

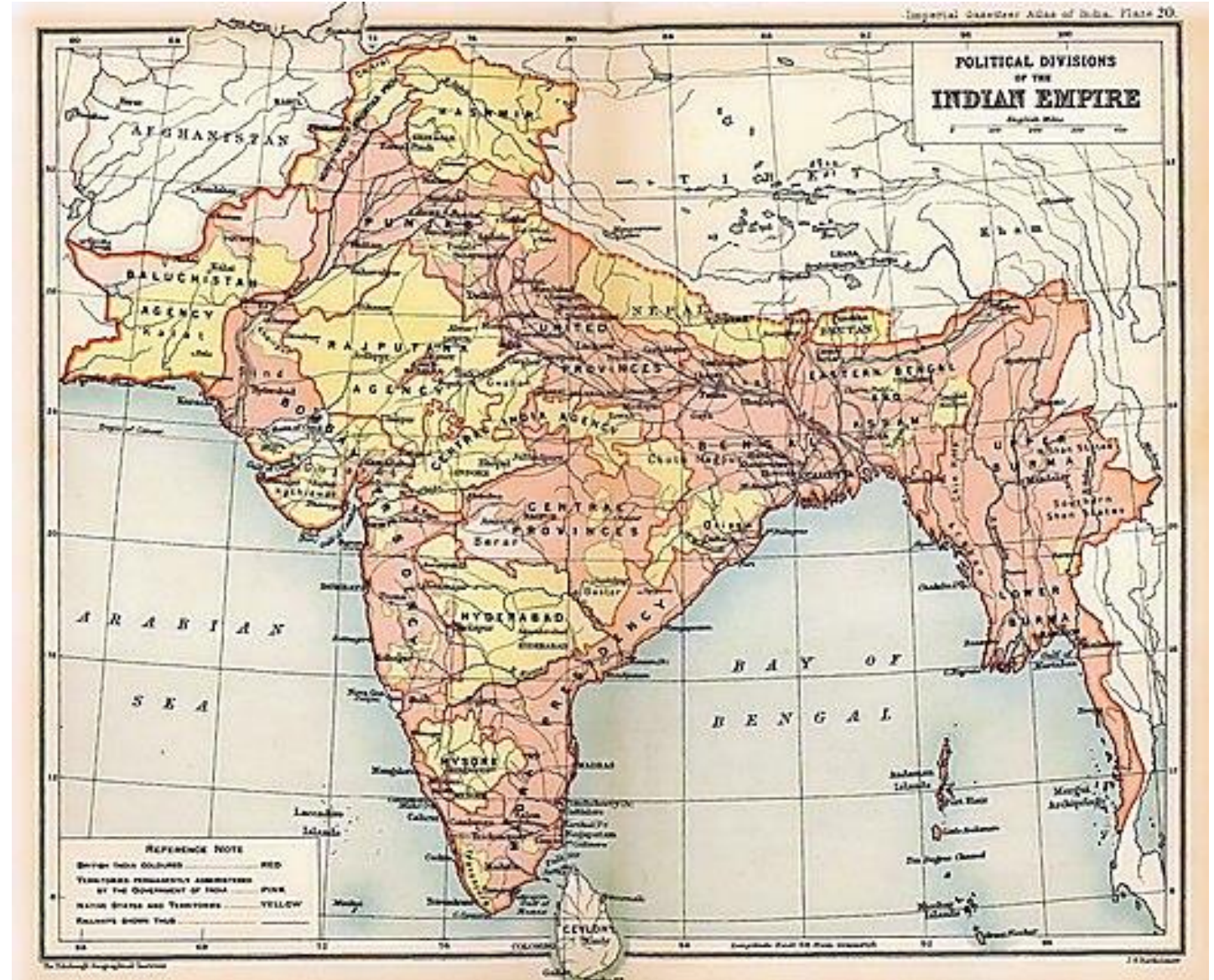
India



Quiz

1. How many people live in India?
 - a) 1,228,000,000
 - b) 1,390,000,000
 - c) 1,430,000,000
2. How many official languages are spoken in India?
 - a) 5
 - b) 14
 - c) 22
3. What is the capital city of India?
 - a) New Delhi
 - b) Mumbai
 - c) Kolkata
4. When did India become independent from the UK?
 - a) 1939
 - b) 1950
 - c) 1947
5. What is the longest river in India?
 - a) Indus
 - b) Ganges
 - c) Godavari

Why do so many people in India speak English?



History of India



Pre-Colonial India



- India is a very old civilization which goes back to 2500 BC.
- It has always been a very diverse country, with many different rulers, religions, languages and ethnicities.
- In the 18th century, most of India was ruled by the Mughal empire, with other parts ruled by other local kings.
- India had many profitable goods to trade, such as spices, tea, cotton, and precious stones and metals.
- Indian-European trade goes back to the ancient world, but became difficult during the 15th century because of the Ottoman Empire.
- This led Europeans, especially from Portugal, Spain, Britain, and the Netherlands, to seek new routes to India to continue trade.



The East India Company

- The East India Company was a British company created in 1600 to trade with the Indian subcontinent and south east Asia.
- They made agreements with the rulers of India to create settlements which eventually became cities, including Madras, Calcutta and Bombay.
- As the company grew, they also began hiring soldiers and created their own army to defend their ships and trading posts.
- Through the company, British power in India began to grow, until in 1757, the Company defeated the Indian rulers in the Battle of Plassey and took control of large parts of India.



The Raj

- The Raj is the name for the period when the British government directly controlled India. It is a Hindi word that means “rule”.
- After a rebellion in 1857 against the East India Company, the British government took control. This made India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka part of the British Empire.
- Most Indian states were still ruled by their own princes and kings, but the British forced them to rule in a way the British liked or would be removed.
- Many British people came to live in India as diplomats and soldiers, and during this time Indians and the English introduced each other to different parts of their culture.
- Indians were often treated as second-class citizens in their own country during the Raj and not allowed to make decisions about how it was ruled, and many Indians suffered violence, starvation, and mistreatment under the British Raj.



Independence



- India was one of the first British colony to gain independence.
- During the 20th century, many Indians began to feel that India should rule itself and not be part of the British Empire.
- The First and Second World War were very important in India's fight for independence.
- Mahatma Gandhi, an Indian lawyer and independence activist, started a campaign for independence, encouraging Indian people to resist British rule in non-violent ways.
- On 15th August 1947, the colony of India was split into two countries – India and Pakistan – on the basis of religion, which was called Partition.
- Partition was a disaster as it required millions of people to travel across India and Pakistan to go to the other country, and resulted in tragic violence and millions of deaths.

Culture of India



Festivals

- The main religion in India is Hinduism.
- Hinduism is a religion with many gods and goddesses, so there are many festivals throughout the year to worship and celebrate them. Two festivals that are very famous around the world are Holi and Diwali.
- Holi is a festival of spring and is known as the “festival of colours”. During the festival, thousands of people gather in the streets and throw paint and colourful water at each other.
- Diwali is in October or November and is the festival of lights. It is a 5-day festival, and is celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs and Jains. People light lamps and create beautiful patterns, called rangoli, out of powders and paints. There are also usually fireworks.
- These festivals are often celebrated in other religions of India as well, such as Sikhism and Jainism.





Indian Food

- Food is an important part of Indian culture,
- Each region of India has its own traditional foods and drinks, and the Indian food eaten internationally is usually a mix of these.
- Indian food is often very hot, using many different herbs and spices.
- In India, food is usually eaten with your hands.
- Popular ingredients include rice, potatoes, chickpeas, lentils.





Curry

- Curry is a word used for a variety of dishes that can be made using meat, vegetable, or lentils.
- Curry is a spicy sauce that is usually eaten alongside meat or vegetables and served with rice.

Samosa

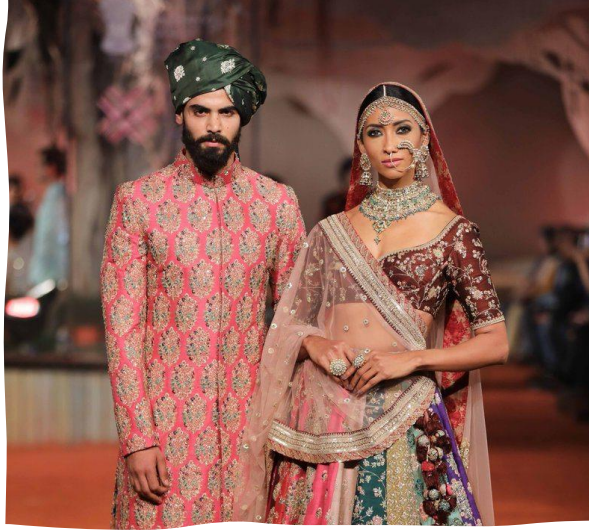
- Samosas are a fried or baked pastry dish.
- They are filled with spiced meat and vegetables, and eaten with different sauces.
- They are eaten as a starter or as a side dish with other foods.





Naan/Roti

- Naans and rotis are types of flatbread made in India.
- Rotis are slightly thinner than naans, and are eaten in different parts of India.
- They are served alongside curries and other dishes.
- They can be filled with other ingredients, such as coconut and raisins.



Fashion and Clothing

- India has many traditional types of clothing, such as saris, salwar kameez, and kurta. These might be worn day-to-day, or only on special occasions.
- Indian clothes are often made of brightly coloured, patterned and embroidered fabrics.
- Different styles of clothing are popular in different parts of India.
- Henna, a form of temporary dye, is also used to dye your hair or paint patterns on your skin for special occasions, such as weddings or religious festivals.





Tourism

India has many famous and beautiful monuments.

The Taj Mahal is probably the most famous. It is one of the seven wonders of the world and was built in the 17th century as a memorial by the king to his wife.

India also has many temples, palaces, and forts, built by all the cultures that have existed in India throughout its history.

India is also popular for tourists because of its wildlife, and has many national parks and animal reserves, where you can see elephants, tigers, bears and leopards.





Amber Fort
(Jaipur), Golden
Temple (Amritsar),
Meenakshi Amman
Temple (Madurai),
Ranakpur Temple
(Ranakpur)





Music and Dance



- Music and dance are very important parts of Indian culture.
- Music and dance are used as part of their religion and to tell stories about their histories and mythologies.
- Music and dance are very expressive and used to communicate emotions.
- Indian music uses many different instruments, such as the sitar (similar to a guitar), the shehnai (similar to a trumpet or a flute) and drums.

Bollywood



- Bollywood was the name given to the Indian film industry, combining the names “Hollywood” and “Bombay”, the city where many of the films were made.
- Bollywood is the world’s biggest film industry in terms of the number of films made and the tickets sold.
- Bollywood films are usually filmed in Hindi or Urdu, two of the principal languages of India, or in a mix of the two, known as “Hindustani”.
- Many Bollywood films are musicals, featuring lots of music, dance, elaborate costumes and dramatic acting.
- India has its own special genre of film, called “masala” films, which are more than one genre – they can be action, romance, comedy and drama all at once.



How has Britain affected India?



- The legacy of British Empire in India can be seen in many ways:
 - Most obviously, English is the language of government in India, and is spoken by as many as 400 million Indians today.
 - After Independence, India created a Parliament very similar to the British Parliament in London.
 - The Indian Civil Service – people who assist the government – was created during the Raj and still exists in India today.
 - The Indian system of law and courts was also modelled on the British judicial system.
 - Many of India's most popular sports, such as cricket, were introduced to them by the British.
 - India relies heavily on its railways for trade, many of which were first built during the British Empire.

How has India affected Britain?



- However, India has also affected Britain in many important ways:
 - Over 3 million Indians, Pakistanis and Bangladeshis live in the UK.
 - It is common in British cities to see celebrations for festivals such as Holi and Diwali, that many non-Asian people also participate in.
 - The English language features many words that come from languages spoken in India, such as “pyjamas”, “bungalow”, “shampoo” or “shawl”.
 - Indian food and flavours are very popular in the UK – almost every town or village has at least one Indian takeaway shop, and many families have a curry regularly at home.
 - One of Britain’s most popular drinks – tea – also comes from India. India is the top producer of tea in the world, and types of tea such as Assam and Darjeeling are grown and imported from India to Britain every day.
 - India influenced British architecture, such as the Royal Pavilion in Brighton, which was built in an Indian style.
 - India also influenced many famous British people, such as Rudyard Kipling, who wrote “The Jungle Book”.

The Commonwealth



- The Commonwealth is an association of countries, most of which used to be part of the British Empire, who are connected through shared language, culture, and history.
- It has 54 members, only two of which were never part of the British Empire (Mozambique and Rwanda).
- The Commonwealth is mostly a symbolic and cultural organization, and doesn't have much political use, like the EU or UN.
- The Commonwealth creates educational links between countries to make studying between them easier, and also hosts the Commonwealth Games, a sports competition, every four years.

Questions

- 1. What was the name of the British company that set up cities in India?
- 2. What is the meaning of the word “Raj”?
- 3. What countries were created by Partition?
- 4. What are the two most famous festivals in India?
- 5. Why was the Taj Mahal built?
- 6. What city did the name “Bollywood” come from?
- 7. What is a “masala” film?
- 8. Name one English word that comes from an Indian language.