

A STORM IN THE COUNTRY

A- Since he arrived in Kano, Sikiru has been very busy. His boss, Mr Buhari, wants him to visit all farms in the district. Last Monday they both got up and drove through the streets of Kano, which were already full of cars, camels and market people. About twenty miles outside the city they left the wide tarred road and drove down a bumpy earth road to a small village.

A man walked across the market-place to greet them. It was Ibrahim, the headman of the village. He took them to see the fields of cotton.

B- Sikiru : Is this your biggest field of cotton ? It looks almost ripe.

Ibrahim : Yes, it is. When it's ripe, the whole village will come and pick it.

Sikiru : Where will you sell it ?

Ibrahim : When we have picked it, we'll carry it to the main road. Then a lorry will take it to the factory in Kano.

Buhari : You won't sell all your cotton to the factory, will you ?

Ibrahim : No, some of the older people still weave their own cloth. But more and more people buy their cloth from the factory. It's getting more and more popular.



The field of cotton

C- While the three men were talking, the sun went in and the sky got darker.

Buhari : Listen – that was thunder, wasn't it ? I think it's going to rain.

Ibrahim : That lightning is getting nearer and nearer. We'll get wet if we don't run back.

They started running, but it was a long way back to the village.

Ibrahim : Come on. The rain's getting heavier and heavier. Run faster.

Buhari : We'll be all right when we get to the market-place.

Ibrahim : We're nearly there.

Buhari : Quick. Let's get under this market-stall. What an awful storm !

EXERCISES :

A- Choose the correct endings for these sentences. Write out the correct sentences.

- 1- When the cotton is ripe, everybody will (a) go to the factory.
(b) weave their own cloth.
(d) pick it.

- 2- When they've picked the cotton, they will (a) sell it to Sikiru.
(b) carry it to the main road.
(c) take it to the factory.

- 3- When it stops raining, they'll (a) go back to Kano.
(b) look at the tractor.
(c) go to the next village.

- 4- They'll go back to Kano when (a) it's stopped raining.
(b) they've seen the tractor.
(c) they've seen the other villages.

- 5- When Sikiru gets home, he'll
- (a) get wet.
 - (b) change his clothes.
 - (c) visit the factory.

B- Sikiru said : " My clothes are soaked. I ought to change them. " What other things does he think ?

- 1- " I've just started my new job. (visit all farms). "
- 2- " This village has just bought a new tractor. (look at). "
- 3- " We've been in Kano for a month. (write – Hajo). "

What does Ibrahim (the village headman) think ?

- 4- " The cotton is ripe. (pick). "
- 5- " This new man has arrived. (show – cotton fields). "
- 6- " We've just bought this new tractor. (Buhari and Sikiru – look at). "

C- In groups discuss what you ought to do in these situations :

- 1- Your teacher is late for class.
- 2- Your friend feels ill.
- 3- A fire starts in the kitchen.
- 4- There has been an accident on the road.
- 5- Your mother is very tired.
- 6- You've got a difficult exam tomorrow.
- 7- Your uncle is in hospital.
- 8- You see a thief in the market.