

THE PEOPLE OF VIETNAM



Reading 2

Vietnam is a multiethnic country with 54 ethnic groups. The Viet (Kinh) people account for 87% of the country's population and mainly inhabit the Red River delta, the central coastal delta, the Mekong delta and major cities. The other 53 ethnic minority groups, totaling over 8 million people, are scattered over mountain areas spreading from the North to the South. Among ethnic minorities, the most populated are Tay, Thai, Muong, Hoa, Khmer, Nung... with a population of around 1 million each; while the least populated are Brau, Roman, Odu with several hundred people each.

The main economic activity of most ethnic peoples is wet rice cultivation. A number of ethnic minorities had mastered some farming techniques. They grew rice plants in swamped paddy fields and carried out irrigation. Others go hunting, fishing, collecting and live a semi-nomadic life. Each group has its own culture that is diverse and special. Beliefs and religions of the Vietnamese ethnic minority groups are also disparate from each other.



- 
- 1. How many ethnic groups are there in Vietnam?**
 - 2. Where do the Kinh people mostly live?**
 - 3. What is the population of the Tay?**
 - 4. Which ethnic groups have the smallest population?**
 - 5. What do most ethnic peoples mainly live on?**
 - 6. Do the ethnic minority groups have the same culture, religion and belief?**
 - 7. How is the culture of each ethnic group?**

