Reading 1: Preserving Traditional Crafts in Vietnam

Vietnam is home to many traditional craft villages. For generations, local people have developed special skills in making pottery, weaving fabric, producing wooden products and creating handmade decorations. These crafts are not simply ways of earning a living; they are also valuable parts of the country's cultural heritage. One well-known example is a traditional weaving village in northern Vietnam. Visitors can watch local craftsmen working with colourful threads and learn how to create simple patterns. Some workshops even allow tourists to try weaving themselves. Through these face-to-face experiences, visitors gain a better understanding of the time and effort required to produce handmade items.

However, traditional craft villages face several challenges. Many young people prefer working in modern industries because **they** believe these jobs offer better opportunities. As a result, some traditional skills are at risk of disappearing. In addition, handmade products sometimes struggle to compete with cheaper factory-made goods.

To protect these valuable traditions, local communities and authorities have introduced different activities. They organise cultural festivals, open craft workshops and encourage schools to include local traditions in educational programmes. Some villages also use social media to introduce their products to a wider audience. Preserving traditional crafts requires cooperation between different generations. Older craftsmen can pass their knowledge on to younger people, while young people can use modern technology to promote traditional products. In this way, traditional crafts can continue to develop without losing their cultural meaning.

1. What is the passage mainly about?

A. The development of modern industries in Vietnam.

B. The importance of preserving traditional crafts.

C. The disadvantages of visiting craft villages.

D. The history of Vietnamese national dishes.

2. What can visitors do in the weaving village?

A. Learn how to make factory-made products.

B. Take part in traditional weaving activities.

C. Build ancient houses.

D. Prepare food for local festivals.

3. Why are some traditional skills at risk of disappearing?

A. Young people are less interested in learning them.

B. There are too many craft workshops.

C. Visitors do not enjoy handmade products.

D. Local people have stopped organising festivals.

4. The word "they" in paragraph 3 refers to _____.

A. traditional skills B. young people C. handmade products D. local communities

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5. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a way to preserve traditional crafts?

A. Organising cultural festivals.

B. Opening craft workshops.

C. Including local traditions in school programmes.

D. Replacing handmade products with imported goods.

B. Decide whether the following statements are TRUE, FALSE or NOT GIVEN.

6. Traditional crafts are important only because they provide income for local people.

7. Visitors can learn about the process of weaving through direct experience.

8. Factory-made products are sometimes cheaper than handmade ones.

9. All young people in traditional craft villages refuse to learn traditional skills.

10. Modern technology can help promote traditional craft products.

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