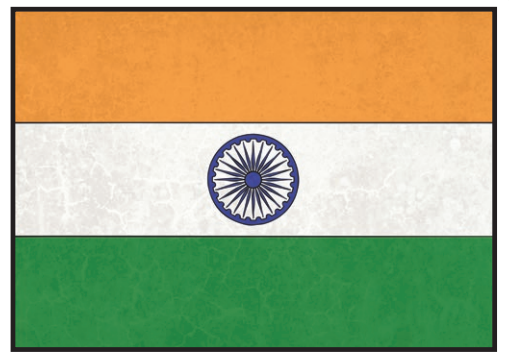


India



Living in India

India has the second-largest population in the world. The population was 1.38 billion in 2020, around one sixth of the world's total population. However, the country itself only covers 2% of the world's total surface area, making some areas of India overcrowded and busy.

School

In 2010, it became compulsory for children to attend school between the ages of 6 to 14 in India. Despite the number of children who can read and write increasing since then, school children living in the rural areas of India still face challenges with limited access to facilities, equipment, qualified teachers and technology.

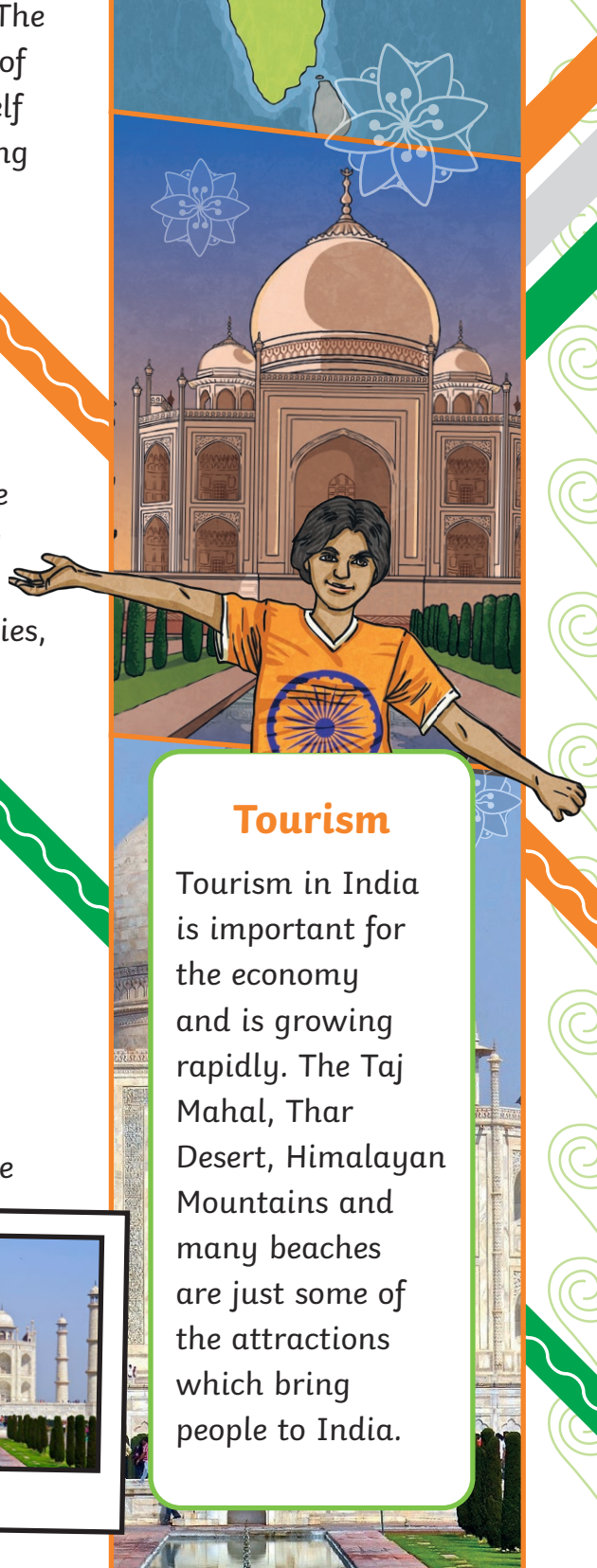
Work

- Farming is the largest employer in India's economy.
- Due to the large English-speaking population, India provides lots of services for other countries around the world, such as support call centres.
- The IT (Information Technology) industry is one of the largest employers in India.
- The Indian automobile industry employs many people and is one of the largest in the world. In 2020, it manufactured 22.7 million vehicles including passenger and commercial vehicles, motorbikes and quadricycles.



Tourism

Tourism in India is important for the economy and is growing rapidly. The Taj Mahal, Thar Desert, Himalayan Mountains and many beaches are just some of the attractions which bring people to India.



Transport

The main methods of travel in India are cars, buses, planes, trains and bicycles. As the cities are highly populated, roads can be very chaotic and the public transport systems are among the most heavily used in the world. Buses, cycle-rickshaws, auto-rickshaw taxis, boats and trains provide transport around India's cities.

India's rail network is the fourth longest and the most heavily used system in the world. In 2020, Indian Railways carried more than 22 million passengers a day!

A cycle-rickshaw



Sport

Across India, many different sports are played. Cricket is the most popular sport, while football is also very popular. The country has won eight Olympic gold medals in field hockey, another game enjoyed in India.

India has hosted and co-hosted several international sporting events, including the Asian Games, the Cricket World Cup, the Hockey World Cup and the Commonwealth Games.

Food

Since India is so diverse, its food is varied. Rice is the staple grain used in many meals and lentils are also very popular. India is famous for its spices and traditional dishes, such as curries, which usually contains a variety of spices. Common spices are ginger, cardamom, turmeric and cinnamon. Garam masala is a popular spice mixture.

Festivals

The country celebrates Independence Day (15th August) and Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday (2nd October). Diwali is the largest and most important holiday for India. It is a five-day religious festival known as the festival of lights. Holi, the festival of colours, is celebrated in the spring.

Religion

Religion is very important in the life of many Indian people. The most practised religion is Hinduism, with 94% of the world's Hindus living in India. Islam, Christianity, Sikhism, Buddhism and Jainism are the other significant major religions in India.

Traditional Dress

Indian women often wear colourful silk saris. The traditional clothing for men is the dhoti, a piece of cloth that is tied around the waist and legs. Men also wear a kurta; a knee-length loose shirt.

"Cycle Rickshaw" by bandarji is licensed under CC BY 2.0

Questions

1. What fraction of the world's total population is India's population?

2. Why do you think compulsory school attendance was introduced in India?

3. List **two** industries that are major providers of employment for the people of India.

1. _____

2. _____

4. Describe what you think it would be like to travel on an Indian Railways train and why?

5. Draw **three** lines and match each number with the correct statistic.

1.38 billion

number of passengers Indian Railways
carried in 2020

22.7 million

India's population in 2020

22 million

number of vehicles manufactured in
India in 2020

6. Which sports does the text mention as being popular in India? Tick **two**.

☐ Field hockey

☐ Skiing

☐ Cricket

☐ Rugby

7. Find and copy a word that means the same as 'different and varied'.

8. Would you like to visit India? Give reasons for your answer.

Answers

1. What fraction of the world's total population is India's population?

India's population is one sixth of the world's population.

2. Why do you think compulsory school attendance was introduced in India?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think compulsory school attendance was introduced to improve literacy and to make sure all children in India could have an education.

3. List **two** industries that are major providers of employment for the people of India.

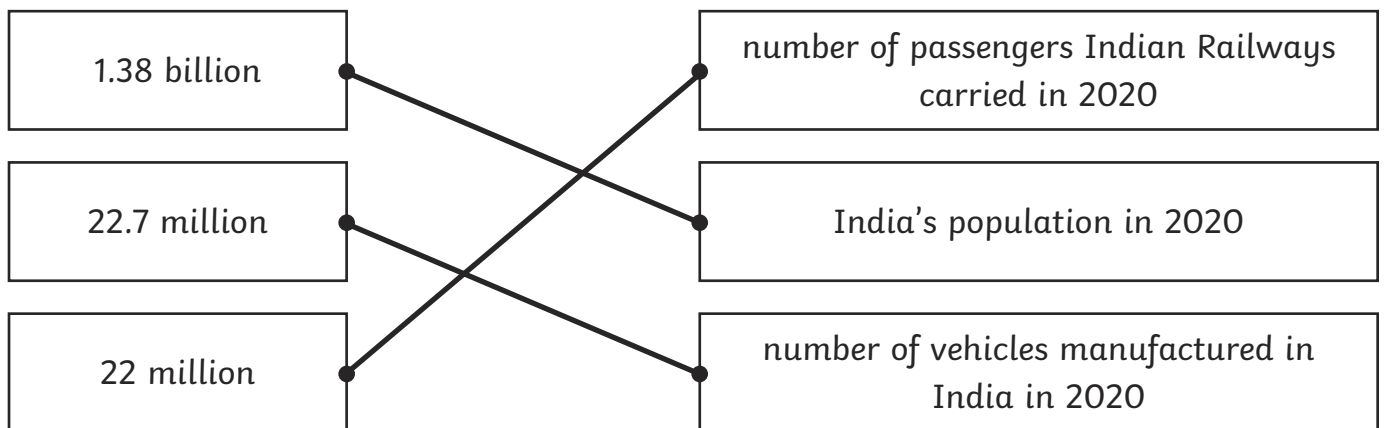
Accept any two answers from the following industries:

Farming, IT or Automobile

4. Describe what you think it would be like to travel on an Indian Railways train and why?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think it would probably be very busy and crowded on the trains in India because the network carries more than 22 million passengers per day.

5. Draw **three** lines and match each number with the correct statistic.



6. Which sports does the text mention as being popular in India? Tick **two**.

☒ **Field hockey**

☐ Skiing

☒ **Cricket**

☐ Rugby

7. Find and copy a word that means the same as 'different and varied'.

Diverse

8. Would you like to visit India? Give reasons for your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Yes, I would like to visit India to see Taj Mahal and the beaches and to taste some of the delicious food.

India



Living in India

India has the second-largest population in the world. The population was 1.38 billion in 2020, around one sixth of the world's total population. It is a bright and vibrant country with a mix of different cultures and people. However, despite the large numbers of people living in India, the country itself covers only 2% of the world's total surface area. This makes some areas of India overcrowded and busy.

School

Literacy levels have increased since attending school became compulsory for children between the ages of 6 to 14 in 2010. However, rural school children have historically been disadvantaged in their level of educational quality and opportunities compared to those living in urban areas. This is largely due to limited access to facilities, equipment, qualified teachers and technology.

Work

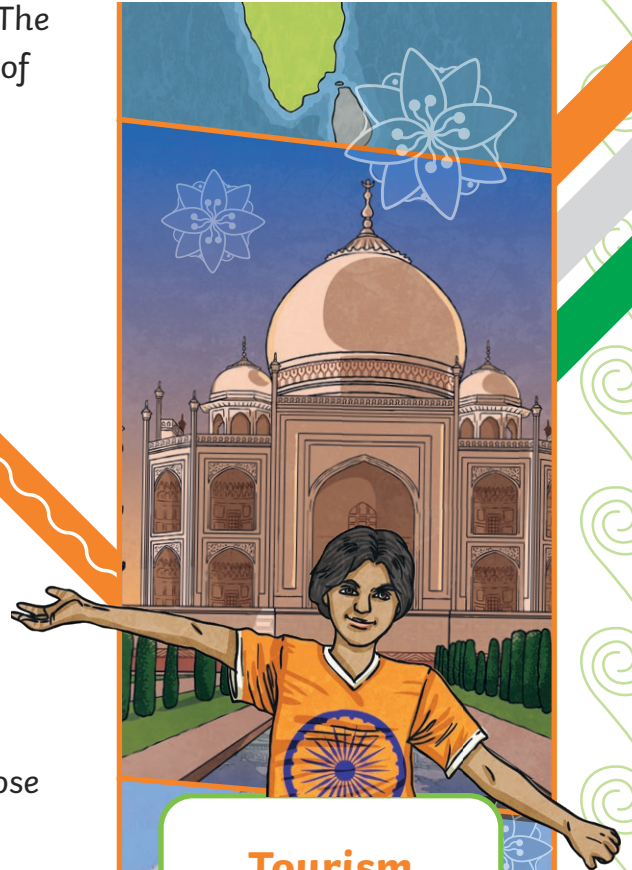
The farming sector is the largest employer in India's economy. Due to the large English-speaking population, India provides lots of global services, such as IT (Information Technology) support call centres.

The Indian automobile industry is one of the largest in the world. In 2020, it manufactured 22.7 million vehicles including passenger and commercial vehicles, motorbikes and quadricycles.



Tourism

Tourism in India is important for the economy and is growing rapidly. The Taj Mahal, Thar Desert, Himalayan Mountains and many beaches are just some of the attractions which draw people to visit India.



Transport

Cars, buses, planes, trains and bicycles are the main means of travel in India. As the cities are highly populated, roads can be very chaotic and the public transport systems are among the most heavily used in the world. Buses, cycle-rickshaws, auto-rickshaw taxis, boats and urban trains provide transport around India's cities. India's rail network, Indian Railways (IR) is the fourth longest and the most heavily used system in the world with 7,112 stations. In 2020, IR carried more than 22 million passengers a day!

Sport

Across India, many different sports are played. Cricket is the most popular sport, while football is also popular. The country has won eight Olympic gold medals in field hockey, another game enjoyed in India.

India has hosted and co-hosted several international sporting events, including the Asian Games, the Cricket World Cup, the Hockey World Cup and the Commonwealth Games.



Food

Cooking styles vary from region to region; however, rice is the staple grain used in many dishes and lentils and chickpeas are also very popular. Indian food is rich with spices, including ginger, cardamom, turmeric and cinnamon. Garam masala is a popular spice mixture. Chutneys made from ingredients such as tamarind, tomatoes, mint, coriander and other herbs, are also used in Indian cooking. There is a wide array of bread served with meals, including naan (an oven-baked flatbread) and poppadoms (disc shaped, fried, crispy bread). Mangoes, guavas and bananas are common tropical fruits in India.

Festivals

The country celebrates Independence Day (15th August) and Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday (2nd October). Holi, the festival of colours, is celebrated in the spring. Diwali, known as the festival of lights, is a hugely significant festival for Indians. The five-day Hindu festival celebrates the victory of good over evil and light over darkness.

Religion

For many Indians, religion plays an important role in their lives. Hinduism is the most common religion in the country, with 94% of the world's Hindus living in India. There are also many Hindu shrines and temples situated there. However, there are also significant populations of Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains in India.

Traditional Dress

An example of traditional clothing for women is the sari. It is a draped, robe-like dress, often brightly coloured and made from silk. The traditional clothing for men is the dhoti, a piece of cloth that resembles trousers. Men also wear a kurta; a knee-length, loose shirt.



"Cricket" by [photoboom](#) and "Sari" by [nicocrisafulli](#) is licensed under [CC BY 2.0](#)

Questions

1. Fill in the missing words.

India has the second-largest _____ in the world. The population was 1.38 _____ in 2020, around one sixth of the world's total population.

2. Why do you think compulsory school attendance was introduced in India?

3. List **three** industries that are major providers of employment for the people of India.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

4. Describe what you think it would be like to travel on an Indian Railways train and why?

5. Draw **four** lines and match each number with the correct statistic.

1.38 billion

22.7 million

22 million

7112

number of passengers Indian Railways carried in 2020

India's population in 2020

number of stations India's rail network has

number of vehicles manufactured in India in 2020

6. Tick whether the statements about India are true or false.

	True	False
Hockey is the most popular sport.		
The dhoti and kurta are traditional clothing for men.		
84% of the world's Hindus live in India.		
Holi, the festival of colours, is celebrated in spring.		

7. What ingredients might be used in an Indian curry and what could it be served with?

8. Find and copy a word that is used in the text to describe the opposite of 'rural'.

9. Would you like to visit India? Give reasons for your answer.

Answers

1. Fill in the missing words.

India has the second-largest **population** in the world. The population was 1.38 **billion** in 2020, around one sixth of the world's total population.

2. Why do you think compulsory school attendance was introduced in India?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think compulsory school attendance was introduced to improve literacy and to make sure all children in India could have an education.

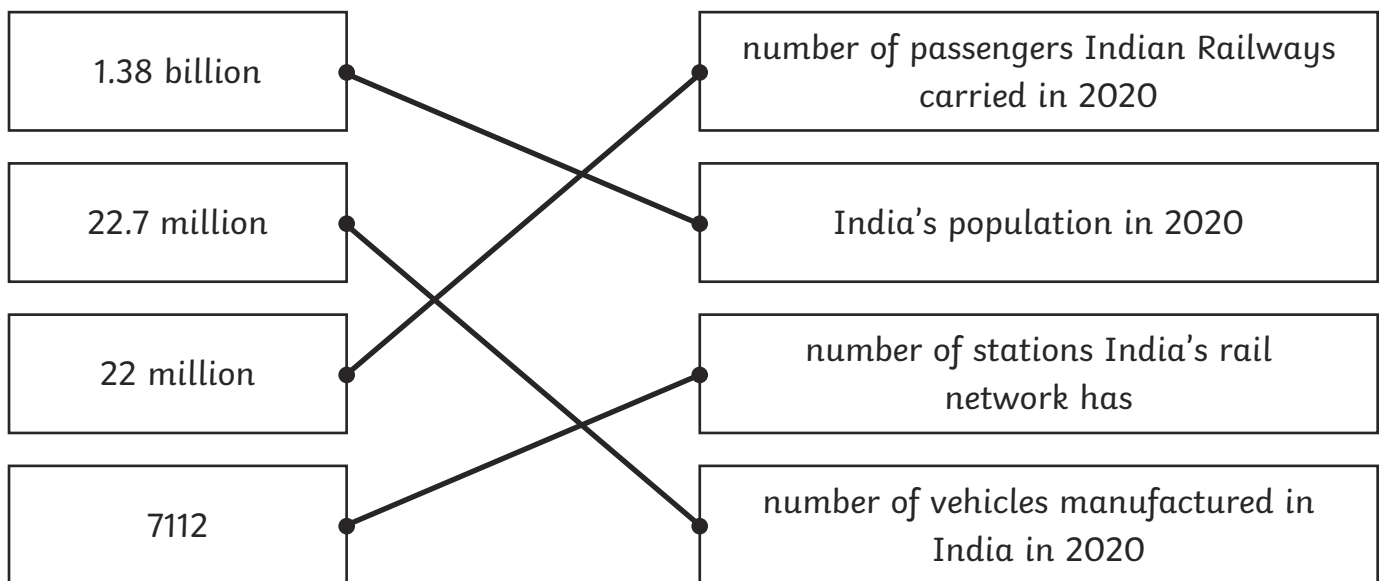
3. List **three** industries that are major providers of employment for the people of India.

Farming, IT and Automobile

4. Describe what you think it would be like to travel on an Indian Railways train and why?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think it would probably be very busy and crowded on the trains in India because the network carries more than 22 million passengers per day.

5. Draw **four** lines and match each number with the correct statistic.



6. Tick whether the statements about India are true or false.

	True	False
Hockey is the most popular sport.		✓
The dhoti and kurta are traditional clothing for men.	✓	
84% of the world's Hindus live in India.		✓
Holi, the festival of colours, is celebrated in spring.	✓	

7. What ingredients might be used in an Indian curry and what could it be served with?
Pupils' own responses, such as: A curry might be made with lentils and chickpeas. It might have lots of spices, including ginger, cardamom, turmeric, cinnamon and garam masala. It might be served with rice and chutneys made from tamarind, tomatoes, mint, coriander and other herbs. Bread like naan and poppadoms might also be served to help you eat it.
8. Find and copy a word that is used in the text to describe the opposite of 'rural'.
urban
9. Would you like to visit India? Give reasons for your answer.
Pupils' own responses, such as: I would like to visit India to see Taj Mahal and the beaches and to taste some of the delicious food.

India



Living in India

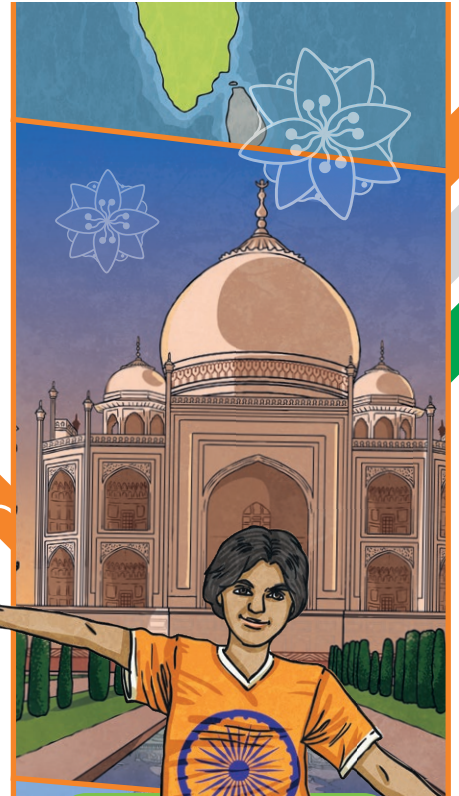
India is a country whose population currently represents around one sixth of the world's total population. In 2020, the population was recorded at 1.38 billion people. It is a bright and vibrant country with an eclectic mix of different cultures and people. However, despite the large numbers of people living in India, the country itself covers only 2% of the world's total surface area, making areas of India overcrowded and busy.

School

Literacy levels have increased since compulsory school attendance for all children up to the age of 14 was introduced in 2010. However, there are still many children not attending school since enrolment is checked but not attendance. On the whole, school children living in rural India are (and historically have been) disadvantaged in terms of educational quality and opportunities compared to those living in urban areas. This is largely due to inadequate access to facilities, equipment, qualified teachers and technology.

Work

The agricultural sector is the largest employer in India's economy. Due to the large English-speaking population, India provides lots of global services, such as IT support call centres and this industry continues to be one of the largest employers in the country. The Indian automobile industry is one of the largest in the world with an annual production of 22.7 million vehicles in 2020, including passenger and commercial vehicles, motorbikes and quadricycles. It is also the world's largest tractor manufacturer and second largest bus manufacturer, thus providing employment for many people in India.



Tourism

Tourism in India is important for the economy and is expanding rapidly. The Taj Mahal, Thar Desert, Himalayan Mountains and many beaches are just some of the attractions which entice people to visit India.

Transport

As the cities are highly populated, roads can be very congested and India's public transport systems are among the most heavily used in the world. Public transport remains the primary mode of transport for most of the population. Buses, cycle-rickshaws, auto-rickshaw taxis, boats and urban trains provide transport around cities. India's rail network, Indian Railways (IR) is the fourth longest and the most heavily used system in the world with 7,112 stations. In 2020, IR carried more than 22 million passengers a day!



Sport

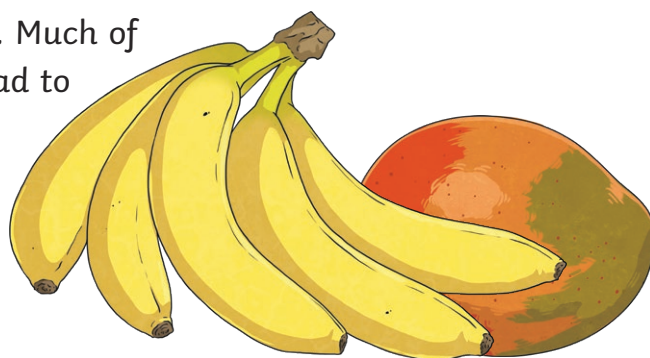
Across India, many different sports are played. Cricket is the most widespread and popular, while football is also a favoured sport. The country has won eight Olympic gold medals in field hockey, another game widely enjoyed in India.

India has hosted and co-hosted several international sporting events, including the Asian Games, the Cricket World Cup, the Hockey World Cup and the Commonwealth Games. The National Games of India has been held in the country since 1924.



Food

Cooking styles vary from region to region across the country and curry is the dish commonly associated with India. Wheat, basmati rice and pulses like chickpeas are important staples of the Indian diet. Indian food is rich with spices, including ginger, cardamom, turmeric, and cinnamon. Garam masala is a widely used spice mixture. Chutneys made from fruits and vegetables such as tamarind, tomatoes, mint, coriander and other herbs are used generously in Indian cooking. Much of Indian food is eaten with your fingers or with bread to scoop it up. There is a wide array of bread served with meals, including naan (an oven-baked flatbread), poppadoms (disc shaped, fried, crispy bread) and bhatoora (a fried, fluffy flatbread). Mangoes, guavas and bananas are common tropical fruits in India.



"Cycle Rickshaw" by bandarji is licensed under CC BY 2.0

Festivals

Holi, the festival of colours (celebrated in the spring), Independence Day (15th August) and Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday (2nd October) are celebrated in India. Diwali, known as the festival of lights, is a hugely significant religious festival for Indians. This five-day festival takes place around October/November time and celebrates the victory of good over evil, light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance.



Holi Celebrations – Festival of Colours

Religion

Religion plays a significant role in the life of many people in India. The most prevalent religion is Hinduism (approximately 80%), with most of the Hindu shrines, temples and birthplaces of Hindu saints located in India. The other major religions in India are Islam, Christianity, Sikhism, Buddhism and Jainism.

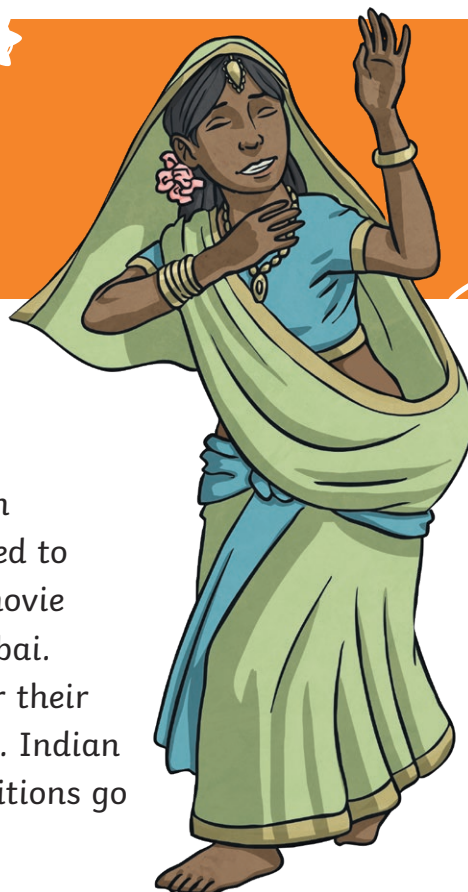
Traditional Dress

Traditional Indian clothing for women is closely identified with the colourful silk sari (a draped, robe-like dress). Customary clothing for men is the dhoti, an unstitched piece of cloth tied around the waist and legs that resembles trousers. Men also wear a kurta; a knee-length loose shirt.



Bollywood

India is well known for its film industry, which is often referred to as Bollywood. The country's movie history began in 1896 in Mumbai. Today, the films are known for their elaborate singing and dancing. Indian dance, music and theatre traditions go back more than 2,000 years.



"Celebration" by [kg.abhi](#) and "Sari" by [nicocrisafulli](#) are licensed under [CC BY 2.0](#)

Questions

1. What does the fact that one sixth of the world's population living in 2% of the world's surface tell you about life in India?

2. What do you think needs to happen to improve the education offered to children living in rural India and why?

3. List **three** industries that are major providers of employment for the people of India.

1.

2.

3.

4. Describe what you think it would be like to travel on an Indian Railways train and why?

5. Draw **four** lines and match each number with the correct statistic.

1.38 billion	number of passengers Indian Railways carried in 2020
22.7 million	India's population in 2020
22 million	number of stations India's rail network has
7112	number of vehicles manufactured in India in 2020

6. Tick whether the statements about India are true or false.

	True	False
Hockey is the most popular sport.		
The dhoti and kurta are traditional clothing for men.		
84% of the world's Hindus live in India.		
Holi, the festival of colours, is celebrated in spring.		

7. What ingredients might be used in an Indian curry and what could it be served with?

8. When and where did the country's movie history begin?

9. Find and copy a word that is used as a word to describe 'traditional and conventional'.

10. Why do you think tourism is growing so rapidly in India? Would you like to visit India? Give reasons for your answer.

Answers

1. What does the fact that one sixth of the world's population living in 2% of the world's surface tell you about life in India?

Pupils' own responses, such as: These statistics tell you that in India, there are many people living in one small area and that it must be very busy and overcrowded with the infrastructure of the country under a great deal of pressure.

2. What do you think needs to happen to improve the education offered to children living in rural India and why?

Pupils' own responses, such as: To improve the education offered to children living in rural areas, more money needs to be spent on the facilities and equipment and they need to have more qualified teachers teaching them, as well as better technology. The authorities should also check attendance rather than just enrolment.

3. List **three** industries that are major providers of employment for the people of India.

Agricultural

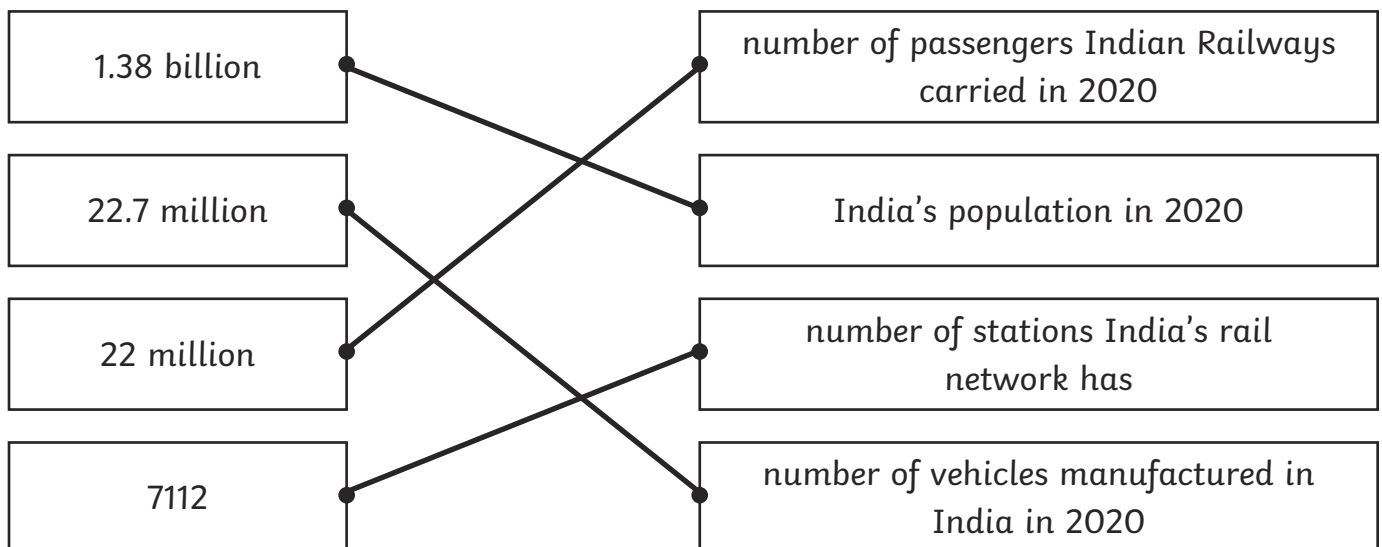
IT

Automobile

4. Describe what you think it would be like to travel on an Indian Railways train and why?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think it would probably be very busy and crowded on the trains in India because the network carries more than 22 million passengers per day.

5. Draw **four** lines and match each number with the correct statistic.



6. Tick whether the statements about India are true or false.

	True	False
Hockey is the most popular sport.		✓
The dhoti and kurta are traditional clothing for men.	✓	
84% of the world's Hindus live in India.		✓
Holi, the festival of colours, is celebrated in spring.	✓	

7. What ingredients might be used in an Indian curry and what could it be served with?

Pupils' own responses, such as: A curry might be made with lentils and chickpeas. It might have lots of spices, including ginger, cardamom, turmeric, cinnamon and garam masala. It might be served with rice and chutneys made from tamarind, tomatoes, mint, coriander and other herbs. Bread like naan and poppadoms might also be served to help you eat it.

8. When and where did the country's movie history begin?

The country's movie history began in 1896 in Mumbai.

9. Find and copy a word that is used as a word to describe 'traditional and conventional' customary

10. Why do you think tourism is growing so rapidly in India? Would you like to visit India? Give reasons for your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that tourism is growing so rapidly in India because there is much to see and do, such as visiting the Taj Mahal, the desert, mountains and beaches. I would like to visit India to see some of the attractions and to taste some of the delicious food.