Changes in My Island

Long ago, the men of our islands made a living from sponging. The sponges were harvested from the seabed. It was difficult work. Men and women also made a living by farming. There was no electricity in the islands. There were only a few motor vehicles. People got around on horses.

At nights, they played games like dominoes and checkers. Today, things are different. Only a few people farm. Many people work in banks, offices, and large companies. We have electricity in our houses. We use television, videos, microwaves, irons, satellites and other electrical appliances. We use cars, trucks, buses, and boats.



Sorting Sponges



Bay Street scene

After the sponges had been gotten from the sea, they were prepared for sale. They were clipped in neat shapes. Sponges were sold to merchants and exported all over the world. Things are very different today.

Many children and grandchildren are living in the house their parents once lived in. Many of them work in banks or operate guesthouses. There is a television, a DVD player, a computer, and other electrical appliances. Most people have cars. They sometimes fly to Miami to do their shopping and visit friends.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Date: _____

1. Long ago men and women made a living by__ (1)

a. sponging and farming b. shopping and buying

2. Where were the sponges exported? [1]

_____

3. A sponger man is a (1)

a. a man who makes a living by collecting sponges from the sea bed.
b. a man who goes fishing
c. c man who goes farming

4. Export means (1)
   a. sell things to another country
   b. Sell things to your friends
   c. Sell things to school

5. Where do people today do their shopping? (2)

_____

6. Define the term merchant from the passage. (1)

_____

7. Complete the chart below to compare how people live long ago and how they live today. [6]

Things that were done	People long ago	People today
What was used for transportation?		
Where did they work?		
What was done for entertainment?		

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