



Chapter
1

Our Rich Heritage

→ UNIT-1

We and Our Surroundings



spelling box

diversity	culture	tradition
custom	language	dialect
heritage	dance	music
folk	classical	epic
instrument	religion	painting
art gallery	monument	architecture



explanation

India is a land of great diversity. People from different places have come and settled in India. Therefore, different cultures and traditions are seen in our country. Another reason for this diversity is that India is a very big country and is divided into 29 states, 6 union territories and 1 National Capital Territory.



All these states and union territories have varied landforms and therefore, their climate also varies. This variation in climate results in varied food habits, customs and dressing styles. This diversity has resulted in a variety of dresses, languages, dialects, dance forms, music, etc. All these aspects together make our living heritage. India is the greatest example of 'Unity in diversity'.

List of states and union territories:

States of India		Union Territory
1. Andhra Pradesh	16. Manipur	1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
2. Arunachal Pradesh	17. Meghalaya	
3. Assam	18. Mizoram	2. Chandigarh
4. Bihar	19. Nagaland	3. Dadra and Nagar Haveli
5. Chhattisgarh	20. Odisha	
6. Goa	21. Punjab	4. Daman and Diu
7. Gujarat	22. Rajasthan	5. Lakshadweep
8. Haryana	23. Sikkim	6. Puducherry
9. Himachal Pradesh	24. Tamil Nadu	
10. Jammu and Kashmir	25. Telangana	National Capital Territory
11. Jharkhand	26. Tripura	1. National Capital Territory of Delhi
12. Karnataka	27. Uttar Pradesh	
13. Kerala	28. Uttarakhand	
14. Madhya Pradesh	29. West Bengal	
15. Maharashtra		

In this chapter, we will study about the rich heritage of our country. For the purpose of study we can divide our country into five regions: Northern, Southern, Eastern, Western and Central. We will look at some of the states of these five regions to understand the rich heritage of our country.



Union Territories and States of India.





explanation

Our dresses

Indian dresses are greatly influenced by the tradition and culture of Indian people. They vary from one village to another village, from one city to another city and from one state to another state. These dresses are vibrant in colour, beautifully embroidered and different in styles. Men generally wear shirts, trousers, dhotis and kurtas. Women mostly wear sarees, salwar-kurtas, skirts, blouses, ghagras and cholis.

Northern states

1. The men in Jammu and Kashmir mainly wear long kurta, churidar pyjama with skullcap and women wear phirans.
2. The men in Punjab mostly wear lungi-kurta and turban and women wear salwar-kameez and chunni. In the north-eastern states long skirts are also worn.
3. The women in Uttar Pradesh wear saree, cotton dhoti and the men wear pyjama kurta.

Eastern states

1. The women of West Bengal wear saree with red border and men wear dhoti and kurta.
2. The women in Odisha mostly wear saree and the men wear dhoti and kurta.

Western states

1. The women in Maharashtra wear langdar saree, and the men wear dhoti and kurta.
2. The women in Gujarat wear chaniyo choli along with odhani and men wear chorno and angarakha along with thickly folded phento or turban.
3. The men in Rajasthan wear dhoti, angarakha, and the women wear ghagra, choli and odhani.

Central states

1. The men in Madhya Pradesh wear dhoti, shirt and trouser while the women wear ghagra and chaniya-choli, saree and salwar-kurta.
2. People in Chhatisgarh wear same type of clothes as in Madhya Pradesh.

Southern states

1. The men in Tamil Nadu wear dhoti or lungi and shirt and women wear saree.
2. The men of Kerala wear mundus with shirt and women wear mundus with blouse.



activity

In the box below, draw the traditional dresses that your parents wear.

A large, empty rectangular box with rounded corners, outlined in blue, intended for drawing traditional dresses.



explanation

Our languages

We mainly have 22 languages in our country that are recognised by the Constitution of India. These are Hindi, Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Dogri, Gujarati, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Malayalam, Meitei, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Santhali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu. The oldest languages are Sanskrit and Tamil. Languages are written in different ways. Most of the languages are written from left to right. Kashmiri, Sindhi and Urdu are written from right to left.

Hindi is the official and national language of India.



definition

The way a language is represented in writing is called its *script*.

States	Language spoken
Kashmir	Kashmiri and Urdu
Punjab	Punjabi
West Bengal	Bengali
Odisha	Odia
Tamil Nadu	Tamil
Kerala	Malayalam
Maharashtra	Marathi
Gujarat	Gujarati
Rajasthan	Marwari
Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh	Hindi

There are also many dialects that are spoken in our country. Dialect is different form of a language that is spoken by a group of people. It does not have any specified script nor does it have standardised rules of grammar. Bhojpuri, a popular regional language spoken in parts of north and central India, is an example of a dialect.



Get into pairs and talk in your respective mother tongues with each other. Mention the names of the two languages below.

My language	My partner's language
<hr/>	<hr/>



Our dance and music

In India, we mainly find two types of dance and music: folk and classical. We have folk dances and music to celebrate various events like marriages, festivals, birth of a child, sowing and harvesting. People sing and dance together in happiness. Classical dance and music are those forms of dance and music that have developed over time. They follow certain rules and are part of a culture.

Dance

Our classical dances are very old. They started in the form of worship. Earlier they were performed by skilled people inside the sanctum of a temple according to rituals or in royal courts. Later, they were performed to depict the epics and popular folk tales but now, even the common people enjoy these dances. Kathak, Bharatnatyam, Kuchipudi, Odissi, Mohiniattam and Manipuri are some classical dances. They have special beats and rhythm and different costumes. To learn a classical dance, you need to train and practice. There are also classical dance dramas like Kathakali of Kerala and Yakshagan of Karnataka. In these forms, the performers tell stories through dance.

Our folk dances are largely performed by common people, on special occasions like harvesting, planting, marriages and religious functions. Bhangra and Gidda, Bihu, Kavadi and Karagam, Garba and Chhau, these are a few examples of folk dance.

Let us take a look at the dances prevalent in the various regions of our country.

Northern states



The famous folk dances of Punjab are Bhangra and Gidda.



The famous folk dance of Jammu and Kashmir is Rouf.

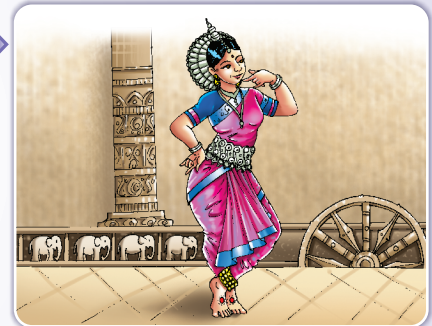


The famous classical dance of Uttar Pradesh is Kathak.

Eastern states



The famous classical dance of Odisha is Odissi.



The famous folk dance of Assam is Bihu.

Central region



Bhagoriya is the folk dance of Madhya Pradesh.



The famous folk dance of Chhattisgarh is Karma.

Western states



The famous folk dances of Rajasthan are Ghoomer and Manjira.



The famous folk dances of Maharashtra are Lavani and Tamasha.



The famous folk dance of Gujarat is Garba.

Southern states



The famous folk dance of Tamil Nadu is Karakattam.



The famous classical dance drama of Kerala is Kathakali.



The famous classical dance of Tamil Nadu is Bharatnatyam.

Some of the famous Indian dancers are: Birju Maharaj (Kathak), Mallika Sarabhai (Bharatnatyam), Swapna Sundari (Kuchipudi) and Kelucharan Mohapatra (Odissi).



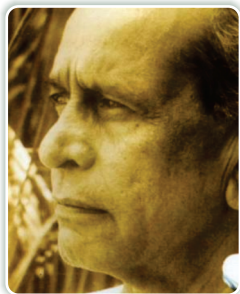
Birju Maharaj



Mallika Sarabhai

Music

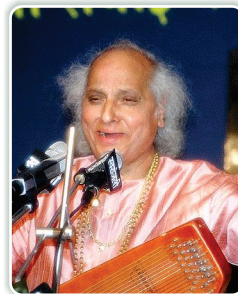
In our country there are two main styles of vocal music in classical form: Hindustani music in the north and Carnatic music in the south. There have been many great singers in our country in the earlier times. Tansen, Haridas and Tyagaraja were some of the famous singers. Bhimsen Joshi, Shubha Mudgal, Pandit Jasraj and M. S Subbalakshmi are some of the great singers of modern times.



Pt. Bhimsen Joshi



Shubha Mudgal

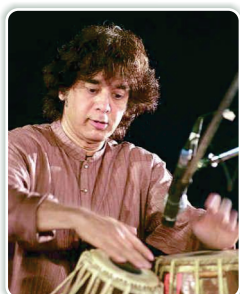


Pt. Jasraj

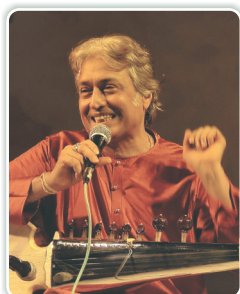


M. S. Subbalakshmi

Different instruments are used in classical music. Sitar, veena, flute, sarod, shehnai, tabla, mridangam and dholak are among the popular ones. Some of the famous Indian musicians are: Ustad Zakir Hussain (Tabla), Ustad Amjad Ali Khan (Sarod), Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia (Flute), and Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma (Santoor).



Ustad
Zakir Hussain
(Tabla)



Ustad
Amjad Ali Khan
(Sarod)



Pt. Hariprasad
Chaurasia
(Flute)



Pt. Shiv Kumar
Sharma
(Santoor)

Source: Internet



Take a few bowls made of china clay. Fill water up to different levels in these bowls. Now, take two sticks and tap these bowls gently. Notice how the sound changes with the level of water.

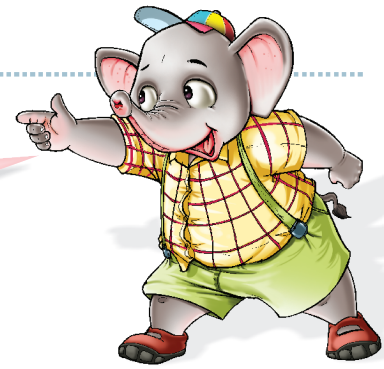
Mention the name of this musical instrument that you have made.



explanation

Our Festivals

India is a land of diverse cultures and religions. People here celebrate various festivals.



Indian festivals are categorised under three categories.

National festivals

Religious festivals

Social festivals

National Festivals: National festivals are celebrated in every part of the country.

India got freedom from the British rule on 15 August 1947. Since then, every year, this day is celebrated as *Independence Day* in our country.

The constitution of India was implemented on 26 January 1950. Ever since, this day has been recognised and celebrated as the *Republic Day* of India.

The great freedom fighter, 'Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi' also known as 'Mahatma Gandhi', 'Bapu' or 'Father of the Nation' was born on the 2nd of October in 1869, in Porbunder, Gujarat. Every year his birth anniversary is celebrated as '*Gandhi Jayanti*', with reverence, all over the country.

Religious Festivals: There are people of many religions living in India. All religions have some specific festivals to celebrate.

Hindus celebrate many festivals. The most popular festivals are Holi, Ramnavami, Raksha Bandhan, Janamashtmi, Ganesh Chaturthi, Dussehra, Diwali and Durga Puja. Some religious festivals among these mark the passing of the seasons, while some can be termed as cultural events.

Muslims celebrate Eid-ul-fitr at the end of the month of Ramzan to mark the successful completion of the period of fasting. Eid-ul-Zuha and Muharram are the other festivals celebrated by them.

Sikhs celebrate Baisakhi, the birth of Khalsa, on 13th April. It is a major event in Sikh religion. It is celebrated as a religious festival, harvest festival and New Year's Day. They also celebrate birth anniversaries and martyrdom days of Sikh Gurus as Gurupurabs. Guru Nanak Jayanti is the most important Gurupurab.

Christians celebrate Christmas on 25th December, to mark the birth of Jesus Christ.

There are some other religious festivals also, which are celebrated in our country. Nag Panchami, Guru Purnima and Mahashivratri are celebrated by Hindus. Bakra Id and Chand Raat is celebrated by Muslims. Good Friday and Easter are celebrated by Christians. Jains celebrate Mahavir Jayanti and Buddha Purnima is celebrated by Buddhists.

Other Festivals: There are some other festivals which are celebrated by some specific communities and regions due to social occasions like harvesting and sowing of seeds, for example Basant Panchami and Makar Sankranti are festivals of spring celebrated by the farmers in North. Pongal is the harvest festival of South. Cows and bullocks are decorated and fed. In the evening, cattle are led out in procession. Onam is the most famous festival of Kerala. It is also a harvest festival when people decorate their houses and take part in the Snake Boat race.

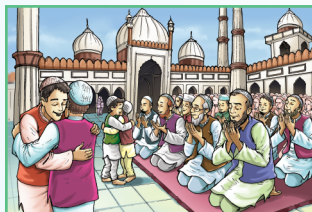


In the table given below, four regions are given. Mention any two states and the festivals celebrated in the specified region.

Discuss your answer with your partner.

S.No.	Region	State	Festivals
1.	Western	_____	_____
2.	Eastern	_____	_____
3.	Northern	_____	_____
4.	Southern	_____	_____

Look at the pictures and identify the festivals.





Discuss the topic 'National festivals are the most important festivals in India'.

Present a summary according to the points given below:

Agree: _____

Disagree: _____

Facts: _____



explanation

Our food

People belonging to different regions eat different kinds of food; their eating habits depend on the climate and the kind of crops that grow in their region.

Some of the popular foods eaten by the people, state wise, are mentioned below.



Eastern states

The people of West Bengal enjoy eating fish and rice.

The people of Odisha like to eat rice, pulses and meat.

Western states

Bhelpuri, batata vada and rice with fish curry are very famous in Maharashtra.

The people of Gujarat eat rice, puri, vegetables, daal, dhokla, etc.

Daal bati and churma are delicious foods of Rajasthan.

Northern states

The people of Kashmir eat meat, rajma and rice.

Sarson ka saag and makki ki roti of Punjab is very popular in India.

Puri sabji, kadhi, dahi vada, chapati and dal are popularly eaten by the people in Uttar Pradesh.

Southern states

Idli, vada, sambhar, uttapam, dosa and rasam of Tamil Nadu are enjoyed all over India.

The people of Kerala eat rice, aviyal, appam and adai.

Central region

The people of Madhya Pradesh eat chappatis, daal, vegetable and rice. They are very fond of sweets like barfi and jalebi.



activity

Get into groups of five members each. Now, open your lunch box and in the table given below name the food items you have brought. Also relate the food to the region it belongs to:

Food	Region the food belongs to
1. _____ _____	_____
2. _____ _____	_____
3. _____ _____	_____
4. _____ _____	_____
5. _____ _____	_____



explanation



In our country, besides the language, clothes, dance, music and food variations, we also see different types of paintings and architecture. These are also a part of our rich heritage.

Painting

Man has been fond of drawing pictures since ancient times. This can be seen in the beautiful paintings in Ajanta caves in Maharashtra. They show scenes from the life of Lord Buddha. Though these paintings are very old, their colours are still very bright. We have learnt much from these paintings. Through these paintings, we come to know how people used to dress, what hairstyle and make-up was used by the women of that time.

The Mughal emperors invited artists from Iran and Iraq to their courts. Kings in Rajasthan, Kangra (Himachal Pradesh), Hyderabad, Mysore, Tanjavur and Travancore had artists working for them. Therefore, different styles developed. Some of these paintings are of gods. Others are landscapes, battles and hunting scenes. You can visit a museum and see lots of beautiful paintings. In the modern age, painting is a very well formed art. In a big city, you can see paintings of modern artists in an art gallery.

Painting styles of India



Tanjore



Bengali pattas



Rajasthani par



Mithila

Source: Internet



Ashoka pillar



Ajanta Caves (Inner view)



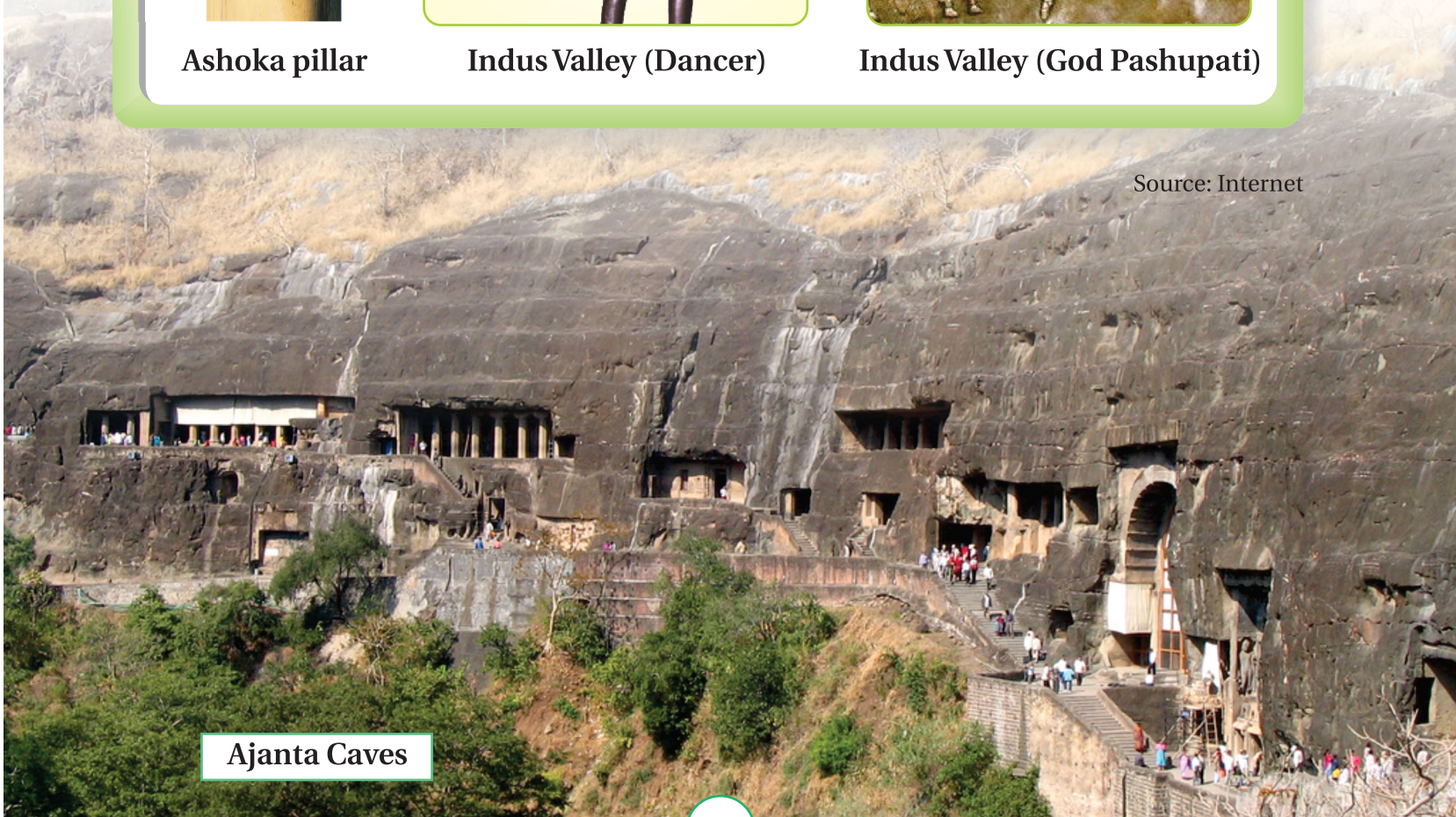
Indus Valley (God Pashupati)



Indus Valley (Dancer)



Indus Valley (God Pashupati)



Source: Internet

Ajanta Caves

Architecture

The Indus Valley ruins of Mohenjo-daro and Harappa are about 5000 years old. They show the skill of the architects of those days. People come from all over the world to see the great Stupas at Sanchi and Sarnath. Emperor Ashoka got many Stupas built. These Stupas are wonderful examples of architecture. The beautiful Kailash temple at Ellora is carved out from a single rock.

There are beautiful temples at Madurai, Thanjavur, Bellur, Khajuraho, Konark and Mount Abu. Can any building be compared with the Taj Mahal? Its beauty is unique. The Gol Gumbaj of Bijapur is the largest dome in the world. The Qutab Minar, Jama Masjid, Red Fort and Humayun's Tomb in Delhi are worth seeing. The forts at Agra, Gwalior and Chittorgarh are really grand. These monuments were made by the Turks, the Mughal emperors and the Indian princes.

With the Europeans came another style of architecture. The British built the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi and the Victoria Memorial in Kolkata. The churches of Goa are fine examples of Portuguese architecture.

Indian architecture continued to develop. The lotus shaped Bahai temple is a must for visitors to Delhi. Some other examples of modern architecture are the New Delhi Municipal Corporation office, the Vidhan Sabha of Bangalore and the Assembly building of Mumbai.

Architecture of India



India Gate (New Delhi)



Gateway of India (Mumbai)



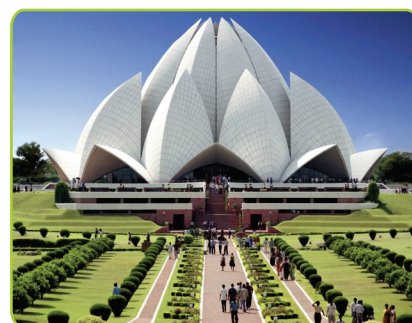
Jama Masjid (Delhi)



Victoria Memorial (Kolkata)



Meenakshi Temple (Madurai)



Bahai Temple (New Delhi)

Source: Internet

Now, you know:

- Our living heritage comprises of the dresses we wear, the languages we speak, our music and dance forms, our festivals and our food.
- Our country is divided into 29 states, 6 union territories and 1 national capital territory.
- Women of India mainly wear sarees and salwar kurta.
- Men of India mainly wear pants and shirts, kurta pyjamas or dhotis.
- We have eighteen main languages and many dialects in our country.
- We have two forms of dance - classical and folk.
- We have two forms of music in classical forms - Hindustani music and Carnatic music.
- We celebrate a lot of festivals all across our country.
- Our ancient paintings and architecture tell us a lot about the people of those times.



A. Answer these questions.

1. Describe the dress generally worn by men and women of India.

2. Tick the statement that applies to our classical dances.

- a. Our classical dances are new. They started in the form of enjoyment. Later, they were performed to depict certain poems and stories.
- b. Classical dance has developed over a period of time. It follows certain rules and is a part of our culture.
- c. Our classical dances are the dances which the common people enjoy. The classical dances of our country are- Karma, Rouf, Tamasha and Garba.

3. Name any two Indian:

Folk dances _____

Classical dances _____

B. Fill in the blanks.

- a. The sari worn by the women in _____ is different from the ones worn in Bengal.
- b. Ghoomer is the dance of _____.
- c. _____ and _____ are the two styles of Indian classical music.
- d. The _____ of Karnataka is a dance drama.
- e. _____ used to sing in the court of Emperor Akbar.
- f. The _____ Valley ruins are 5000 years old.

C. Tick the correct option.

1. Mallika Sarabhai is a famous _____ dancer.
(Bharatnatyam / Kathak)
2. Garba is a famous dance form of _____.
(Gujarat / Uttar Pradesh)
3. Kathakali is a famous dance form of _____.
(Tamil Nadu / Kerala)
4. Karma is a folk dance of _____.
(Chhattisgarh / Gujarat)
5. _____ is the famous building built by the British.
(Taj Mahal / Victoria Memorial)

project report



Collect at least two pictures each of modern and ancient dress, dance and architecture. Compare the modern dances, dresses and architecture with those of the ancient times. Present your report in your project book.

