

UNIT 1 – THE ANCIENT MAYANS

Lesson 5

HAMMOCKS

Thousands of years ago, the Mayans used the bark from hammack trees to make a special kind of bed. These beds were hammocks. People used them to sit on or to sleep in. They were light and easy to carry. The Mayans often moved from place to place, and they didn't want to carry heavy things.

The Mayans lived in rainforests. The weather was hot and there were lots of bugs, so it was difficult to sleep. Hammocks were perfect beds for the Mayans, because they weren't on the ground.

At first, only people in hot countries had hammocks, but then a man called Christopher Columbus took hammocks to Europe. Soon, sailors on ships started to sleep in hammocks, because they were soft and comfortable.

Today, Mayan people in Central America still make hammocks, and people all over the world buy them to use in their backyards or homes.

Look around in Viet Nam and it is easy to see people reading, sleeping, and drinking in hammocks. They are everywhere — in people's houses, in cafés, and at the beach. Does your family have a hammock?



A. Choose the correct word.

1. Hammocks were **heavy** / **light** and easy to carry.
2. The Mayans didn't want to carry **heavy** / **light** things.
3. It was **difficult** / **easy** to sleep in the rainforests.
4. Hammocks were **hard** / **soft** and comfortable.
5. It is **easy** / **difficult** to see hammocks in Viet Nam.

B. Read the text again. Tick (✓) the correct box.

1. How did Mayans make hammocks?
A by changing their beds
B by using tree bark
C by using leaves in the rainforest
2. Where did hammocks start?
A in hot countries
B in the rainforest
C in Europe
3. Why were hammocks useful in the rainforest?
A Because the Mayans were traveling.
B Because the Mayans could sit on them.
C Because hammocks were not on the ground.
4. Why do Vietnamese people like to use hammocks?
A Because they are expensive.
B Because they are comfortable
C Because they are heavy.

Lesson 6

C. Drag and drop.

cooked

helped

stayed

studied

were

used

was



There (1)**was**....only one room in a Mayan home. Everyone (2) this room for eating and sleeping. There (3) no chairs and tables. There (4) one door. Girls (5) at home and helped their mothers. They didn't go to school. They (6) the food and cleaned the home. Boys (7) their fathers on the land. Only boys from rich families (8) at school. They studied reading, writing, and math.