



READING

VII. Read the following passage about Maggie and Claudia's opinions of countryside life in the UK, and choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

Maggie

Maggie is from Shanghai and moved to live in a village near York. The village life here is wonderful. There is a great sense of community. Neighbours often greet each other in the street and the post office is the main place of contact. It's more relaxed and you can't tell who has money and who hasn't.

The residents of my village are hardly multi-cultural, and they seem easy going. Even if local people are curious about my background, so far no one has said anything. English people don't ask direct questions, they go around the moon to meet the sun. Children, however, are much more direct.

Claudia

Claudia is working in East Asia, moved to live in England. It's more difficult to live in the countryside due to the isolation. For internationals who are used to city life like me, living in an English country village presents challenges. There aren't so many facilities as in a city and transport links aren't so well-developed. It can also be harder to find communities that have similar ideas and interests.

(Adapted from: <https://expatica.com>)

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1. Maggie and Claudia are _____.
 A. international students B. local British
 C. born British D. internationals
2. According to Maggie, village life in the UK is _____.
 A. stressful B. full of discrimination
 C. full of sense of community D. full of communication
3. People in Maggie village _____.
 A. come from different cultures B. almost have the same culture
 C. are hard to communicate with D. seem difficult
4. According to Maggie, English people _____.
 A. are straightforward B. often beat around the bush
 C. often travel around the moon D. like to go to the sun
5. Which of the following is NOT true of Claudia's case?
 A. She feels lonely in British village.
 B. She has difficulties living in the village.
 C. It's easy for her to get people of same interests.
 D. Transport links in UK villages are not well-developed.



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VIII. Read the following passage and decide if the statements are true (T), false (F), or not given (NG).

The countryside of England in the summer is like a large well-kept garden that stretches on forever. For centuries landowners and local people have turned every part of England into something unusual in landscapes and local cultures.

The countryside of England today shows the wealth of landowners and success of people who tried to escape the luxury of city life. According to a recent survey, some 80% of Britain's population dream of living in the countryside, while only 20% actually live there.

English village communities are small and often eccentric. They are, however warm and usually welcoming. They also show the local charms of the 'English character'. The local post office or shop is the communications hub of every village. They also have old pubs and the village pub offers an opportunity for new comers to get to know local culture. But the heart of many rural communities remains a village church. Around these churches there are many community activities, from village funfair, council meetings to flower arranging.

(Source: <https://expatica.com>)

UNIT 2. LIFE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

15



Statements	T	F	NG
1. The landscape and culture of England is very special.			
2. More Brits live in the countryside than in the city.			
3. English villages are large and modern.			
4. Pubs are places for people to come to learn about the local culture.			
5. The churches play an important role for English village communities.			

IX. Read the passage and choose the correct answer A, B, C, or D.

With a history dating back 7 centuries, Bat Trang is famous for its traditional porcelain and pottery making. (1) _____ in the heart of the Red River Delta, Bat Trang had trades with Japan, China and even the Western countries.

Based (2) _____ a rich clay area, Bat Trang possessed an advantage to produce high-quality ceramics, serving various demands including housewares, fine-art ceramics and worshipping items. The secret technique is conserved and passed through multiple generations, leaving Bat Trang one of the (3) _____ exporters of ceramics in Viet Nam.

A visit to a handicraft village usually means a (4) _____ experience, and there's no difference in Bat Trang. After strolling around the market and gazing at meticulous artworks, you will have a chance to try making them yourself. Pottery (5) _____ is not as easy as it looks. Also, be careful, or else you will get addicted and spend a whole day just to play with pots and clays, like many other tourists.

(Source: <https://vietnamdiscovery.com>)

A. Located	B. Lie	C. Stand	D. Stay
A. in	B. on	C. at	D. around
A. most	B. head	C. leading	D. leader
A. second-hand	B. first	C. hands-on	D. second
A. making	B. shaping	C. doing	D. playing

SPEAKING

X. Choose the best option A, B, or C to indicate the most suitable response to complete each of the following exchanges.

1. - Mark: Where do you prefer to live? In the countryside or in the city?

- Mai: _____



NG

A. I prefer life in the countryside.
 B. It's not my taste.
 C. I dislike city's hustle and bustle.

2. - Minh: How often do you visit your hometown?
 - Tim: _____
 A. I don't like it.
 B. That's in the middle of nowhere.
 C. Once in a blue moon.

3. - Mi: The landscapes of your village are so picturesque!
 - Ann: _____ I love it.
 A. Yes. It is second to none.
 B. Yes. It is 100 years old.
 C. Certainly

4. - Mark: What is the most common job in your village?
 - Minh: _____
 A. Working. B. Farming. C. Farmers.

5. - Sue: What is the main leisure activity for children in your village?
 - Mai: _____
 A. I'm sorry, I don't know.
 B. They play traditional games.
 C. They don't like any games.

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LISTENING

XI. Listen to a talk between Tom and Mai about Cat Cat village and fill the blank with ONE word. 

The village name	Cat Cat
Inhabitants	The Mong
Important jobs	Weaving brocades and (1) _____
The brocades	Different sizes, colours and (2) _____
Local produce	(3) _____ and rice
Houses	(4) _____ houses; wooden (5) _____



XII. Listen to Minh talking about the market in his area, and decide if each of the following statements is T (True) or F (False). 

Statements	T	F
1. Main activities of Cai Rang market is from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.		
2. Each seller sells one kind of food on their wooden rowboats.		
3. The rowboats are large and of the same size.		
4. People can buy anything from fruits to specialities of Mekong Delta.		
5. In the market, there are also floating restaurants with experienced chefs.		

XIII. Listen and choose the correct answer A, B, or C. 

1. Binh Dinh has _____ of coastline.
 - A. 30 km
 - B. 13 km
 - C. 130 km
2. The life of people here is _____.
 - A. rustic and simple
 - B. simple and hard
 - C. hard and rustic
3. Women in fishing villages often _____.
 - A. go to sea with husbands
 - B. get up early to do fishing
 - C. help to get extra incomes
4. The life of the inhabitants here depends on _____.
 - A. their mothers
 - B. the nature
 - C. the gifts of others
5. People live in _____.
 - A. competition
 - B. harmony
 - C. stress



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	F

WRITING

**XIV. Write the sentences from the prompts about life in the countryside.
You may have to make appropriate changes.**



1. Life / countryside / have / many / advantage.
→ _____
2. The pace / life / here / much / slow / than / that / city.
→ _____
3. Villagers / don't / have / compete / hard.
→ _____
4. Although / they / not have / good facility / have / fresh air / picturesque sceneries.
→ _____
5. Many / here / happy / country bumpkin / way / life.
→ _____

XV. Finish the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one. Use the given words.

1. Despite poorer living conditions, their life is much more relaxing. (although)
→ _____
2. Though she works in a big city, she often thinks about her beautiful days in that small village. (despite)
→ _____
3. She doesn't intend to go away from her town. (intention)
→ _____
4. Most young people leave their hometown for big cities to seek jobs. (in order to)
→ _____
5. The farmers work from dawn to dusk, however, they can't earn enough to have a comfortable life. (but)
→ _____

