

ENGLISH VILLAGE LIFE

For some people, life in an English village is a form of retreat, allowing them to live closer to nature in a relaxed and peaceful setting. Others, who perhaps are more accustomed to the hustle and bustle of city life, may feel more (1) _____ about living in a quiet and perhaps more isolated place and consider the idea of everyone knowing each other quite bizarre. However, it is this notion of a (2) _____ community which is often a striking difference between city and country life. Knowing everyone near where you live and having (3) _____ respect for your neighbours in a small community does, in effect, (4) _____. If someone needs help or is ill, they will find themselves in a (5) _____ position where they feel well supported. You could say that (6) _____ is a fundamental aspect of survival in such places. Villagers tend to (7) _____ keeping their communities thriving through (8) _____ with each other, maintaining social clubs and events, and keeping the local amenities running. If you visit any English village, you come across an eclectic mix of characters. Whilst you can expect some rather (9) _____ landowners to be influential in village parish matters, you will also get to talk to people from all (10) _____ of life. Living in a village might not be everyone's cup of tea but one thing's for sure, there is a lot to be said for it.

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|----|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1 | A suspicious | B troubled | C apprehensive | D mistrustful |
| 2 | A close-knit | B jam-packed | C thickset | D close-up |
| 3 | A collective | B two-sided | C mutual | D returned |
| 4 | A pay for | B pay off | C work off | D work for |
| 5 | A grateful | B suitable | C respective | D favourable |
| 6 | A connecting | B networking | C associating | D corresponding |
| 7 | A take pride in | B make proud of | C be proud in | D have pride for |
| 8 | A conjoining | B contacting | C liaising | D attaching |
| 9 | A plentiful | B abundant | C sustaining | D affluent |
| 10 | A genres | B walks | C characters | D breeds |

2 For questions 1–6, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line.

The cast felt somewhat (1) _____ on discovering that they would ILLUSION

mostly be performing to audiences who had been (2) _____ free tickets ALLOCATE

to encourage attendance. Although it was customary for such tickets to be

given out, it was usually in (3) _____ and kept to a minimum. Given the MODERATE

theatre company's limited funds, it was generally agreed that this was an

(4) _____ position to be put in. However, the reality was that their director FAVOUR

had walked out and for now they were essentially (5) _____. DIRECT

Had one of them been (6) _____ the director over the last months, they SHADOW

might have had a better idea of how to turn things around. Sadly, this was not

3 For questions 1–9, underline the correct form of the verb in italics in the following paragraph.

After much deliberation, it (1) *was / has been / was being* finally suggested last Friday that the old St James community hall (2) *is being / could be / should be* renovated. The St James newsletter, which will be circulated next week, (3) *is providing / will provide / would provide* further details of the plans that (4) *have proposed / have been proposed / must have been proposed* and also include computer-generated images of the hall as it is expected to look on completion of the works. Local historians (5) *have / have been / had* recommended that the hall's many historical features be retained and the council (6) *will support / was supporting / has supported* this by stipulating that all key features (7) *should have been / must be / are being* preserved in the architectural plans submitted. Local residents, who (8) *had been / had being / are* worried that the hall would inevitably be demolished, say they are delighted with the outcome. So much so, that they (9) *now establish / would now establish / are now establishing* a local committee to take responsibility for the upkeep of the hall.