

growing rice, and raising animals. In many places, people also make handicrafts such as bamboo baskets, conical hats, or pottery to earn extra money. These products are sold in local markets and attract many visitors. Villagers usually live close to one another in small, friendly communities. They often help their neighbours during harvest time or when someone builds a new house. This strong sense of cooperation makes rural life warm and supportive. In the North, people grow rice and tea on terraced fields. In the Central Highlands, they plant coffee and rubber trees, while fishermen in the South spend their days at sea. Houses in the South are often built on stilts to stay safe from floods during the rainy season. The countryside is **peaceful**, with green fields, clean rivers, and fresh air. Although it is not as **modern** as the city, many people prefer it because it is calm, healthy, and close to nature.

(Source: Adapted from Vietnam Discovery Travel – vietnamdiscovery.com)

1. What is the passage mainly about?

- A. The peaceful lifestyle of people in the countryside.
- B. The modern lifestyle of people in big cities.
- C. The fast growth of tourism in rural areas.
- D. The history and development of farming in Vietnam.

2. What do villagers do to earn extra income?

- A. They make traditional handicraft products.
- B. They build new houses for each other.
- C. They travel to nearby towns for work.
- D. They open small cafés and restaurants.

3. Why are houses in the South built on stilts?

- A. To follow a very old building custom.
- B. To protect from wild animals nearby.
- C. To get more sunshine and fresh air.
- D. To avoid floods during the rainy season.

4. Which statement is NOT TRUE according to the passage?

- A. People in the Central Highlands grow coffee.
- B. Fishermen in the South go fishing at sea.
- C. Villagers often help each other in daily life.
- D. Countryside people never support their neighbours.

5. The word “peaceful” in the passage is CLOSEST in meaning to ____.

- | | | | |
|----------|---------|------------|----------|
| A. quiet | B. busy | C. crowded | D. noisy |
|----------|---------|------------|----------|

6. The word “modern” is OPPOSITE in meaning to ____.

- | | | | |
|-----------|--------|------------|-----------|
| A. bustle | B. new | C. ancient | D. boring |
|-----------|--------|------------|-----------|

Passage 2

THE VALUE OF LEISURE TIME

In today’s fast-moving world, people often think being busy means being successful. However, leisure time plays a **vital** role in keeping our minds and bodies healthy. Leisure time doesn’t mean wasting hours doing nothing—it’s about spending time on activities that make us happy, creative, and relaxed.

There are many ways people around the world use their free time. In Japan, after long working hours, many people go to karaoke bars or join hobby clubs to release stress. In Australia, families often spend weekends on the beach, surfing or having barbecues. In the United States, hiking, cycling, and camping are popular weekend activities. Teenagers like to play sports, watch movies, or meet friends at cafés.

In Vietnam, leisure time is often shared with family and friends. People love playing badminton in the evening, chatting over coffee, or visiting local parks. Older people prefer gardening or doing morning exercises. These activities not only bring joy but also strengthen relationships between people.

Having leisure time helps us balance our busy lives. It allows our brains to rest and encourages creativity. People who enjoy regular leisure activities are usually more positive and **productive**. In short, using free time wisely can make life healthier and more meaningful.

(Source: Adapted from Reader’s Digest & Culture Trip)

1. What is the main purpose of the passage?