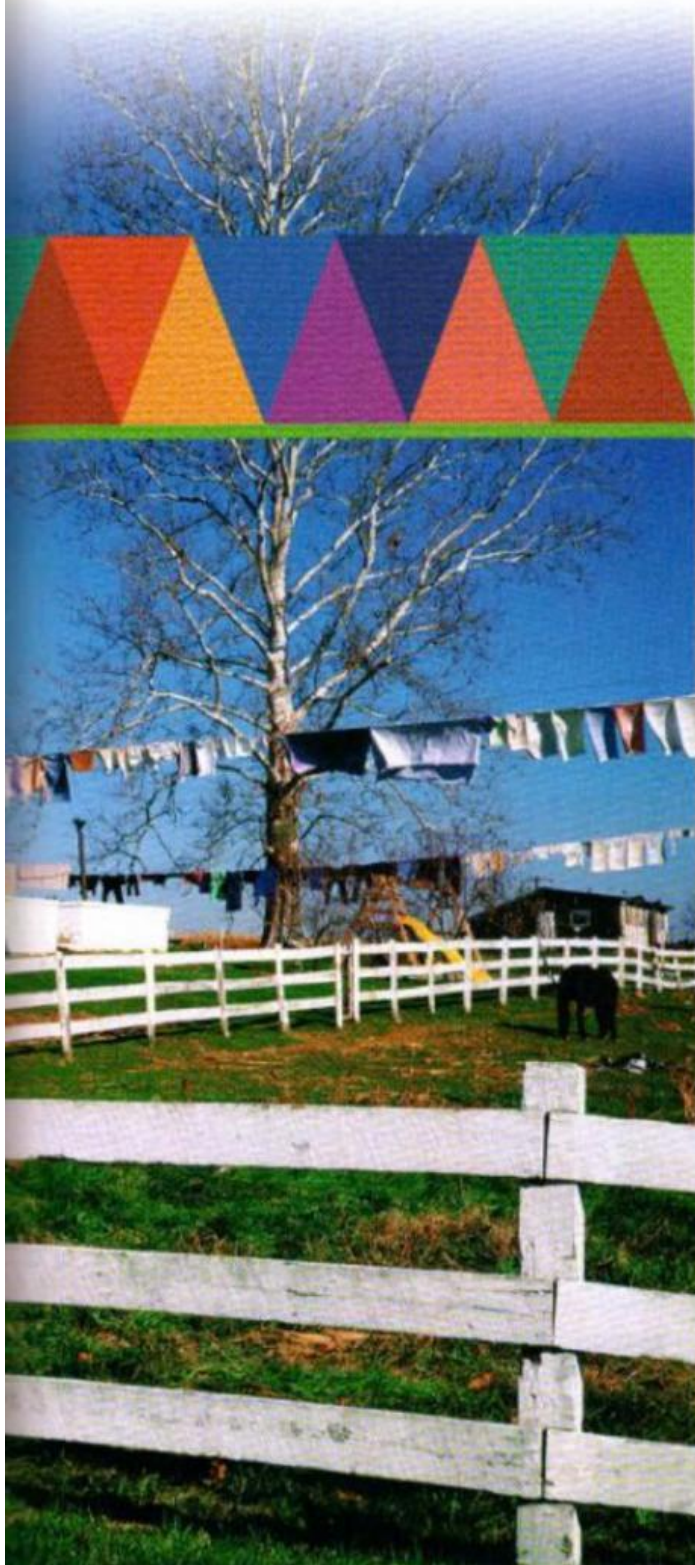
Life is not easy for Amish families. They get up at five o'clock in the morning and start work. The men work on the farm. The women do the housework, prepare food and make clothes. Amish homes don't use electricity or modern technology, so the housework and farm jobs take a long time. They finish work in the evening and then the family all have dinner together. After dinner, they relax. But they don't watch TV or listen to music and they don't use computers or telephones. So they read or sing songs together. They go to bed early.

C

The children go to school. The teachers are all Amish. Children leave school when they are fourteen years old and help their parents on the farm or in the home. However, when they are sixteen, Amish children are free to travel, go to parties, use cars and meet people outside their community. This is called 'Rumspringa'. After Rumspringa, they decide whether to stay with the Amish community or leave it. About four out of five choose to stay and find an Amish husband or wife.

EXAM STRATEGY

When you answer multiple-choice questions, read the whole question, including all of the options, then look for the information in the text. When you have found the correct place in the text, read the options again carefully and compare them with the text before deciding which is correct.



3 Read the exam strategy. Then read the text again and choose the correct answers.

- 1 The Amish don't live in
a Europe. b the USA. c Canada.
- 2 Amish husbands don't have
a hats. b beards. c moustaches.
- 3 Amish women don't wear
a shoes. b short skirts. c dresses.
- 4 After dinner, Amish families
a don't relax.
b don't sing or read.
c don't use computers.
- 5 Amish children leave school when they are
a twelve years old.
b fourteen years old.
c sixteen years old.
- 6 After Rumspringa, four out of five Amish teenagers
a don't stay in the community.
b don't leave the community.
c don't find a husband or wife.

4 **VOCABULARY** Complete the everyday activities with the verbs below. Then check your answers in the text. Underline the everyday activities in the text.

do finish get go go have prepare start use

Everyday activities

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 _____ up | 6 _____ work |
| 2 _____ the housework | 7 _____ computers |
| 3 _____ dinner/lunch/breakfast | 8 _____ to bed |
| 4 _____ food | 9 _____ to school |
| 5 _____ work | |

5 Complete the sentences about the Amish community. Use the correct affirmative or negative form of the verbs in exercise 4.

- 1 The children don't go to school when they are fifteen years old.
- 2 Amish men and women _____ work early in the morning and _____ work in the evening.
- 3 Amish people _____ computers.
- 4 The men _____ the housework.
- 5 People _____ up early in Amish communities.
- 6 The women _____ food during the day.
- 7 The men _____ dinner alone.
- 8 The Amish _____ to bed very late.

6 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. What do you think about the life of the Amish? Give examples from the text to explain your opinion. Use the adjectives below to help you.

boring / interesting modern / old-fashioned easy / hard

I think their life is boring/
interesting because ...

In my opinion, their life
is easy/hard because ...