TA9. U6. A Vietnamese lifestyle: then and now – Reading 1

Text 1: Vietnamese Lifestyle: A Journey Through Time

Vietnamese lifestyle has undergone significant changes over the past decades. Traditionally, people lived in extended families, where several generations stayed under one roof. This family-oriented lifestyle emphasized respect for elders and strong connections among family members. In contrast, today's trend leans more towards nuclear families, where privacy and independence are prioritized.

In the past, daily life revolved around simple, natural materials. Farmers used traditional tools for agriculture, and people relied on oil lamps for lighting. Modern life, however, has replaced these with hi-tech appliances and advanced designs, making living conditions more convenient.

Education also reflects these shifts. Students once depended heavily on memorizing textbooks, but modern education focuses on active learning and professional training, providing opportunities to pursue various careers. Similarly, outdoor activities and traditional games like kite flying have been replaced by digital entertainment.

Despite these changes, some aspects of Vietnamese culture remain constant. The popularity of traditional costumes and family gatherings highlights the importance of preserving heritage, even as lifestyles evolve.

1. What kind of family was common in traditional Vietnamese lifestyle?
   a. Nuclear
   b. Extended
   c. Independent
   d. Western
2. What tool did farmers traditionally use?
   a. Hi-tech appliances
   b. Oil lamps
   c. Traditional farming tools
   d. Electric machines
3. What is emphasized in nuclear families?
   a. Privacy
   b. Respect for elders
   c. Outdoor activities
   d. Strong family connections
4. How do students learn in modern education?
   a. Memorize textbooks
   b. Active learning
   c. Play outdoors
   d. Use oil lamps
5. What has digital entertainment replaced?
   a. Traditional games
   b. Professional training

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c. Traditional costumes
d. Family-oriented habits

6. What is one constant aspect of Vietnamese culture?
   a. Outdoor activities
   b. Traditional costumes
   c. Nuclear families
   d. Oil lamps
7. What has replaced oil lamps in modern life?
   a. Textbooks
   b. Western trends
   c. Natural materials
   d. Hi-tech appliances
8. What does professional training provide?
   a. Privacy
   b. Memorization
   c. Opportunities
   d. Respect
9. What lifestyle values did extended families emphasize?
   a. Independence
   b. Strong connections
   c. Privacy
   d. Hi-tech designs
10. What has replaced traditional tools in farming?
   a. Professional training
   b. Western tools
   c. Democratic trends
   d. Advanced designs

Text 2: From Tradition to Modernity

The transition from traditional to modern lifestyles in Vietnam reflects a changing society. In the past, lifestyles were simple and community-based, with people depending on each other for support. Today, individuals are more independent and prioritize personal freedom, reflecting a more democratic way of living.

In education, students once had to memorise lessons from limited resources, such as old textbooks. Now, they take notes on laptops and enjoy interactive learning methods, showing how opportunities have grown with innovation.

Family structures have also evolved. While the extended family used to be the norm, nuclear families are now more popular. This change has created a gap between generations as younger people adopt western trends in living and thinking.

Traditionally, monks and artisans dyed fabrics with natural materials to create beautiful clothing. However, industrialization has replaced these methods with faster, less personal

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production techniques. Despite these changes, traditional Vietnamese performances and costumes retain their cultural significance.

Transportation has shifted, too. Riding a buffalo, once a common sight, has given way to motorbikes and cars. These changes show how Vietnamese people continue to adapt while holding on to their unique traditions.

1. What kind of lifestyle was common in traditional Vietnam?
   a. Democratic
   b. Community-based
   c. Western
   d. Independent
2. How do students take notes today?
   a. On laptops
   b. By memorizing textbooks
   c. Using traditional tools
   d. Through natural materials
3. What is more common now than extended families?
   a. Privacy
   b. Monks and artisans
   c. Western lifestyles
   d. Nuclear families
4. What has replaced traditional fabric-dyeing methods?
   a. Motorbikes
   b. Oil lamps
   c. Democratic processes
   d. Industrial techniques
5. What does personal freedom reflect in modern Vietnam?
   a. Western trends
   b. Democratic living
   c. Traditional games
   d. Independent farming
6. What has created a gap between generations?
   a. Adoption of western trends
   b. Use of natural materials
   c. Privacy in nuclear families
   d. Professional training
7. What remains culturally significant despite changes?
   a. Traditional performances
   b. Industrial techniques
   c. Nuclear families
   d. Motorbikes
8. What transportation method is now rare?
   a. Cars

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b. Motorbikes
c. Riding a buffalo
d. Bicycles

9. What does interactive learning symbolize?
   a. Dependence on old textbooks
   b. Growth in opportunities
   c. Traditional education
   d. Memorization techniques
10. What kind of material was used by artisans to dye fabrics?
   a. Western tools
   b. Professional appliances
   c. Natural materials
   d. Democratic methods

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