

The world around us

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Global and cultural awareness is an important 21st century skill that needs to be inculcated in students. Global awareness refers to an understanding of how environmental, social, economic and political factors impact the world. And cultural awareness is demonstrating an understanding of other people's cultural values, beliefs and perceptions which might differ from yours. This worksheet aims to provide a glimpse of issues pertaining to both global and cultural awareness. It is targeted at students of grades 6 and 7.

Activity I: Let's search

Festivals around the world

Can you find the names of 10 festivals from around the world in the word grid below?

C	H	M	O	E	I	D	A	S	R	L	R
V	H	A	I	C	A	E	T	O	O	A	I
L	A	R	O	M	A	S	I	N	A	T	O
D	H	D	I	K	S	G	T	V	I	O	C
I	K	I	O	S	E	R	F	E	S	M	A
W	I	G	I	S	T	E	R	S	R	A	R
A	I	R	C	A	R	M	I	V	A	T	N
L	R	A	B	E	D	H	A	M	T	I	I
I	C	S	G	I	D	Y	A	S	R	N	V
Z	A	R	D	H	O	L	I	S	E	A	A
X	A	Z	B	E	P	F	A	J	S	N	L
T	H	A	N	K	S	G	I	V	I	N	G
O	K	T	O	B	E	R	F	E	S	T	P

Activity II: Let's comprehend

Here are some world events from 2019. Read the passages below and answer the questions that follow in one word or phrase.

1. Pulwama attack

Not even a single Indian can forget those back-to-back events that made Indo-Pak relations hit rock bottom. It all began when a suicide bomber of the Pakistan backed Jaish-E- Mohammed targeted a CRPF convoy in the Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir. India retaliated strongly by entering Pakistan's air space and reportedly destroying terror camps in the Balakot region. In the meantime, Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman was captured. The entire nation prayed for his safe return. Pakistan eventually bowed to international pressure and the Geneva Convention for treatment of captured soldiers. Abhinandan was released and India once again reiterated Pakistan's role in setting up terror camps.

2. Notre Dame Cathedral tragedy, Paris

This was one of the most heart-breaking events, images of which will continue to haunt people for years. A major fire engulfed the cathedral wherein the spire and most of its roof was destroyed. Rare and extremely expensive historical and cultural artefacts were damaged. The reason for the fire could not be ascertained but it brought entire France to a standstill as people prayed for quick restoration of the historical building.

3. US-China Trade War

There were World Wars, then there was a Cold War. Now we are amidst what people call a trade war between the US and China. It all began to take shape in 2018 when US President Donald Trump



tweeted: 'Trade wars are good and easy to win.' However, Trump might not have a complete understanding about what kind of 'enemy' he's dealing with. The war continued in 2019 with Trump imposing heavy duties on Chinese items. China itself did what it thought was right as both sides claimed victory.

4. Amazon Rainforests Wildfire

This was one of the worst global tragedies of 2019. Amazon rainforests that are considered to be the lungs of planet earth burned like oil wells. While there were talks about climate change and the need to save the environment, the news of Amazon fire came as a shock to the concerned people of the world.

5. Anti-CAA & anti-NRC Protests across India and abroad

The controversial Citizenship Amendment Act that seeks to single out Muslims when it comes to giving Indian nationality status to persecuted minorities, has irked human rights activists in India and worldwide. Even the United Nations has expressed its concern over the Act and has urged India to address the issue.

Source: <https://www.indiatimes.com/news/india/here-is-a-list-of-the-major-events-that-indiatimes-covered-in-2019-503312.html>

1. Who is targeted in the Citizenship Amendment Act?

2. What did Trump do to the Chinese items imported to the U.S?

3. What was burnt inside the Notre Dame?

4. What was the name of the soldier captured in the Pulwama attack?

5. Which area is also known as the lungs of the Earth?

6. In which region did the Pulwama attack take place?

Activity III: Let's unscramble

Arrange the following words in the correct order to make meaningful sentences.

1. planning / atmosphere / 2021 / is / a / a / plane / could / that / aerospace / Venus's / fly / in / company / build / US / to / through

2. The / years / cruise / plane / the / skies / for / project / would / Venus / sulphurous / ambitious / project / see / through / of

3. a / the / to / off / to / from / get / in / USD / battle / plane / 1 / however / funding / order / NASA / get / faces / billion / ground / the

4. where / 50 / Venus / 70 / of / flown / it / a / the / the / that / on / Earth / of / would / surface / equal / pressure / roughly / to / above

Source: <https://www.indiatoday.in/world/story/planet-venus-plane-atmosphere-us-company-nasa-funds-253096-2015-05-15>

Activity IV: Let's match

Match the names of the following countries to their national dishes.

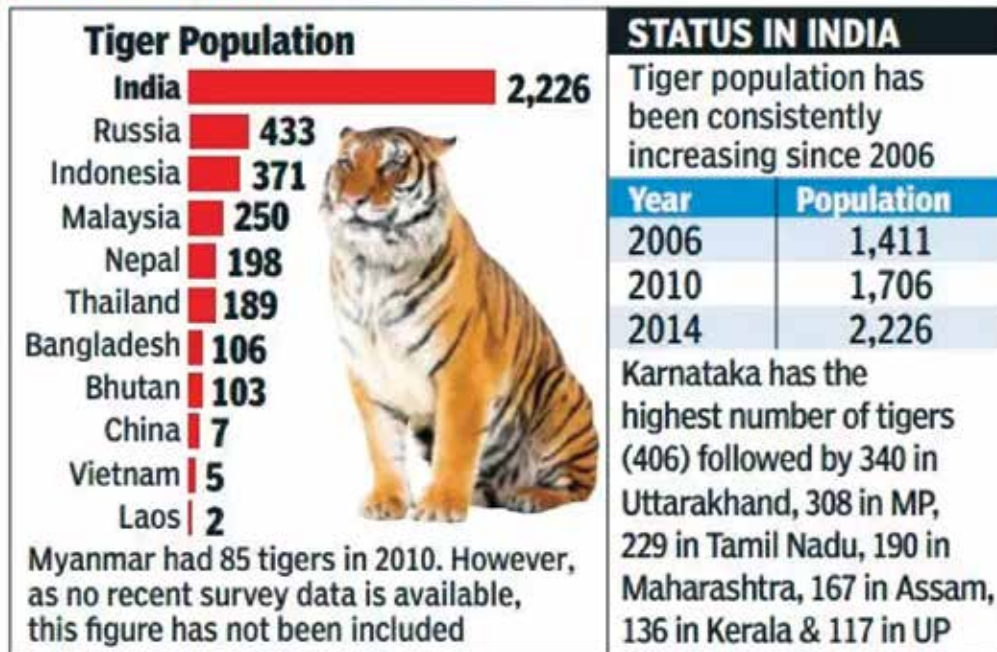
- | | | |
|---------------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Canada | [] | a) Crêpe: Thin wheat or buckwheat flour batter pancakes. Sweet fillings include chocolate sauce, jelly, preserves, spreads, or whipped cream. |
| 2. France | [] | b) Gallo Pinto: Kidney beans and rice cooked together until all the liquid has dried out. |
| 3. India | [] | c) Succotash: A salad-like dish consisting of corn, beans, sweet peppers, tomatoes, and other available vegetables sautéed in butter. |
| 4. Costa Rica | [] | d) Biryani: Long-grain rice cooked with spices and meat. Often topped with fried onion flakes and boiled eggs. Vegetarian versions are also popular. |
| 5. Italy | [] | e) Irish Stew: Mutton stew with potatoes, onions, carrots, and parsley. |
| 6. Guinea | [] | f) Pizza: Flat round bread topped with tomato sauce, cheese, and various meat/vegetarian/seafood toppings, and baked in an oven. |
| 7. Ireland | [] | g) Poutine: French fries topped with a mildly spicy chicken or turkey gravy and fresh cheese curd. |
| 8. Japan | [] | h) Nasi Lemak: Rice soaked in coconut cream overnight and cooked with lemon grass, ginger and other optional spices. |
| 9. Malaysia | [] | i) Dal Bhaath: Stewed lentils topped with clarified butter and chili tempering; served with plain steamed rice. |
| 10. Nepal | [] | j) Ramen: Wheat noodles in a fish or meat broth with soy sauce flavouring. |

Activity V: Let's find out

Find out the meaning of these common words from different languages and also state the language they belong to.

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Bonjour: _____ | 4. Nein: _____ |
| 2. Grazie: _____ | 5. Comment allez-vous?: _____ |
| 3. Lo siento: _____ | 6. Võ hěn hảo!: _____ |

THE ROAR IS BACK



(Source: Global Wild Tiger Status - April, 2016)

Look at the picture and answer the questions that follow.

1. Russia has double the tiger population than Nepal. (True/False)

2. Which state in India has the highest number of tigers?

3. Why is Myanmar not included in this survey?

4. Which state in India has the lowest number of tigers?

5. What does the title 'The Roar is back' mean?

6. Laos has the lowest number of tigers. (True/False)

7. How many tigers were recorded in India in 2010?

Activity VII: Let's sequence

Read a part of the UN Declaration **Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** and then put the following paragraphs in order.

- a) We, the Heads of State and Government and High Representatives, meeting at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 25 to 27 September 2015 as the Organization celebrates its seventieth anniversary, have decided today on new global Sustainable Development Goals.
- b) This is an agenda of unprecedented scope and significance. It is accepted by all countries and is applicable to all, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities. These are universal goals and targets which involve the entire world, developed and developing countries alike. They are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development.
- c) As we embark on this great collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind. Recognizing that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, we wish to see the goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society. And we will endeavour to reach the furthest behind first.
- d) We resolve, between now and 2030, to end poverty and hunger everywhere; to combat inequalities within and among countries; to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies; to protect human rights and promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls; and to ensure the lasting protection of the planet and its natural resources. We resolve also to create conditions for sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth, shared prosperity and decent work for all, taking into account different levels of national development and capacities.
- e) On behalf of the peoples we serve, we have adopted a historic decision on a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative goals and targets. We commit ourselves to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this Agenda by 2030. We recognize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. We are committed to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner. We will also build upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seek to address their unfinished business.

Source: <https://undocs.org/A/RES/70/1>

1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____ 4) _____ 5) _____

Activity VIII: Let's choose

Read the following passage and write the most appropriate word from the choices given below for each blank.

The Fourth of July has been a _____ *national / free* holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day _____ *occasions / celebrations* goes back to the 18th _____ *century / year* and the American Revolution. On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress _____ *voted / contested* in favour of independence, and two days later _____ *people / representatives* from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document _____ *drafted / drifted* by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the _____ *birth / born* of American independence, with festivities _____ *ranging / arranging* from fireworks, parades and concerts to family gatherings and barbecues.

Activity IX: Let's edit

The sentences below have one mistake each. Underline the mistake and correct it.

1. The Segway S-Pod is a vehicle designed for future smart cities, when cars are less common but folks still need to get around comfortably. _____
2. The pod itself is suspend between two wheels, giving the entire chair a floaty feel when you're nestled in its suede seat. _____
3. It's controlled with a flat, round joystick on the right armrest: press it in the direction you want to travel and release it to break. _____
4. Holding the joystick all the way on one direction makes the chair spin. _____
5. The CES model was capped at 7 mph, but the final version had hit speeds of 24 mph. _____
6. It travelling up to 43 miles at a time, and it takes just two hours to fully charge. _____
7. The S-Pod is scheduled to launch commercially at the end to the year, with a consumer version coming soon after. _____

Source: <https://www.engadget.com/2020/01/08/segway-s-pod-egg-scooter-ces-2020/>

Activity X: Let's solve

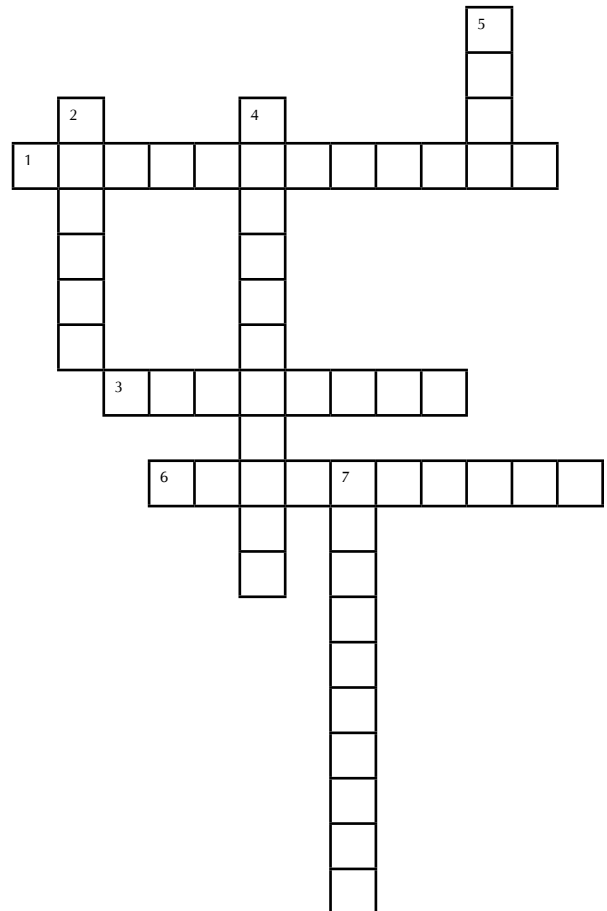
Complete the crossword below with names of the fruits based on the clues given.

Across

1. A small, golf-ball sized red or yellow fruit with hard skin and tart, juicy seeds that you can scoop out with a spoon.
3. An elongated red berry that grows on a small bushy, tree. It's native to China and was historically grown as fruit for silkworm.
6. A small sized reddish pink fruit that is widely appreciated for its characteristic aroma, juicy texture, and sweetness.

Down

2. A fruit from Mexico with orange flesh and black seeds.
4. A small orange berry that is sour and sweet, native to South America.
5. An oval shaped fruit with brown skin and light green flesh. It is sour to taste.
7. A large fruit, native to Africa, with green skin and red juicy flesh.



Activity XI: Let's Understand

Read the passage on Coronavirus below and state whether the following statements are true or false.

Coronaviruses (CoV) are a large family of viruses that can cause a range of illness from a common cold to more acute diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV). A novel coronavirus (nCoV) is a new strain that has not been previously identified in humans.

Coronaviruses are zoonotic which means that they are transmitted between animals and people. Detailed investigations have found that SARS-CoV was transmitted from civet cats to humans and MERS-CoV from dromedary camels to humans. Research also suggests that several known types of coronaviruses are circulating in animals that have not yet infected humans.

Common signs of infection from this virus include respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, shortness of breath and breathing difficulties. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia, severe acute

respiratory syndrome, kidney failure, and even death.

To prevent the spread of this infection it is strongly recommended that one does regular hand washing, covers mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing, thoroughly cooks meat and eggs. Also, it is advised to avoid close contact with anyone showing symptoms of respiratory illness such as coughing and sneezing.

UN Humanitarian Chief Mark Lowcock released US\$15 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to help fund global efforts to contain the COVID-19 virus on the 1st of March 2020. The announcement came as the World Health Organization (WHO) upgraded the global risk of the coronavirus outbreak to "very high" – its top level of risk assessment. The WHO has since turned it a 'Pandemic'. It has said there is still a chance of containing the virus if its chain of transmission is broken.

Source: <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>

1. Only animals can get infected by coronavirus. _____
2. The only illness that coronavirus can cause is common cold. _____
3. Humans have had nCOV since many decades. _____
4. These viruses were transmitted from cats to humans. _____
5. There are some types of this virus which exist only in animals. _____
6. One cannot die from an infection caused by coronavirus. _____
7. Regular hand wash can prevent this virus from spreading. _____
8. The UN has released funds to help contain the virus. _____
9. The risk associated with coronavirus is moderate. _____
10. Poorly cooked meat and eggs can spread coronavirus. _____

Activity XII: Let's take a guess

Each country has its traditional costume. Can you guess the name of the country from the description of the costume given?

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Babouches – These are designer footwear often with jazzy designs and sequins. | 6. Gho – A knee-length gown worn to the waist with a belt. |
| 2. Dirndl – It comprises a bodice blouse, full skirt, and an apron. | 7. Clogs – a shoe with a thick wooden sole. |
| 3. Kilt – These are traditional skirts with a difference – they are worn by men. | 8. Conical Hat – A large hat worn by women which have lines of poetry written on them which can only be seen in the light. |
| 4. Gele – A large and traditional head dress usually reserved for special occasions. | 9. Kimono – a long, loose traditional Japanese robe with wide sleeves, tied with a sash. |
| 5. Lederhosen – A pair of leather shorts with H-shaped braces, usually worn by men. | 10. Ushanka – fur cap with ear flaps that can be tied up to the crown of the cap, or fastened at the chin. |

Answers on page 43

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