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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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AROUND US

1

CUISINES OF THE WORLD

A cuisine is specific set of cooking traditions and practices, often associated with a specific culture or region. Each cuisine involves food preparation in a particular style.

Name these famous dishes from around the world.

It is a type of South Asian dumpling, popular in Tibet, Nepal, Bhutan, and Sikkim, Assam and Darjeeling. It is made of a simple flour and water dough. The filling may be of meat or a mixture of vegetables. The dumplings are cooked by steaming over a soup, which is served with the dumplings.





It is an oven-baked, flat, usually round bread, covered with tomato sauce and cheese with other toppings. While originating as a part of Italian cuisine, it has become an extremely popular dish all over the world.

It is a Japanese dish of specially prepared vinegared rice, usually with some sugar or salt, combined with various toppings or fillings especially seafood, but also vegetables, mushrooms, eggs or meat, and occasionally tropical fruits.





Originated in Germany, it is a sandwich that consists of a cooked patty of mixed meat. The patty is generally served with vegetables, various condiments and toppings inside a sliced bun. They are often served with French fries, potato chips or onion rings.

It is a Chinese dish of stir-fried noodles. It consists of noodles, meat, cabbage, bamboo shoots, pea pods, green peppers and carrots. It is often served with soya sauce and vinegar. It is particularly popular in United States, UK, India and Nepal.





It is a popular dish in Spain and Mexico that can be served either cold or hot. It is a delicious half-inch thick 'cake' of fried potatoes mixed with fried eggs and onions.



A *croissant* is a buttery, flaky, viennoiserie pastry named for its crescent shape. It is made of a layered yeast-leavened dough. The dough is layered with butter, rolled and folded several times in succession. Its place of origin is France, where it is usually eaten in breakfast.



Help Box
Hamburger Momo Sushi
Chow mein Tortilla Pizza

5

2 CROPS OF INDIA

India is a land of diversity not only culturally but also by the soil profile and climate. Due to this a variety of food and cash crops are grown here. Categories of crops in India are:

- Food crops Wheat, rice, maize, millets and pulses, etc.
- Cash crops Sugar cane, cotton, jute, tobacco and oilseeds, etc.
- Plantation crops Tea, coffee, coconut and rubber, etc.
- Horticulture crops Fruits and vegetables.

Some crops produced in India are given below. Can you identify them?

1 It is one of the most important beverage crops. The major producers of this crop are Assam, Darjeeling, Tamil Nadu, Meghalaya, West Bengal, Kerala, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh.



2 It is a fibre crop which is soft, and grows as a white ball. The main states in India for producing this crop are Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.



It is the staple food of people in North India. The states to produce this crop are Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra and Gujarat.



4 It is grown in many parts of the country. In other parts of Asia and in Africa, it is primarily a human food product, while in United States it is used mainly for livestock feed. Other than Maharashtra, it is also planted in states like Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu as well as Karnataka.



5 It is a very important crop and is used for sugar production. The states where this crop is produced are Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Punjab, Bihar, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Uttarakhand.





6 It is a staple food of people living in western and northern part of India. Major states for growing this crop are Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Bihar, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.



7 It is the most important food grain consumed all over the India. Eastern shoreline areas, western shoreline areas, West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh are the main states to produce this crop.



B The substance emitted from the trees of this crop is called latex. A very useful thing is manufactured from the latex. The main states growing it are Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Meghalaya, Karnataka and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.



9 This Indian crop is famous worldwide for its fine quality. It is grown in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. A large amount of the produce is exported to various parts of the world.



10 It is also called the golden crop or golden fibre. Major states for producing this crop are West Bengal, Odisha, Assam, Meghalaya and Bihar.

Help Box

Sugar cane Jowar
Coffee Rice
Tea Jute
Wheat Rubber
Maize Cotton



Pulses are essential diets for most of the Indians. Pulses are produced in many states, such as Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Bihar, etc. They are the main sources of protein. The main pulses that are planted in India are moong, urad, masur, gram, arhar, chickpea, etc.



SUPERLATIVE FAUNA

Some animals are adorned with special attributes. Their unique characteristics are given below.

Can you identify them?

- 1 The smallest bird
- The fastest dog
- The largest underwater carnivore
- The heaviest snake in the world
- The biggest breed of cats
- 6 The heaviest living bird of North America
- 7 The longest insect
- The biggest eater in the animal kingdom
- World's smallest monkey
- 10 The longest migration
- 11 The only cat that cannot retract its claws
- 12 The fastest swimming mammal

Help Box



4

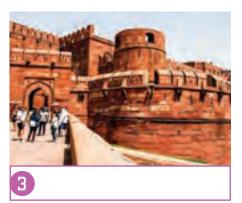
WORLD HERITAGE SITES

A World Heritage Site is a landmark or area selected by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Oragnisation (UNESCO) for having some cultural, scientific, historical or any other form of significance, and is legally protected by international treaties. These sites are considered important to the collective interests of the humanity.

Some World Heritage Sites from across India are given below. Write their names.



















Help Box

Elephanta Caves (Mumbai), Jantar Mantar (Jaipur), Group of Monuments at Hampi (Ballari, Karnataka), Red Fort (Agra), Ajanta Caves (Aurangabad), Mahabodhi Temple (Gaya), Humayun's Tomb (Delhi), Sun Temple (Konark), Khajuraho Temple (Khajuraho)



The *Shree Jagannath Temple* of Puri is an important Hindu temple dedicated to Lord Jagannath, a form of Lord Vishnu. The temple is located on the eastern coast of India, at Puri in the state of Odisha. It is one of the four great 'Char Dham' pilgrimage sites, found at India's four cardinal points. The temple is famous for its annual Rath Yatra, in which the three principal deities are pulled on huge and elaborately decorated temple cars.





5

BEAUTIFUL PLACES

There are many beautiful landforms in different parts of the world. A landform is a natural feature of the solid surface of the earth. They are categorized by characteristic physical attributes such as elevation, orientation, slope, stratification, rock exposure and soil type.

Some amazing sites are given below. Write their names.

1 It is well known for its colourful, undulating forms. It is made of 190-million-year-old sand dunes that have turned to red rock. It is between Arizona and Utah in the USA.



2 It has an interior formed by stalactites, stalagmites and a huge and wonderful blue lake. It holds two caves with interesting but fragile calcareous formations. It is called 'Gruta do Lago Azul Natural Monument' in Brazil.



Found in Hunan, China, this wonder is made up of over 3,000 limestone karsts. It has scenic waterfalls and some of Asia's biggest limestone caves. It was inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1992.



Off the Australian coast, it is the world's largest reef consisting of sea turtles, crocodiles, seahorses, dolphins, whales and more. It is the largest living thing on the earth, and even visible from outer space.





It is just one of those places that are hard to believe really exist. These are colourful rocks that form hills and valleys in China. They are formed due to mineral and sandstone deposits.



It is found in the Hualapai Valley of Nevada, USA. It was accidently created by a geothermal company in its quest to find water by drilling a test well. It is approximately 1.5 metre (5 feet) high and 3.7 metre (12 feet) wide. It is also known as Fly Ranch Geyser.



These are in Norway. They are long, narrow bodies of water surrounded by steep cliffs, brimming with coral reefs, created by a glacier. The glacier usually cuts a U-shaped valley by ice segregation and abrasion of the surrounding bedrock.



It is a giant submarine sinkhole off the coast of Belize. The water, which is 124 metre (407 feet) deep, gives it a blue colour.

Help Box

Wulingyuan The Wave Fly Geyser
Blue Lake Cave Great Barrier Reef
Fjords Great Blue Hole

Zhangue Danxia Landform



Zhangjiajie Glass Bridge is a bridge located in Zhangjiajie, China, above the Wulingyuan area. The bridge is glass-bottomed and is transparent. It is built as an attraction for the tourists.

