

Answers

1.

Sample answers:

- a) I noticed that the houses varied in what they were made of. Some were made of wood, others of brick and others of stone. Some houses were modern and others were older. Some people, including the Smarts, lived in apartments. I also noticed that the apartments were very modern with satellite television facilities.
- b) It is the same in Australia. We have modern and older style houses made of various different materials. Some people live in houses and many live in apartments or units. We also have satellite television.
- c) I noticed that some households consisted of only immediate family members such as parents, brothers and sisters. Some also had extended family members such as grandparents living with them. A couple of households had only one parent and most of them had a home-stay visitor.

2.

Sample answers:

- a) I think this expression means that, no matter the type of dwelling people live in, 'home' is where they feel safe, comfortable and cared for.
- b) I think the idea of 'home' for Indonesians is their neighbourhood or wider community. This also includes the place where their immediate family members live.
- c) I think it tells us that Indonesians value the relationships they have with their immediate family members but also that they strongly value the relationships they have with their neighbours and wider community.
- d) I think we also value our neighbours and wider community but we don't really think of them as part of the 'family'. We probably know our next door neighbours but we may not know the neighbours who live further down the street. Also, once we are old enough, we tend to move out of the family home to live somewhere else. Our extended family, our grandparents, aunts and uncles and cousins don't usually live in the same neighbourhood as we do.

3.

The *Toraja* region of Sulawesi:

- a) Traditional houses in the *Toraja* region of Sulawesi are called *tongkonan*.
- b) The main architectural features are a large, sweeping boat-shaped or saddle-shaped roof, ornate red, black, yellow and white carvings and an array of buffalo horns hanging along the front of the house.
- c) Sample answer:

The buffalo horns symbolise prestige and wealth. Buffalo are very important in traditional Indonesian society as they are used for ploughing fields and are vital for the production of crops. In many regions, the buffalo symbolises status, courage and strength. Indonesians in traditional communities value the wealth gained from working the land and the important role played by the buffalo in the hard labour needed to ensure good harvests. The more buffalo a person has, the wealthier he is. Although buffalo are still used these days, many farmers have changed to using modern machinery. As a result, the role of the buffalo has become less important in many communities.

The *Minangkabau* region of West Sumatra

- a) Traditional houses in the *Minangkabau* region of Sumatra are called *rumah gadang*.
- b) The main architectural feature is a large, upsweeping roof in the form of buffalo horns. There is also a series of rooms at the rear of the house where the women sleep. Males, except for young boys, do not live in these houses. If they are not yet married, adolescent males live at the local mosque. If a man is married, he can spend the night at his wife's house but he must leave early in the morning and eat breakfast at his mother's house.

c) Sample answer:

The fact that the rooms at the back of the *rumah gadang* are reserved for the women and girls and that the boys and men are expected to spend most of their time away from the house demonstrates the traditional matrilineal values held by *Minangkabau* Indonesians. 'Matrilineal' here means that property is passed down from mother to daughter. In *Minangkabau* society, property and wealth belong to the women. Religion and politics are the domain of the men. Even though the woman is considered the most important person in a *Minangkabau* family, a man is always the head of the village

Bali:

- a) Traditional houses in Bali are called *kuren*.
- b) Traditional Balinese houses are built in the form of a compound. The compound is surrounded by a wall. Immediately behind the narrow front entrance, there is a second wall one or two metres wide. To enter the compound, you must walk either to the left or right of this second wall. The compound consists of several different pavilions used for various purposes such as the living and sleeping quarters, the kitchen area and a shrine for religious ceremonies.

c) Sample answer:

The fact that a shrine where the family holds religious ceremonies is part of the *kuren* demonstrates that the Hindu religion plays an important role in everyday Balinese life. The narrow entrance and second wall reflect the Balinese belief in evil spirits. The narrow entrance is believed to prevent evil spirits from entering the compound. Small offerings of incense are placed on the ground at the entrance every morning to ward off these spirits.