

MEHN COMPOSITION : 1^{ère} PERIODE 2023-2024			
SERIES : 10^e CG		DUREE : 2H	COEFF. : 2
EPREUVE : LV1			

TEXT:

Village work is seasonal. People in African villages are very busy during the rainy season. Early in the morning; men and boys go to the fields where they plough, sow and weed. Their farm work is sometimes accompanied by the beating of drums or the sound of the xylophone, depending on the region. This is a way to liven things up; especially when the farmers are having a competition. Because members of village associations often help each other in turn, and in order to speed up the work, they organize competitions. The fastest weed puller is usually carried in triumph back to the village and becomes the idol of girls.

Women and girls stay at home and do the housework. They pound millet and cook "toh", which they take to the fields for the men's lunch, with millet cream and water to drink. They also carry water home from the nearest well or stream, and gather firewood before returning home.

At night, life in the village is very quiet except when the moon is shining. By moonlight, girls form a circle, clap their hands and sing to the beat of the drums or the sound of the xylophone. As for men and boys, they organize wrestling matches among themselves or against neighboring villages.

During the dry season, after harvesting the fields, villagers lead a life of emptiness and boredom. Old men sit and chat in the shade of trees. Young people go fishing or hunting or go to the towns to look for a job to provide for their family needs.

Notes: To plough: labourer; field: champ; to liven up: activer; to weed: sarcler les herbes; to shine: briller; to wrestle: lutter; to harvest: récolter; boredom: ennui

QUESTIONS: (20pts)

I. READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS: (5 pts)

A. Multiple Choice Questions: Copy the complete sentence containing the correct answer. (1pt)

- Village work is
a) permanent b) periodic c) perpetual d) ephemeral
- At night the village is very quiet except
a) in dark night b) at moonlight
c) at midnight d) in the morning

B. True or False Statements: Copy down the true sentences and correct the false ones. (2pts)

- The text is about city life.
- Villagers are very busy during the rainy season.
- Villagers organize competitions in order to speed up the work.
- The village is not quiet when the moon is shining.

C. Answer these questions based on the text. (2pts)

- What can be the title of the text?
- Why do villagers organize competitions during farm work?

II. LANGUAGE: (8pts)

A. Vocabulary: Copy each word from the list on the left with one from the right so as to make pairs of synonyms. (2pts)

A	B
Speed up	Assist
nearest	Area
help	Closest
region	clap
	Accelerate

C. Structure: Put the verbs between parentheses in the correct tenses: Simple Present or Present Continuous. (2pts)

- Hurry up! The bus (come). I (not want) to miss it.
- The sun (rise) in the East.
- Listen! The neighbor (play) bass guitar.