



**Reading Comprehension
Vietnam Round 5**

(English Version)

SET 1

[CHILD'S NAME] lives in [NAME OF VILLAGE] in [NAME OF REGION]. He is a grade seven student and is twelve years old [ADJUST grades and age to reflect the official age of entry to the education system in your country]. He is a very clever student and works hard.

[CHILD'S NAME'S] father is a successful farmer. He usually produces a large quantity of maize from his farm. [CHILD'S NAME'S] mother is also a hard worker. In addition to her main domestic work she sells salt at the market in her spare time, to subsidize [or supplement] the income of the family.

After school [CHILD'S NAME] always herds cattle. He sometimes also assists his mother by fetching water. [FRIEND'S NAME] is [CHILD'S NAME'S] classmate. In the evening, [CHILD'S NAME] studies with [FRIEND'S NAME].

1. In the evening who does [CHILD'S NAME] study with?

- a) His mother
- b) His father
- c) No-one
- d) [FRIEND'S NAME]

2. [CHILD'S NAME] does many things after school. Which is a full list of his activities?

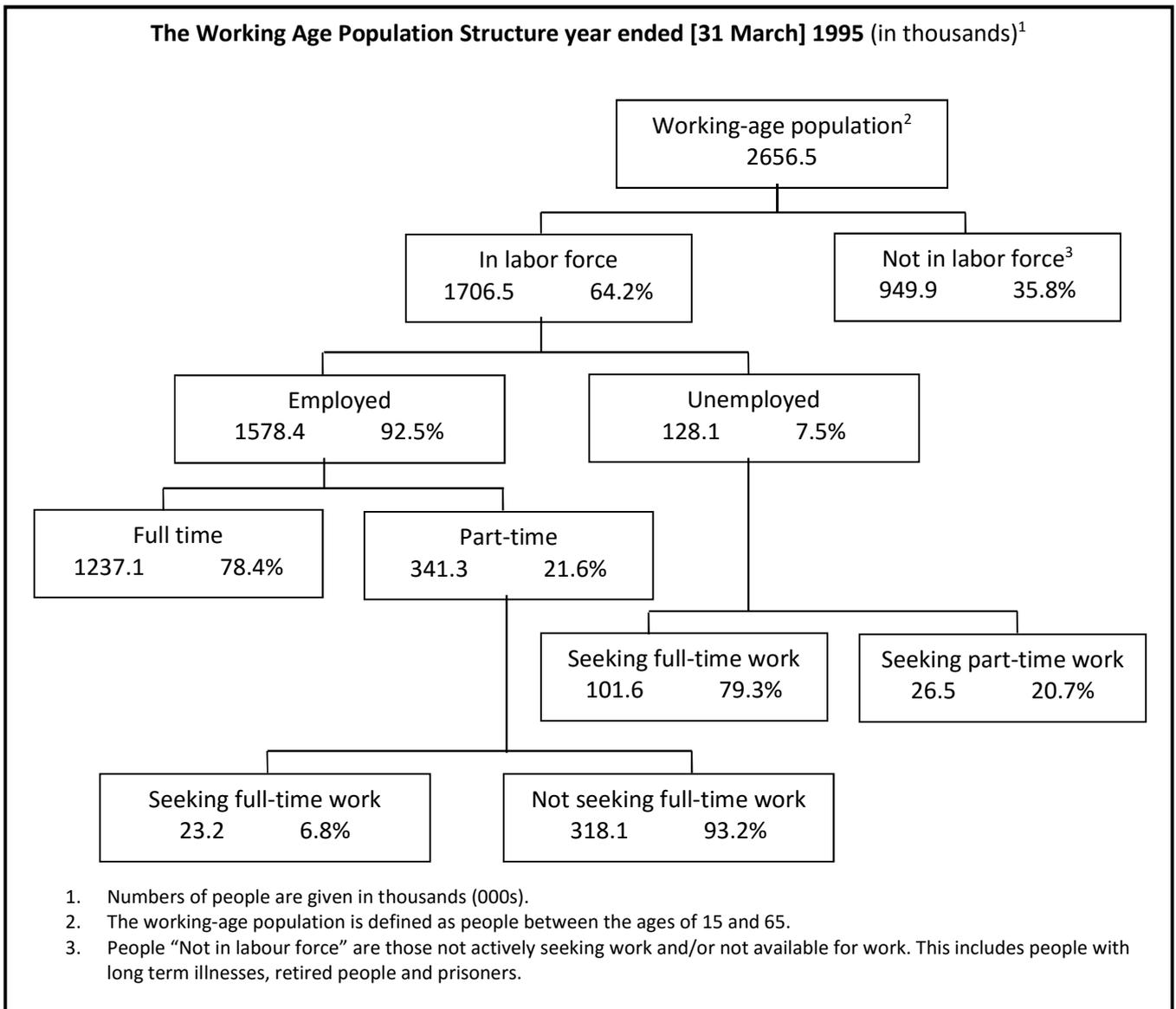
- a) He herds cattle, fetches water and feeds goats
- b) He fetches water, herds cattle and sleeps
- c) He fetches water, herds cattle and studies with [FRIEND'S NAME]
- d) He fetches water, feeds goats and studies with [FRIEND'S NAME]

3. What is the main message of the story in the passage?

- a) [CHILD'S NAME] family are hard workers
- b) [CHILD'S NAME] family do not work hard
- c) [CHILD'S NAME] is good friends with [FRIEND'S NAME]
- d) [CHILD'S NAME] is a very clever student

SET 2

The tree diagram below shows the structure of a country's "working-age population". The total population of the country in 1995 was about 3.4 million. Read the diagram and the footnote carefully.



Based on the diagram, answer the following questions.

4. What are the two main groups into which the working-age population is divided?

- a) Employed and unemployed
- b) Of working age and not of working age
- c) Full-time workers and part-time workers
- d) In the labour force and not in the labour force

5. How many thousands of people of working age were not in the labour force?

- a) 2656.5
- b) 1706.5
- c) 949.9
- d) 1578.4

6. In which category would a man, aged 28, who recently sold his shop and is looking for work, fall?

- a) In labour force: Employed
- b) In labour force: Unemployed
- c) Not in labour force
- d) Not included in any category

7. 'Underemployed' people are people working part-time who would prefer to work full-time. This group is:

- a) More than half of all employed people
- b) More than half of all those people seeking full-time work
- c) Less than half of those people seeking full-time work
- d) More than half of those people in part-time employment

8. Which group would normally be counted as “in the labour force”?

- a) **Unemployed soldiers**
- b) Retired teachers
- c) Those who cannot work due to illness
- d) People in prison

9. Which groups make up the total of people in the labour force who are not employed full-time and not looking for full-time work?

- a) People who are employed part time plus the unemployed
- b) People who are unemployed and looking for part-time work plus those in part-time employment
- c) **People who are unemployed and looking for part-time work plus people who are employed part-time and not looking for full-time work**
- d) The unemployed who are looking for part-time work

SET 3

Read the following text carefully:

Several members of the cat family have spotted fur. Do you know the difference between a leopard, a jaguar, and a cheetah? From a distance they may appear somewhat similar. Examined at closer range, however, they are clearly different cats. They differ in various ways, including where they live, how big they are, how they move and hunt, and how their fur is marked.

Of all the big cats in the wild, the leopard is found across the largest area. Leopards live in much of Asia and Africa. Leopards are skilled climbers that can hunt monkeys in trees. They can also lie in wait and pounce on passing prey. When food sources are scarce, they might eat fruit, field mice, and large insects. Leopard spots are not actually solid spots; they are broken circles.

The jaguar is native to the Americas. Its natural range is from the southern United States to northern Argentina, with the largest concentration of jaguars being in Brazil and Central America. The beauty and power of the jaguar inspired worship among ancient peoples. Possessing a large head and body, the jaguar has legs that are shorter and thicker than a leopard's. Jaguars are excellent climbers and can also swim well. Their fur can be a vivid yellow color or a rusty shade. Each of their spots is large and black, consisting of a middle spot with a circle of spots around it.

The cheetah's head is smaller than the leopard's, and its body is longer. This cat is built for speed. Its legs are much longer than the leopard's, allowing it to run at speeds of up to **[70 miles per hour]**! This incredible ability helps the cheetahs catch their dinner, which is usually an unfortunate antelope. A cheetah's spots are simply black spots or circles.

What all of these cats have in common is that they are wild, powerful animals of tremendous grace and beauty.

Based on the text, answer the following questions by marking the correct answer with an X.

10. Where in the world is one of the largest concentrations of jaguars?

- a) The wilds of Africa
- b) Brazil and Central America**
- c) Northwestern Afghanistan
- d) Northern Argentina

11. Which of the following is NOT a way to tell the difference between spotted cats?

- a) how big they are
- b) how their fur is marked
- c) where they live
- d) how beautiful they are**

12. Which of the following is a quality possessed by BOTH leopards and jaguars?

- a) They are skilled climbers**
- b) They can swim well
- c) They are built for speed
- d) They can hunt by climbing trees

13. Which words from the passage express an attitude of sympathy for animals that are prey to big cats?

- a) . . . How they move and hunt . . .
- b) . . . Might eat fruit, field mice, and large insects.
- c) . . . Dinner, which is usually an unfortunate antelope**
- d) . . . That they are wild, powerful animals . . .

14. What is the difference between a cheetah and a leopard according to the text?

- a) The cheetah is faster and the leopard's body is longer
- b) Unlike the leopard, the cheetah's spots are just spots not circles and the cheetah's head is larger than the leopard's
- c) The leopard can climb trees while the cheetah cannot
- d) The cheetah and leopards spots are different and they are different in shape and size

15. Which of the following describes the author's feelings about big cats?

- a) He is impressed by their diet, hunting and habitat
- b) He is impressed by their beauty, grace and power
- c) He enjoys comparing the differences between the types of big cats
- d) He would like readers to better understand the lives of big cats

SET 4

One of the most important natural resources nature has endowed mankind with is rivers. There are many important rivers of the world. They include the world's longest rivers, the Amazon in South America and the Nile in Africa. Others include the Yangtze river in China and the Ganges in India.

In ancient times, great civilisations developed in fertile river valleys. Thus the ancient civilisation of Egypt developed in the fertile Nile river valley. The people of Egypt depended heavily on the Nile for many types of sustenance. They obtained fresh water and fish from it, and developed a system of drawing water from the Nile River to irrigate their lands. When the river was in flood, it deposited alluvial soil on its Banks. The Egyptian farmers learned to use the rich soil to grow their crops. They had water to feed their animals – cows, camels, sheep, donkeys and goats. There is a saying that “Egypt is the Nile and the Nile is Egypt.”

In some parts of the world, rivers provide alluvial gold and diamonds. After floods have subsided, people living near the banks of rivers collect and wash the alluvial soil and the sand of the river beds. Fragments of gold and diamonds are collected and sold to gold and diamond dealers. Some people today still use this method, but more frequently the job is done by powerful dredging machines.

One of the greatest uses that mankind has put rivers to is the production of hydro-electric power. It involves the construction of a dam and the creation of an artificial lake behind the dam. A dam provides a constant and reliable supply of water to turn turbines in the dam to produce cheap electric power. In Africa, the following dams readily come to mind: the Aswan dam on the Nile, the Kainji dam on the Niger, the Akosombo on the Volta and the new Tekeze dam in Ethiopia.

The Akosombo lake, created as a result of the damming of the River Volta in Ghana, is the longest man-made lake in the world. Fishing in the lake is a very lucrative business. Fishermen use dug-out canoes, fish traps, baskets, and hooks and lines to catch the fish, and every day traders from all over Ghana go to various inland ports on the lake where it is sold fresh, fried, smoked or salted. By far the most popular species of fish is the tilapia.

In spite of the immense benefits derived from rivers, human activities are destroying this important natural resource. Lumbering and farming activities have exposed some rivers to massive evaporation. Some rivers dry up in the course of the year. Some fishermen use unorthodox methods in fishing, for example by using very dangerous chemicals to poison the fish, while others use dynamite to kill large quantities. The rivers are thus polluted, which results in health hazards for the people who use the water from the rivers.

16. What does the saying “Egypt is the Nile and the Nile is Egypt” show?

- a) The way in which Egypt was dependent on the Nile for sustenance
- b) The fact that the Nile is located in Egypt
- c) The fact that Egypt’s main river is the Nile
- d) The fact that the Nile produces alluvial gold and diamonds

17. How is most alluvial gold obtained today?

- a) Through collecting and washing alluvial soil after floods
- b) Through buying it from gold and diamond dealers
- c) Through using dredging machines
- d) Through collecting and washing alluvial sand after floods

18. What are the two ways that dams are useful?

- a) The provision of fertile soil for agriculture and the provision of hydro-electric power
- b) The creation of dam lakes to fish in and the ability to dredge for gold and diamonds
- c) The provision of hydro-electric power and the ability to dredge for gold and diamonds
- d) The provision of hydro-electric power and the creation of dam lakes to fish in

19. Which two activities of man have exposed some rivers to evaporation?

- a) Lumbering and Farming
- b) Dynamite and chemical fishing
- c) The construction of dams and too much fishing
- d) Dredging for gold and diamonds and agriculture

20. What is the best title for this article?

- a) Dams are a good means of producing electricity and fish
- b) Rivers provide an important resource for human society in a variety of ways
- c) The many different rivers around the world
- d) Rivers provide fertile land for agriculture

21. Which of the following is the author's main concern about the changing relationship between humans and rivers?

- a) Damming rivers to provide electricity is destroying the natural course of rivers and is causing rivers to dry-up for periods of the year
- b) Pollution from new methods of fishing is causing a danger to human health**
- c) Farming and lumbering near to rivers is polluting the water in rivers, making it unhealthy for fish and humans
- d) The use of hydro-electric power causes pollution in rivers that kills fish and damages human health

SET 5

A VISIT TO UNCLE'S HOME

Visiting Uncle's home, village Sen
A fence of hibiscus lights up like pink fire
A white butterfly circles
A bunch of ripe guavas reflects the sky's honey-colour.
Uncle's home where he spent childhood
How life tilted the weathered thatched roof
A bamboo bed, too simple
The hemp hammock lulls one to sleep during summer afternoons.
Sen Village, just as every village
Houses interlaced with bamboo trees and footballs.
There the flowers are bright red like lipstick
There the white butterfly is fluttering like in a dream.

Nguyen Duc Mau

22. Which colours are mentioned in the poem?

- a) Pink, white, yellow, red, lotus pink.
- b) Honey, white, pink fire, red lipstick.
- c) White, pink fire, red lipstick, honey.
- d) Red fire, white, honey, pink lipstick.

23. Which of the following options reflects the author's feeling when visiting Uncle's house?

- a) Melancholic, deep longing
- b) Melancholic, immense sadness.
- c) Melancholic, touched, reflective.
- d) Melancholic, expectant, hopeful

24. What doesn't the author see when visiting Uncle's house?

- a) A bunch of guavas, hibiscus flowers
- b) White butterfly, bamboo trees
- c) The house, hemp hammock, bamboo bed
- d) Lotus, roof tiles

25. How is Uncle's house described?

- a) There are a bamboo bed, a hemp hammock, and a thatched roof
- b) There are a hemp hammock, a tiled roof, and a bamboo bed
- c) There are a bamboo bed, a fabric hammock, and a thatched roof
- d) There are a thatched roof, a wooden bed, and a hemp hammock

26. What is the poem about?

- a) About a beautiful garden with flowers, butterflies, and ripe fruits.
- b) About a thatched house, a hemp hammock, and a bamboo bed
- c) About a village under the shade of bamboos as any other village
- d) About Uncle's home, a very simple place, but very dear to us