

Imagine a world with no telephones or computers. All the women wear long old-fashioned (altmodisch) dresses. There are no factories and no shopping centres. Everyone works on farms and travels by horse or on foot. Where do you think this world is? Europe in the seventeenth century (Jahrhundert), perhaps? In fact, it is Pennsylvania in America at the beginning of the 21st century. It's the world of the Amish people.

The Amish went to America in the eighteenth century and since then their lifestyle has not changed at all. They don't even speak English among themselves. They speak German as their forefathers did. The Amish are farmers and they base their life on the Bible. There were no tractors or telephones in the Bible and there are no tractors or telephones in the Amish villages today.

Amish life is very strict and very simple. The men and boys wear dark jackets and trousers, plain shirts and hats. The women and girls wear long dresses. They have long hair.

They live in large families and everyone helps with the work. The day starts when the sun rises and it ends when the sun sets. The men and boys work in the fields and the women and girls work in the house. When something big is needed, such as a new barn (Scheune), all the neighbours help to build it. On Sundays they don't work. They go to church.

But life for the Amish is not only work. They have a lot of village parties. They don't dance or play musical instruments, but they sing and they have a good time.

There is no crime and no pollution (Luftverschmutzung). Nobody is poor and nobody is lonely.



Photo: Gadjoboy

Translate:

1. Sie trägt immer altmodische Kleider
2. Sein Lebensstil hat sich überhaupt nicht geändert
3. Jeder hilft mit der Arbeit.
4. Niemand tanzt oder spielt ein Instrument.
5. Sie sind nicht einsam.
6. Die Arbeit beginnt, wenn die Sonne aufgeht.

What doesn't go with the Amish? Underline twelve words:

computers, horses, the Bible, a cart, cows, chewing gum, ketchup, French fries, apples, cheese, microwave, dogs, school, television, farms, cinema, sheep, needlework, jackets, trousers, barn, guitar, hats, church, disco, Coca Cola, bees, goldfish, bread, video