

A photograph of four teenagers (two boys and two girls) dancing joyfully in front of a Ferris wheel at night. The Ferris wheel is illuminated with colorful lights, and the scene is set against a dark blue sky. The teenagers are wearing casual clothing: a blue t-shirt and grey pants for the boy on the left, a white t-shirt and black skirt for the girl next to him, a green t-shirt and grey cargo pants for the boy next to her, and a pink t-shirt and dark jeans for the girl on the right. They all have their arms raised in the air.

WHAT'S UP?

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5 TEXTBOOK

India – an enormous country

1

Hello. My name is Hanif Roy. I'm a schoolteacher in Kolkata. As you know India is in South East Asia. Our neighbours are Pakistan, China, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal. Off the coast are Sri Lanka, the Maldives and Indonesia.

India has over a billion inhabitants and we have many different languages. We have at least 800 different languages and there are about 2,000 dialects. How many languages are there in your country?



12

2

Hi there. I'm Gotam Patel. I'm on my way to work. There are lots of people on the train this morning.

I live in Mumbai (It used to be called Bombay). It is the biggest city in India. It has a population of nearly 20 million.



3

Hi. I'm Jamal Singh. I live in Amritsar. I want to become an engineer and work with computers.

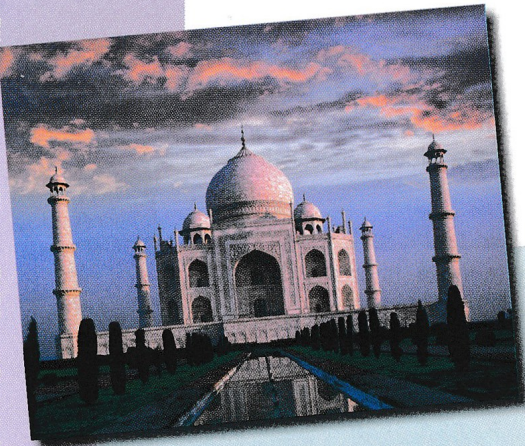
I often go to the temple with my parents. We have a very beautiful temple here called The Golden Temple.

I'm a Sikh but we also have three other religions in India: Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam.

4

Moo! In your country I'm just a walking hamburger but here in India I'm a sacred and respected animal.

I am used to the traffic in the big cities so I can walk in the streets and eat vegetables that the street sellers give me.



5

Hello. My name's Adwita Singh. Today I'm with my school class in Agra to visit the Taj Mahal.

Our teacher told us the story of Shah Jahan who married a girl called Mumtaz Mahal a long time ago – in 1612. They had 14 children. When she died her husband built the Taj Mahal. They are both buried here. There are a lot of tourists who come to see the Taj Mahal because it is one of the most beautiful monuments in the world. Don't you agree?



Hi there! I'm
Shere Kahn.



6

Here in India I'm called the King of the Jungle. There are around 4,500 Royal Bengal Tigers in the wild.

If you have a cat you know they hate water. I'm a big cat but I am a powerful swimmer and I just love water.

Tigers have very sharp teeth. I don't chew much, I just tear off the meat, and then I swallow it. We eat other animals such as deer, buffalo, wild cattle and wild boars. I'm afraid there are some old and sick tigers that sometimes eat people. Yuk!

12

7

Hello. My name is Indira Kureishi. I live in New Delhi, the capital of India. India has traditional music, dance and festivals. Here I am at a Hindu festival. Divali is the Festival of Lights. As you can see there are lamps everywhere.

I often go to the cinema. The film industry in Bombay, sometimes called Bollywood, produces almost as many films per year as Hollywood! Most films are romantic films. But there are no kisses, only romantic looks.



8

Hello. My name's Priyanka Metha. I am a waitress in a restaurant in Madras. Of course you know that India is famous for its spicy food and hot curries. People in my restaurant eat with their fingers. They use the fingertips to form the food into a ball with rice or bread.

We have lots of different dishes on our menu because the Hindus don't eat beef and the Muslims don't eat pork so our classical curry is lamb or mutton. We also serve vegetarian dishes.

