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**Qestions:**

1. **What is family**

Family is a group of people closely related by blood, adoption or marriage.

The family is a primary group which is found in every society. Each member of the family has individual rights and responsibilities.

A group consisting of two parents and their children living together as a unit is called a family,

all the descendants of a common ancestor is also a family.

Family is defined as a specific group of people that may be made up of partners, children, parents, aunts, uncles, cousins and grandparents. ... The definition of family is the group of people who share common ancestors. An example of family is all the descendants of a specific person.

1. **Discuss the functions of the family**

The primary function of the family is to ensure the continuation of society, both biologically through procreation, and socially through socialization. ... From the point of view of the parents, the family's primary purpose is procreation: The family functions to produce and socialize children.

There are many functions of the family. These functions include regulation of sexual activity, socialization, reproduction, and economic and emotional security.

* socialization of children.
* maintienace & physical care.
* love & nurturance.
* production of goods & services.
* social control of children.
* Stable Satisfaction of Sex need
* Reproduction or procreation
* Protection and care of the young
* Socializing Functions
* Provision of a home: that is shelter
1. **Discuss the African Traditional family**

Family is very important throughout Africa. Families, not individuals, are the building blocks of African society. Most people live in households that include not only the nuclear family (mother, father, children) but also members of their extended family (grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and others).

The subject of “traditional family patterns in Africa” is so broad that it cannot be adequately addressed in one chapter. The cultural and physical diversity added with the dramatic social changes of the last three decades on the continent makes the family pattern situation so variegated as to defy any sweeping generalizations. the African family still maintains its strong bond through traditional practices such as the upbringing of children and maintaining strong family values.

There are three major tribes in Nigeria, the Hausa, Yoruba and the Igbo. that the Hausas are mostly Muslims occupying the northern part of Nigeria, family related issues such as polygamy, tribe, clan, the extended family, the dowry and the raising of children, traditionally, African family practices polygamy because of the idea that the larger the family or clan, the more workers there are to work on the family farms. Hence, more wealth can be possessed by the family. However, nowadays the practice depended on the religion of the person. Muslims in Africa will take up to 3 to 4 wives, the number permitted in the religion while the Christians only practice monogamy.

The tribe is bigger in terms of size compared to clan but the latter has greater influence on the family. Four factors that link their kinship were profession-derived names, tribal marks, distinguishing personal names and determining the child’s legitimacy as a clan member.

Only legitimate children will bear the clan’s name. The naming ceremony is very important as a child will not be considered as a part of the clan till his or her legitimacy is established. The test of a child’s legitimacy in traditional Hausa customs is by dropping the child’s umbilical cord into a can filled with water and milk. The clan chief will only accept the child as a part of the clan if the cord floats. If it sinks, the child will be considered as illegitimate and disowned.

A Nigerian ethnic group called the Ijaw will throw babies in the river to test their legitimacy. The infant will only be considered as legitimate if it floats. However, Abu Bakar asserted that an infant thrown into a river will always float. “It’s the oldest science,” he said. The children are then taken care of by their fathers’ brother, not by the biological parents. Nonetheless the real parents do not forget their children for they will continue to visit their children. This practice was done in order to prepare the girls to become wives and mothers and the boys to become husbands and fathers. The Hausa people are patrilineal. Hence, their household family consists of relatives of the father. However, some tribes in Ghana and Northern Zambia practice matrilineal marriage as the extended family comprises of a man and his wife, their married daughters, son-in-laws, and their children, the dowry is not practiced in traditional African society. The practice was introduced by European missionaries and colonialists. Abu Bakar said that African bridegrooms work for the bride’s father as a form of ‘dowry’ to wed his daughter instead of giving money or property.

1. **Discuss your nuclear family**

A nuclear family, is a family group consisting of two parents and their children (one or more). It is in contrast to a single-parent family.

My nuclear family consists of my dad, mum with six children and I am the second child and second girl of my family, we live as one and no one is cheated. Daddy makes sure we all get what he buys for us equally and no one is cheated, mummy also does the same. We are given equal love and attention and disciplined according to what the crime may be. We pray every morning and welcome guests too, sometimes my grandmother from the maternal side comes to live with us for a maximum of 1week, our aunts and uncles also come visiting.

1. **Draw your family tree**