Review test A: Units 1–2

Reading

Families and communities are important in all cultures and societies, and they come in many shapes and sizes. Zainebu Mbiti comes from a particularly large family. Zainebu lives with her extended family in a town in Niger, a country in northern Africa. Most people in Niger speak a language called Hausa.

As in most families, Zainebu has to help with jobs around the house. Every morning, she wakes up early to do her first job of the day. The family needs water every day, but her town doesn't have a system that delivers water to people's houses. Instead, Zainebu and her younger sister, Hannatu, have to take two large containers down to the water pump at the end of the street. There, they fill up the containers with water for their family, so that everyone can have their morning baths and their mother can do the cooking. They have to get a lot of water because their two brothers and other sister, their mother, father, grandfather, and three uncles all have to have baths. Collecting water is just Zainebu's first job of the day. She doesn't have to do housework in the middle of the day, because she goes to school, but she has to help to do the washing and cleaning when she comes home. She is usually busy until sunset.

The girls live in their father's family home, together with their mother, brothers, sisters, uncles, and grandfather. The place where they live is sometimes called a *compound*. It consists of four small houses. Zainebu and Hannatu's mother has a house. She sleeps there with her children. Their father has his own house, and their grandfather has a house, too. Nobody sleeps in the fourth house, because they use it as a kitchen. The family makes its meals there.

The family has a small farm, and it is the animals on this farm which provide them with most of their food. The nice thing about families like Zainebu's is that the members of the family all help one another with everything. If someone is ill, another member helps with the farming or looks after the children and the older people in the family. It's one of the benefits of living together as an extended family. When Zainebu is older, she might leave home and get married. She'll move to a different house and she'll be responsible for most of the housework, but her new house probably won't be far from her parents' compound.

8 Read the text about a family in Niger and choose the correct answers (*a*, *b*, *c*, or *d*).

1 Zainebu's first task of the day is important because
   - **a** it's the only way that her family can get water.
   - **b** she's the only person who knows how to get water.
   - **c** nobody can eat before she does the task.
   - **d** it's a job that only girls are allowed to do.

2 What do we know about Zainebu?
   - **a** She dislikes her younger sister.
   - **b** She goes to school in a nearby village.
   - **c** She uses more water than others in the family.
   - **d** She stops doing chores for some of the day.

3 The word *sunset* in the second paragraph means
   - **a** the moment in the morning when the sun appears.
   - **b** the hottest part of the day.
   - **c** the moment in the evening when the sun disappears.
   - **d** bedtime.

4 In Zainebu's family,
   - **a** each person has one role that he / she always does.
   - **b** only the men work on the farm.
   - **c** people sometimes do other people's jobs for them.
   - **d** family members often get ill.

5 The purpose of the article is to
   - **a** discuss types of marriage in Africa.
   - **b** explain how some African families live.
   - **c** describe what a typical African village looks like.
   - **d** give information about African teenagers.

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