



KNOWLEDGE

CHAMP

General Knowledge with a Difference!

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Dr Anant

PGDBA, MBA, Ph D



- ✓ Puzzles
- ✓ MCQs
- ✓ I.Q. Test
- ✓ Fact Files
- ✓ Current Affairs

6



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New Edition

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PREFACE

Knowledge Champ is an exciting, fascinating and compact series. It is a comprehensive set of nine titles, aimed at providing an exposure of general knowledge to school children between the age group of 4 years and 14 years (classes Primer and 1 to 8).

This is an age of globalization wherefore the horizon of knowledge has spread beyond the boundaries of one's country. As a subject, General Knowledge can be immensely vast, unmanageable and burdensome, therefore, the series has been designed to acquaint children with the essentials of all the subjects and day-to-day issues. The information on a wide variety of topics is provided through 'informative' as well as 'interactive' approach. All the chapters and the chapter based exercises are arranged in such a way that young learners learn the subject matter by 'Learning Through Doing Approach' rather than merely providing the information to be mugged up and then spurted in a traditional question-answer style.

The series has been carefully graded, not only to add to the knowledge of the students, but also to arouse their curiosity to learn more and face this highly competitive world with courage and confidence.

We hope that this series will prove extremely beneficial and stimulating for the teachers to teach with. We look forward to your response to this series. Suggestions and feedback for the improvement of the books would be most welcome.

—Author and Publisher

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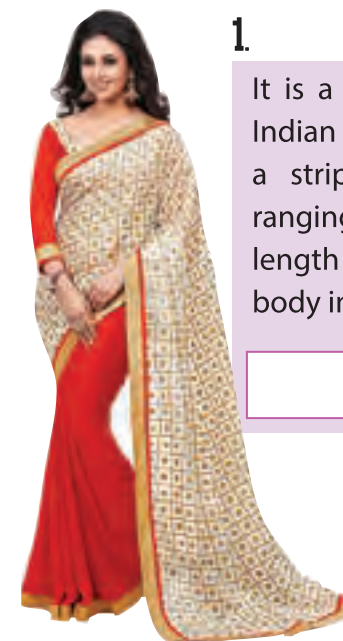
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1

COSTUMES OF INDIA

Read the description about some costumes of India and write their names.



1. It is a female garment in the Indian sub-continent. It is a strip of unstitched cloth, ranging from 4-9 metres in length that is draped over the body in various styles.

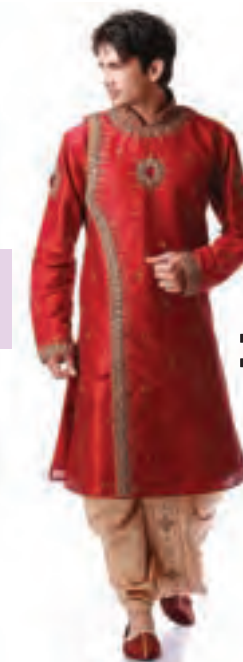
Help Box

Saree, Shervani, Salwar-Kameez, Ghaghra-Choli, Dhoti-Kurta



2. This consists of a baggy pyjama, a loose tunic and dupatta. It is worn by women in Punjab.

2.



3. This is the traditional male attire and consists of a cloth tied around the waist. The upper garment is stitched and have long sleeves.

5.

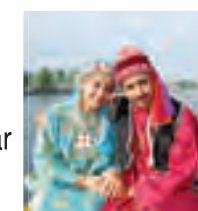
It is the traditional clothing of women in Rajasthan and Gujarat. Punjabis also wear it, and it is used in some of their folk dances. The part of the clothing worn below the waist is a form of a long skirt which is pleated. It is usually embroidered or has a thick border at the bottom. The upper part of the clothing is a blouse shell garment, which is cut to fit to the body and has short sleeves and a low neck.

4. It is a long coat/jacket with exposed buttons through the length of the jacket. The length is usually just below the knees. It has a Nehru collar, i.e. a collar that stands up. It is worn with tight fitting pants or trousers. It is usually worn during the wedding ceremonies by the groom.



Did You Know?

Pheran is a traditional dress of Kashmir which is a full length gown mostly worn during winter and is a popular form of dressing amongst both men and women.



2 RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS

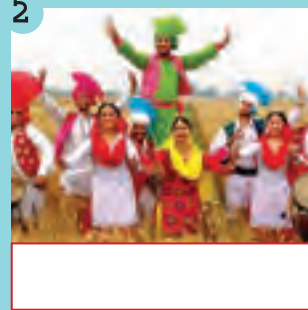
A religious festival is a time of special importance marked by adherents to that religion. India is well known as a country of cultural and traditional festivals all over the world as it has many cultures and religions. People from each religion have their own festivals. A few of them are given here.

Write their names with the help of the help box.

This festival of Hindus symbolises love, affection and feeling of brotherhood. It is celebrated in the month of Sravan with great joy and excitement. The girls tie a thread or 'rakhi' on the right hand of their brothers, who give her a gift as a token of love and affection.



This day, celebrated around April 13, is considered the birth day of the Khalsa order of Sikhs. Sikhs visit Gurudwaras and fairs and parades are held.



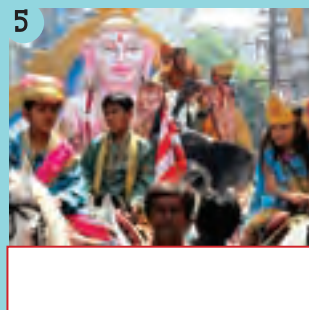
Every Muslim celebrates this festival at the end of the month of Ramzan to mark a successful completion of the period of one month fasting. This festival is sometimes described as a 'Muslim Christmas'.



This festival is celebrated by the Buddhists on different days in different countries. It actually commemorates the birth, enlightenment (Nirvana), and death (Parinirvana) of Gautam Buddha in the southern tradition or the Theravada.



This is the most important religious holiday for Jains. It celebrates the birth of Mahavira, the twenty fourth and the last Tirthankara of the present time cycle.



This is the central festival of Christianity, on which Christians celebrate their belief that 'Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the third day after his crucifixion'.



Fact File

Some of the festivals are celebrated by the people of all religions in the entire nation. Indian origin people in the abroad also celebrate their cultural festival with the immense passion. Each festival has its own history, legend and significance of celebration.

Help Box

Easter, Buddha Purnima, Baisakhi, Raksha Bandhan, Mahavir Jayanti, Eid-ul-Fitr

3 THE NEW SEVEN WONDERS

The New 7 Wonders Foundation announced the New 7 Wonders of the World from a selection of 200 existing monuments on 07-07-07 in Lisbon, Portugal.

All the new 7 wonders are presented as a group without any rank. Can you name them ?

In 7th century BC, a defensive wall was designed to protect China from its war-like neighbours to the north. The main part is 3,460 km long and wide enough for an army to march. It is _____.



In Jordan, this ancient city was built around 9 BC and was continued to flourish during Roman Empire. It is now visible in its pink stone ruins and carved facades. It is _____.

It is an Art Deco statue of Jesus Christ in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It is 30 metres (98 ft) tall, excluding its 8 metre (26 ft) pedestal. And its arms stretch 28 metres (92 ft) wide. It is located at the peak of the 700 metre (2,300 ft) Corcovado mountain overlooking the city of Rio. It is _____.



Often mistakenly referred to as the 'Lost City of the Incas', it is the most familiar icon of Inca civilization. It is a 15th century Inca site located 2,430 metres (7,970 ft) above sea level in Peru. It is believed that it was built by the Inca emperor Pachacuti (1438-1472). It is _____.

Literally meaning 'at the mouth of the well of the Itza', it was a large pre-Columbian city built by the Maya people. It is one of the most visited archaeological sites in Mexico. It is _____.



It is an elliptical amphitheatre in the centre of the city of Rome, Italy. Built of concrete and stone, it is the largest amphitheatre ever built and is considered one of the greatest works of architecture and engineering. It could hold between 50,000 and 80,000 spectators. It is _____.

Built by Shah Jahan in 1630 in honour of his dead wife, Mumtaz Mahal, this white marble structure combines Indian, Persian and Islamic style of architecture. It is in Agra, India. It is _____.



Did You Know?

The Great Pyramid of Giza, also known as the Pyramid of Khufu or the Pyramid of Cheops is the oldest and largest of the three pyramids in the Giza, Egypt. It is the oldest of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, and the only one to remain intact.



Help Box

Machu Picchu, Taj Mahal, Great Wall of China, Colosseum, Petra, Chichen Itza, Christ the Redeemer

4 AMAZING PLANTS

The earth is home to about 3 lakh species of plants. The diverse group of plants balance the nature and life on Earth. Some plants produce beautiful pleasant smelling flowers while the others produce nutrient rich foods. Some have medicinal properties and some have totally strange appearance.

Some of the strangest plants around the world are given below. Write their names with the help of the help box.

It is the biggest individual flower in the world. It is mainly found in the forests of Sumatra. It can grow up to a size of 3 feet. The plant produce an unpleasant irritating smell.



This plant is also endemic to Sumatra. During flowering the plant stands at 8.2 feet tall. It is the largest branched main stem concerned to flowering plants in the world. The plant also produces the smell of decomposing animal. It is the smelliest and largest flower in the world. These flowers are protected by law as it is very rare. This plant blooms only in every 40 years.

It is a carnivorous plant, native to South East Asia. The plant has an attractive deep red colour. The attractive smell of this plant helps it to easily catch its preys, which are mainly insects and small animals. Some species of this plant can even consume mice. The deep pitcher-like cavity is filled with special fluid which helps to catch the preys. The plant has most mysterious leaf structure and features special digestive enzymes.



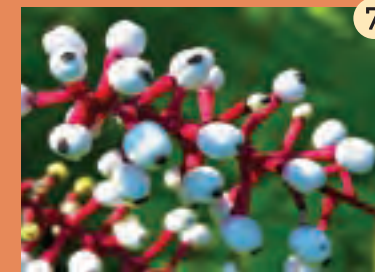
It is another type of carnivorous plant. The plant consumes small insects and animals as food. These plants can be found in the Eastern Carolia especially in wet inhabitants. It has special lobes to trap the prey animals. It closes its lobes immediately when the insects come in contact with the plant.



It is generally known as Euphorbia obesa, native to South Africa. The plant has exactly the same shape of a baseball. It is an unbranched plant with an average height of 20 cm. Male and female flowers grow on different plants. These plants are quite toxic and create severe skin problems. It is protected by National Nature Conservation as it is very rare in the world.



It is also known as 'sensitive plant' or 'shy plant', native to South America. But these plants can be seen all around the world especially in shady areas. The most attractive feature of this plant is nothing but its response to touch. On touching, its leaves immediately fold up. This sensitive nature of leaves is caused by its primitive nervous system which balances flow of water from beneath of leaves.



It is a small ball type plant native to North America forests. It is also called as 'doll's eye' because of its special shaped fruits. Its red thick stems also look very attractive. The flowers are very small with only a size of 6 mm. The fruits of this plant are toxic in nature. This plant has very few leaves and stands 60 cm tall.



This plant can be described as living stones as it looks exactly like stones or pebbles. In fact its unique shape is caused by the merging of two separate leaves at the outer edges of the plant. The leaves grow in very rainy season. Unlike other plants the leaves are brown or grey. This plant can be found in various colours like white, grey, purple and pink. This extremely strange plant species is mainly found in South Africa, which can live for more than 50 years.



This strange plant is mainly found across North America and Europe. It is a special type of fungi that produces blood or juice-like fluid on its surface. It is edible but the blood-like fluid is extremely bitter in taste. It is the scarlet pigment which causes the blood-like colour on the fluid of this plant. It has an unpleasant odour.



It is a unique plant that is found only in the desert of Nambia. It can survive within many extreme weather conditions. This strange species also have separate male and female plants. The most interesting thing about this plant is that it only has two leaves which grow continuously over time. The estimate life span of this strange looking plant is 500 to 1500 years.

Did You Know?

Great Banyan tree in Botanical Garden of Kolkata in India has the widest canopy in the world. It is estimated to be covering an area of 1.2 hectares.



Help Box

White baneberry, Lithop, Mimosa pudica, Hydnellum peckii, Welwitschia mirabilis, Venus flytrap, Rafflesia, Pitcher plant, Baseball plant, Corpse flower

5 WORDS ABOUT WORDS

Do you know that a single word is fit for each of the following descriptions.

Choose from the help box and write against each.

1. A word that comes from the name of a person or thing.
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
2. A word that is used with two different meanings, in a way that is humorous.
○ ○ ○
3. Phrases that mean more than their words put together.
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
4. A word, phrase or sentence that has exactly the same letters when spelled backward or forward.
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
5. A pleasant word or phrase used in place of a harsher word or phrase.
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
6. A word or phrase made by rearranging the letters from another word or phrase.
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
7. The words that sound alike but have different spellings and meanings.
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
8. A name someone makes up and uses to hide his or her true identity.
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
9. A saying or expression that has been used so often by so many people, it has lost its interest.
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
10. An abbreviation formed from the first letters or syllables of a group of words.
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

DID YOU KNOW?

The people of Mesopotamia, i.e. Sumerians, Babylonians and Assyrians created a system of writing that was quite different from that used in Egypt. They invented a handwriting based on straight lines. For this reason, their handwriting was known as 'cuneiform', a word meaning 'wedge-shaped'.

Help Box

Palindrome, Pun, Acronym, Idioms, Cliche, Anagram, Eponym, Pseudonym, Euphemism, Homophones

6 ADVENTUROUS SPORTS

Adventurous sports or extreme sports is a popular term for the sports that involve a high level of inherent danger like speed and height, a high level of physical exertion, and highly specialized gear.

Now, read the description and write the correct name of the adventurous sport against each.

Take help from the help box.

1. An activity that involves jumping from a tall structure while connected to a large elastic cord. Usually the tall structure is a fixed object such as a building, bridge or crane, but some people also jump from a movable object like a hot-air balloon or helicopter. 
2. It is the highest class of single-seat auto racing sanctioned by the FIA (Federation International de Automobile). The cars used in this race are the fastest road course racing cars in the world owing to very high speeds of 360 km/h. 
3. It is an air sport in which a pilot flies a light and non-motorized foot-launch aircraft called a hang glider. The pilot is ensconced in a harness suspended from the airframe and controls the frame by shifting its body weight in the opposite directions. 
4. It is a form of underwater diving in which a diver uses a self-contained underwater breathing apparatus (scuba) to breathe under water. The diver usually moves around underwater by using fins attached to the feet. 
5. It is an activity in which participants climb up, down or across natural rock formations or artificial rock walls. The goal is to reach the summit or the end-point of a usually pre defined route without falling. It can be a dangerous activity and is a physically and mentally demanding sport. 
6. It is performed on long, steep slopes in mountainous terrain typically from 45 to 60 + degrees. Because of the extremely long, steep slopes, and dangerous terrain, single mistake at the wrong moment may lead to being seriously injured or killed. 

Help Box Formula 1, Scuba Diving, Rock Climbing, Hang Gliding, Extreme Skiing, Bungee Jumping