The Sea Nomads

Moken sea nomads in the Andaman Sea



The Moken people are sea nomads. For most of the year, they live on their boats in the Andaman Sea, and they catch fish and other animals for their food. They **sell** some of the fish and use the money to buy important things, such as rice and **fuel** for their boats.

The Moken people have lived this way for hundreds of years. They don't have electricity or stoves, but they cook their food in pots over fires in their boats. Many Moken children learn to swim before they can walk. Because they live on the water and spend so much time in the water, the Moken people have special skills. They can **dive** very **deep** and stay underwater for a very long time. They can also see better underwater than most other people. This helps them to find fish and tiny shellfish on the sea floor.

Today, things are changing for the Moken people. Many have already moved to small villages. They haven't stopped fishing in the sea, but their way of life is very different now.

Scan the text. Check (✓) the sentence that best describes the Moken people today.

A. Today, some Moken people live on boats and some live in villages. ____
B. The Moken people live on their boats, and their lives haven't changed at all. ____
C. Today, all Moken people live in villages. ____

Read again. Answer the questions.

1. How do the Moken people get money for rice and fuel?

_____

2. How do they cook their food?

_____

3. Name three things that the Moken people can do better than most other people.

_____

_____

_____

4. Do the Moken people fish in the ocean today?

_____

Match the words with the definitions.

Deep dive	**fuel**	**geography**	**language**
leave		**sell**	

1. To go away from a place

_____

2. English, Spanish, and Japanese are examples. _____

3. The study of the Earth

_____

4. What you need to make a car or a motorboat move

_____

5. To give things to people for money

_____

6. To go into water head first

_____

7. Far from the top of something

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS