



**UNIT 5 : CITY OR VILLAGE L2: Village life**

**S1**

**Learning Context :** During a visit to a Ghanaian village, the students of 3<sup>e</sup> from EAJP/ENS listen to an elder talking about village life. They listen carefully in order to discuss the importance of life in the village with the other members of their English club.

**LESSON CONTENT**

Language function	Structure / Grammar	Vocabulary
Comparing with the superlative	<p><b>Long adjectives</b> the most + long adjective the least + long adjective</p> <p><b>Short adjectives</b> the + short adj +-est</p> <p><b>Irregular adjectives</b></p>	Countryside, tribe, chieftain, to solve (problem/conflict), the palaver tree, custom, to stick together, hardworking

**A- Vocabulary**

**Countryside:** rural area, non-city environment

**Tribe:** ethnic group, family

**Chieftain:** the leader of a traditional community

**To solve (a problem/ conflict):** to find a solution to

**Palaver tree:** the place where people meet to discuss the village problems.

**A Custom:** a tradition, a rite

**To stick together:** to stay unified, in solidarity

**B- Language function**

**Long adjectives → the most + long adjective / the least + long adjective**

- Abidjan is **the most developed** city of CI.
- The bus is **the least expensive** means of transport.

**Short adjectives → the + short adj +-est**

- Abidjan is **the biggest** city of CI

**Irregular adjectives**

- Good                      **the best**
- Bad                         **the worst**
- Far                         **the farthest / the furthest**

**PRACTICE ACTIVITIES**

**Activity 1 :** Listen to the short passage about village life and fill in the gaps with the words you hear. **No 1 is done for you.**

For their holidays, many people like to go back to their village in the **1. countryside**. Life there is organized around a solid hierarchy. The **2.....** who is the head of the community has to maintain order in the community, he also makes sure that all the **3.....** of the tribe are respected. He also guarantees solidarity among the people because they all have to **4.....** together. So whenever there is a conflict, he summons everybody under the **5.....** which is the traditional place where problems are **6.....**

**Activity 2 : Complete the sentences below with the superlative**

1. Anoumabo is ..... (famous) Ebrié village.
2. Who is ..... (tall) person in your family ?
3. Village life is ..... (good)
4. He thinks Chinese is ..... (difficult) language.
5. People in villages are ..... (friendly) of all.
6. Show me ..... (beautiful) house of this village.

**S:2**

**Learning Context :** During a visit to a Ghanaian village, the students of 3<sup>e</sup> from EAJP/ENS listen to an elder talking about village life. They listen carefully in order to discuss the importance of life in the village with the other members of their English club.

**LESSON CONTENT**

Language function	Structure / Grammar	Vocabulary
Expressing preference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prefer x to y</li> <li>• I'd prefer (ing).....to .....verb (ing)</li> </ul>	Field, peaceful, relaxing, restful, caring, hospitable, fresh (air), dirty, dusty (road)

**A- Vocabulary**

- Field:** plantation, farm
- Peaceful:** not noisy, calm
- Relaxing:** quiet, calm, peaceful
- Restful:** peaceful, calm, relaxing
- Caring:** affectionate, helpful, sympathetic
- Hospitable:** generous, welcoming to people who come from a different place
- fresh (air):** clean, not polluted
- dusty (road);** a road in bad condition
- dirty:** not clean

**B- Language function**

- **Prefer + noun + to + noun** → Anoble prefers village life to city life because it is cheaper.
- **Prefer + verb (ing) + to + verb (ing)** → Koné prefers living in his village to living to the city because it is peaceful.

**PRACTICE ACTIVITIES**

**Activity 1 :** Listen to the short passage about village life and fill in the gaps with the words you hear. **No 1 is done for you.**

Most Ivorian villages don't have tarred roads but **1. tarred** roads. However, the most important about these villages is that their populations are welcoming and **2.....** They are so eager to help and assist people coming from other places. In addition, most people go back to the village to enjoy the **3. ....** atmosphere even if they will have to go to the **4. ....** too. There is no risk to suffer from air pollution over there because the air is clean and **5. ....** As a whole, village life is really enjoyable and **6. ....**

**Activity 2 :**

1. I / city life / **village life** (calm)  
I prefer village life to city life because it is calm.
2. Many students / **to spend their holidays in the village** / to stay in the city.  
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3. Villagers / **to work on fields** / to watch TV.  
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4. Girls / traditional clothes / **modern clothes**  
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5. City dwellers / village food / **fast food**  
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6. My sister / to do the dishes / **to wash her clothes**  
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**COMMUNICATION ACTIVITY**

At the invitation of their Ghanaian friends to attend a traditional ceremony, the students of 3<sup>e</sup> from EAJP /ENS listen to the chieftain of the community talk about village life. They listen carefully in order to discuss some of the key points during the next session of their school English .

**Task**

1. Listen to an extract of the chieftain's speech then do the activities on your worksheet.
2. Discuss with your club partners some the life you prefer (city or village).

## RESSOURCES

### Transcript for activity (S1)

For their holidays, many people like to go back to their village in the **countryside**. Life there is organized around a solid hierarchy. The **chieftain** who is the head of the community has to maintain order in the community, he also makes sure that all the **customs** of the tribe are respected. He also guarantees solidarity among the people because they all have to **stick** together. So whenever there is a conflict, he summons everybody under the **palaver tree** which is the traditional place where problems are **solved**.

### Transcript of activity (S2)

Most Ivorian villages don't have tarred roads but **dusty** roads. However, the most important about these villages is that their populations are welcoming and **hospitable**. They are so eager to help and assist people coming from other places. In addition, most people go back to the village to enjoy the **relaxing** atmosphere even if they will have to go to the **field** too. There is no risk to suffer from air pollution over there because the air is clean and **fresh**. As a whole, village life is really enjoyable and **peaceful**.

### Transcript of the speech

Nowadays, there is no true difference between living either in an African city or a village. And we can say so for many reasons. First, development is now noticeable in both villages and cities. In fact, you may find the same modern facilities of villages in cities and so because everybody has a right to a better life. Infrastructures that improve life shouldn't be present somewhere and absent somewhere else. I think everybody deserves the best. Also, local authorities should try to convince communities about the importance of adapting modernity to village life. It doesn't mean that population have to abandon their customs and culture, no on the contrary, it is all about associating cultural aspects with modernity mainly because the world has become a big village and we should be connected to one another.

### Worksheet

**Activity 1 :** Listen to the extract of the chieftain's speech and select the best option.

The chieftain is talking about :

- a- the importance of cultural values
- b- the importance of modernity
- c- life in cities and villages in the past
- d- life in cities and villages today

**Activity 2 :** Listen to the audio document and say if the statements below are true or false.

	Statements	Answers
1	The speaker thinks that there's a difference between city life and village life	False
2	The facilities in cities are also remarkable in villages too	
3	He also thinks local authorities should convince population not to adopt modernity	
4	The speaker wants the population to associate modernity with culture	
5	He wants people to abandon cultural values	
6	To him, the people all over the world are connected to one another.	

**Activity 3 :** Listen to the record again and fill in the gaps of the paragraph with the words you hear

Nowadays, there is no true 1 *difference* between living either in an African city or a village. And we can say so for many 2..... First, development is now noticeable in both villages and cities. In fact, you may find the same modern facilities of villages in cities and so because everybody has a right to a 3..... life. Infrastructures that 4..... life shouldn't be present somewhere and absent somewhere else. I think everybody deserves the best. Also, local authorities should try to convince communities about the importance of 5..... modernity with village life. It doesn't mean that population have to abandon their customs and culture, no on the contrary, it is all about 6..... both cultural aspects and modernity mainly because the world has become a big village and we should be 7..... to one another.

**Activity 4:** Discuss the following topic with your partners

“City or Village” which one do you prefer ? justify your choice.

