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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 dayto-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 questionanswer 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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TRAFFIC SIGNS

Traffic signs or road signs are the signs erected at the side of the roads to give instructions or provide information to road users. Many countries have adopted pictorial signs to overcome language barriers, and enhance traffic safety. These are usually based on international protocols.

Can you identify these road signs?









Help Box

speed breaker ahead, no right turn, no overtaking, zig-zag bend, two-way traffic, no horn, no u turn, narrow bridge, railway crossing, men at work, pedestrian crossing, school ahead



















DID YOU KNOW?

India has a huge network of roads, covering more than 33 lakh km. This network is second largest in the world and consists of Expressways, National Highways, State Highways, Major District Roads, and Rural and other Roads.



2 CUISINES OF INDIA

India consists of 29 states and 7 union territories. However, that is not what set it apart from the other countries of the world. This nation is so vibrant and diverse, and every state exhibits a different culture, tradition, language and cuisine, etc.

Whether you are spending your holidays up north in Kashmir or down in Kerala, you will witness striking dissimilarities in the kind of foods people savour. And this is what makes India one of the much-loved countries by gourmet foodies the world over.

Below is a listing of a few special dishes of some Indian states. What you have to do is, simply write the name of the state to which they belong.



thepla; dhokla; dhansak; khandvi; Gujarati Kadhi





masala dosa; idli-sambhar; appam; rasam; pongal; chettinad chicken





chhola-bhatura; makke ki roti-sarson da saag; rajma-chawal; amritsari machhli (fish); lassi





litti-chokha; sattu paratha; khaja; tilkut; jhal murhi





Hyderabadi biryani; korikoora; mirchi salan; ghongura pickle; biryani

5



phagshapa; thukpa; momos; sael roti; gundruk

7



doi machh; daab jhingri; sandesh; mishti doi; rasgulla

9



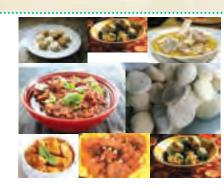
daal-bati; churma; malai ghewar; pyaaz kachori; gatte ki sabzi; kalakand

6



vada-pav; pav-bhaji; thalipeeth; puran poli; shrikhand; modak

8



rogan josh; dum aloo; hoak saag; yakhni; gustaba; kalaadi cheese; tabak maaz

10

Help Box

Punjab Maharashtra Bihar Sikkim Gujarat Andhra Pradesh

Jammu & Kashmir West Bengal Tamil Nadu Rajasthan

3

OUR MYSTERIOUS SOLAR SYSTEM

The solar system is a gravitationally bound system. It comprises of the Sun and all the objects that orbit it, either directly or indirectly. The eight planets of the Solar System in order of decreasing size are Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Earth, Venus, Mars and Mercury. Moons, asteroids, comets, meteoroids and dwarf planets are the objects other than the planets that orbit the Sun.

Fill the name of the object to complete the following sentences.

1	is the closest planet to the Sun. It is named after the messenger of the Roman Gods.	
2	is the hottest planet. It is named after the Roman Goddess of love and beauty.	
3	is perhaps the only planet in the solar system which has conditions suitable for life. It has water and atmosphere. It has one moon.	MIN
4	is called the red planet. It is named after the Roman God of war.	
5	is the biggest of all the planets, with a two-and-a-half times mass that of all the other planets in the Solar System combinely have. It is a gas giant. It is named after the Roman God of the sky and thunder and king of the gods in Ancient Roman religion and mythology.	
6	is the sixth planet from the sun and the second-largest in the Solar System, after Jupiter. It is named after the Roman God of farming. It is also a gas giant.	
7	is the seventh planet from the sun. It was the first planet which was discovered with a telescope, and the only planet whose name is derived from Greek God of the sky. It is an ice giant.	
8	is the eighth and farthest known planet from the sun in the Solar System. It is named after the Roman God of the sea, and is the densest giant planet.	
9	was originally considered to be the ninth planet from the sun, but was demoted from the position by International Astronomical Union (IAU) in 2006. Now it is considered as a dwarf planet.	

4 TREES OF INDIA

India is home to a large variety of trees. They are used in numerous ways in our everyday life.

Some very popular trees of India are given below. Read their description and write their names.



- 1 It is one of the few trees that are considered auspicious in India. It is an essential part of many religious and social observances. Its leaves are like huge and feathery brooms.
- When the army of Alexander the Great entered the Indus valley in 327 BC, they saw it there. Its flowers are dedicated to the moon. Its fruit is called the 'king of fruits'.





- This tree is found in India, Pakistan and Afghanistan in large numbers. It is one of the few plants that bring life in the desolate Thar desert. Its yellow flowers and bright green leaves lend colour to the barren landscape.
- 4 This tree is widely cultivated and also grows in wild all over India and Myanmar. This tree is best known for its sour and slightly bitter fuits, which are an important source of vitamin C.





- 5 This loofy tree can be found all over India and Sri Lanka. It is an extremely common tree, very popular for its lenghty form.
- 6 It has the distinction of bearing the largest edible fruits in the world, which may weigh as much as 45 kg.





- 7 This tree grows best in the dry northern parts of India. It is a great multiple-use tree which is cultivated widely for its hardness and variety of functions. In the months of March and April it is laiden with small, creamy—white and delicately fragrant flowers.
- Has common pine of the Himalayan region seemingly reaches into the clouds, standing at 60-75 metres. The Indian name of it translates into 'tree of the Gods'.



Help Box

Jackfruit, Coconut, Mango, Indian mesquite or acacia, Sissoo Tree, Indian Gooseberry, Himalayan cedar, Mast Tree

STATE ANIMALS

Did you know that for each State of India, there is a State Animal, Bird, Flower and Tree. All of these are considered as State Symbols and indicate the biodiversity of a state, such as Swamp deer is the State Animal of Uttar Pradesh.

Pictures and names of some state animals are given below. Write the name of the state under each to which they belong.



Help Box

Delhi, Bihar, Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Assam

FAMOUS STRUCTURES AND BUILDINGS

Some well-known buildings and structures from around the world are given below. Write their names.

- A bridge of sand and rock between India and Sri Lanka, also known as Rama's Bridge or Rama Setu.
- A series of famous buildings, constructed between 1406 AD to 1420 AD. It was home to Emperors from the Ming dynasty to the end of the Qing dynasty of China.
- This mosque in Mali is one of the most famous buildings in Africa.
- It is a Bahai House of Worship in New Delhi consisting of 27 structures resembling petals of the lotus flower.
- It is a 7th century building located in Jerusalem and a masterpiece of Islamic architecture. The octagonal plan and the rotunda dome of wood are of Byzantine design.
- Nested among the urban streets of Barcelona, it is one of the most imaginative houses in the history of architecture. This is more sculpture than building.
- It is London's most iconic building, sitting at the top of Ludgate Hill, the highest point in the City of London. Its famous dome is one of the world's largest, measuring nearly 112 metres high.
- Standing at 451.9 metres-tall, these twin skyscrapers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia held the title of tallest in the world between 1998-2004.
- Meaning cube in Arabic, it is a square building located in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. It is a most sacred place in Islam.
- This garish, candy coloured cathedral is in fact Moscow's most visited tourist attraction. Shaped to resemble the flame of a bonfire rising into the sky, it is located just outside the Kremlin gates and marks the geometric centre of the city.

Help Box



Great Mosque of Djenne

La Pedrera



Petronas Towers

Dome of the Rock





St Basil's **Cathedral**

Adam's Bridge



The Forbidden City





Lotus Temple

St Paul's **Cathedral**