

TA9. U6. A Vietnamese lifestyle: then and now – Reading 2

Text 1: Vietnamese Lifestyle and Traditions

The Vietnamese lifestyle has long been deeply rooted in traditions. Extended families were common in the past, with grandparents, parents, and children all living in the same household. This family-oriented way of life ensured support and strong connections between generations. Nowadays, nuclear families have become more popular, reflecting changing lifestyles and a growing emphasis on privacy and independence.

In education, memorisation was once the main method of learning, as textbooks and resources were limited. Today, students use advanced tools and techniques, taking notes on digital devices and benefiting from professional training. These changes highlight the growing opportunities for young people to pursue their dreams in a competitive world. Cultural elements have also evolved. Traditional costumes dyed with natural materials remain significant, but industrial methods have replaced manual dyeing techniques. The popularity of traditional performances, however, continues to bridge the gap between the past and the present.

Vietnamese transportation has seen remarkable innovation. In the past, people relied on buffaloes for farming and transportation. Modern life has replaced these with motorbikes and cars, reflecting economic growth and changing societal trends.

1. What type of family was typical in traditional Vietnam?
 - a. Nuclear
 - b. Extended
 - c. Independent
 - d. Rural
2. What was the main learning method in traditional education?
 - a. Taking notes
 - b. Professional training
 - c. Memorisation
 - d. Active participation
3. What has replaced traditional fabric dyeing methods?
 - a. Traditional farming tools
 - b. Industrial techniques
 - c. Digital devices
 - d. Automated factories
4. What reflects economic growth in transportation?
 - a. Buffaloes
 - b. Motorbikes and cars
 - c. Oil lamps
 - d. Public buses
5. What does a nuclear family emphasize?
 - a. Privacy and independence
 - b. Respect for elders

- c. Support between generations
 - d. Modern trends
6. What has modern education provided young people?
- a. Privacy
 - b. Opportunities
 - c. Traditional games
 - d. Freedom to explore
7. What is still significant in Vietnamese culture?
- a. Industrial techniques
 - b. Traditional costumes
 - c. Natural materials
 - d. Folk music
8. What bridged the gap between generations?
- a. Privacy
 - b. Traditional performances
 - c. Nuclear families
 - d. Shared experiences
9. What was buffalo riding used for in the past?
- a. Education
 - b. Farming and transportation
 - c. Professional training
 - d. Carrying goods
10. What is an example of a modern lifestyle trend?
- a. Using oil lamps
 - b. Playing traditional games
 - c. Taking notes on digital devices
 - d. Relying on technology

Text 2: Vietnamese Lifestyle: Embracing Change

Over time, Vietnamese lifestyle has shifted from traditional practices to a more modern approach. In earlier generations, life revolved around simplicity. Households were dependent on natural materials, such as bamboo and clay, to construct homes. Today, these have been replaced by contemporary designs and hi-tech appliances, making homes more comfortable.

In terms of relationships, the family-oriented culture of the past emphasized strong ties in extended families. However, the modern trend of nuclear families has created a gap in how generations interact. This shift highlights the influence of western lifestyles and the need for privacy in today's society.

Education has also undergone a transformation. Students now have the opportunity to pursue higher education through diverse methods, such as professional training and online courses. Memorisation has given way to active learning, enabling learners to develop critical thinking skills.

Cultural elements, though changing, retain their significance. Monks, who once dyed fabrics with natural materials, symbolize Vietnam's rich history. Meanwhile, traditional games and outdoor activities have largely been replaced by digital entertainment. Despite these changes, the Vietnamese continue to cherish their heritage, blending modern conveniences with respect for tradition. The promise of progress is evident in every aspect of life, from transportation to social norms.

1. What were homes traditionally built with?
 - a. Hi-tech appliances
 - b. Natural materials
 - c. Contemporary designs
 - d. Bamboo and clay
2. What type of families were common in traditional Vietnam?
 - a. Extended families
 - b. Nuclear families
 - c. Independent households
 - d. Multigenerational families
3. What has influenced the shift to nuclear families?
 - a. Privacy and western lifestyles
 - b. Economic development
 - c. Natural materials
 - d. Traditional farming tools
4. What does active learning help students develop?
 - a. Memorisation skills
 - b. Privacy
 - c. Critical thinking
 - d. Practical skills
5. What symbolizes Vietnam's rich history?
 - a. Monks dyeing fabrics
 - b. Digital devices
 - c. Online courses
 - d. Traditional crafts
6. What has replaced traditional games?
 - a. Nuclear families
 - b. Video games
 - c. Oil lamps
 - d. Digital entertainment
7. What is evident in Vietnam's promise of progress?
 - a. Dependence on natural materials
 - b. Innovations in transportation
 - c. Memorisation techniques
 - d. Educational reforms

8. What does modern education provide?
 - a. Limited resources
 - b. Traditional tools
 - c. Opportunities
 - d. Advanced methods
9. What created a gap in generational interaction?
 - a. The rise of nuclear families
 - b. Privacy and independence
 - c. Dependence on natural materials
 - d. Changes in cultural values
10. What combines modern life and heritage in Vietnam?
 - a. Respect for tradition and modern conveniences
 - b. Digital tools and professional training
 - c. Outdoor activities and critical thinking
 - d. Traditional performances and modern trends