**1. India’s Smallest and Largest**  
India is a country with great diversity. Read the clues and fill in the missing letters.

1. Largest state (area): **RAJASTHAN**
2. Largest river island: **MAJULI**
3. State with the most population: **UTTAR PRADESH**
4. State with the least population: **SIKKIM**
5. Largest union territory (area): **JAMMU AND KASHMIR**
6. Largest mangrove forest: **SUNDERBANS**
7. State with largest forest cover: **MADHYA PRADESH**
8. State with longest coastline: **GUJARAT**
9. Largest saltwater lake: **CHILIKA**
10. Longest sea beach: **MARINA**

**Know with Derek:**  
The Kunchikal Falls in Karnataka is one of the highest waterfalls in India. It is formed by the river Varahi.

**2. Festivals and Fairs**

We celebrate many festivals and host various fairs that are visited by people from across our country. Fill in the blanks using the Help Box.

1. The site of observance of the **KUMBH MELA** rotates among four sacred cities — Haridwar, Prayagraj, Nashik and Ujjain.
2. The **PUSHKAR FAIR** is a camel and livestock fair held in Rajasthan every year.
3. The **GANGASAGAR MELA** is held every year on Sagar Island in West Bengal during Makar Sankranti.
4. The Nagaur Cattle Fair is held every year in **RAJASTHAN**.
5. The **TARNETAR MELA** is held every year near the Trinetreshwar Temple in Gujarat.
6. The Surajkund Fair showcasing handlooms and handicrafts is held every year in **HARYANA**.
7. King Momo leads the celebrations of the annual **GOA CARNIVAL**.
8. The Natyanjali Dance Festival is held every year in **TAMIL NADU**.

**3. Folk Dances**

Match the following folk dances with the state of their origin:

* Yakshagana — **Karnataka**
* Bhangra — **Punjab**
* Garba — **Gujarat**
* Lavani — **Maharashtra**
* Bihu — **Assam**
* Ghoomar — **Rajasthan**

**4. Touring India**

Fill in the blanks using the Help Box.

1. Built by Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh, the **Hawa Mahal** has 953 pink sandstone windows called *jharokhas*.
2. Built by King Narasimhadeva I in the thirteenth century, the **Konark Sun Temple** is designed in the form of a chariot and is dedicated to Lord Surya.
3. The **Victoria Memorial** was built as a memorial to the first Empress of India in Kolkata and was opened to the public in 1921.
4. The **Elephanta Caves** contain a collection of rock art linked to Lord Shiva. They are located on the island of Gharapuri in Maharashtra.
5. The **Bom Jesus Basilica**, housing the mortal remains of St. Francis Xavier, is a UNESCO World Heritage site in Goa.
6. The **Jantar Mantar** in Jaipur is an astronomical observatory built in the early eighteenth century.
7. The Panch **Rathas** of Mahabalipuram, named after the Pandavas, were carved out of a single huge rock.
8. The **Agra Fort** was built by Akbar. It was traditionally known as Badalgarh.

**5. Indian Sportspersons**

**Tick (✔️) True or False**

1. Sourav Ganguly was the captain of the Kolkata Knight Riders when they won their first IPL in 2012. — **False**
2. In 2018, Neeraj Chopra became the first Indian javelin thrower to win a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games. — **True**
3. Vijay Kumar and Abhinav Bindra won medals in shooting at the 2012 Olympic Games. — **True**
4. Bhaichung Bhutia has played football for several foreign clubs. — **True**
5. Saina Nehwal is the first Indian woman to win an Olympic silver medal. — **False** *(She won bronze)*
6. Virat Kohli was the captain of the team that won the Under-19 World Cup in 2012. — **False** *(It was 2008)*
7. Shot-putter Deepa Malik is the first Indian woman para-athlete to win the Khel Ratna Award. — **True**
8. In 2018, boxer MC Mary Kom claimed her maiden gold at the Commonwealth Games. — **True**

**Know with Derek:**  
In February 2018, against South Africa, **Jhulan Goswami** became the first bowler to take 200 wickets in women’s ODIs.

## ****6. FIFA World Cup****

Fill in the blanks using the Help Box.

1. **Uruguay** won the first FIFA World Cup tournament held in 1930.
2. **Diego Maradona** was the captain of Argentina, the winning team, in 1986.
3. The Golden **Ball** is awarded to the Best Player of the tournament.
4. **Cristiano Ronaldo** is the first man to score in five different World Cups.
5. **Pele** is the only footballer to have won the FIFA World Cup thrice.
6. The top goal scorer of the tournament gets the Golden **Boot** award.
7. The Golden **Glove** award is given to the best goalkeeper of the tournament.
8. **Brazil** has won the trophy the most number of times.

## ****7. Badminton Stars of India****

1. In 2023, **HS Prannoy** became the first Indian male to win the Malaysia Masters since its inception in 2009.
2. In 2019, **B Sai Praneeth** became the first Indian male to win a bronze medal in the BWF World Championships in 36 years, after Prakash Padukone in 1983.
3. **Lakshya Sen** won the men’s singles badminton gold medal at the Commonwealth Games 2022.
4. **Parupalli Kashyap** won the gold medal at the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games.
5. In 2023, **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy** and **Chirag Shetty** became the first Indian doubles pair to win a World Federation Super 1000 title as well as a gold medal at the Badminton Asia Championship.

**Know with Derek:**  
**Pullela Gopichand** is a former winner of the All England Open Badminton Championship, but is perhaps better known for coaching most of the top players in the country today.

## ****8. Adventure Sports****

Adventure sports, also called extreme sports, are marked by speed and a high level of physical exertion. Identify these adventure sports using the Help Box.

1. **Surfing** (Image: person riding waves)
2. **Rafting** (Image: people in a raft on white water)
3. **Rock Climbing** (Image: person climbing a cliff)
4. **Snowboarding** (Image: person on a snowboard in snow)
5. **Paragliding** (Image: person with a large fabric wing gliding in the air)
6. **Hang Gliding** (Image: person with a triangular glider)

**Know with Derek:**  
**Bungee jumping** is an activity that involves jumping off the edge of a tall building or cliff with your feet fastened to a long elastic cord.

## ****9. Flightless Birds****

Write the names of these flightless birds using the Help Box.

1. **Kiwi** (small brown bird with long beak)
2. **Cassowary** (large bird with helmet-like crest)
3. **Ostrich** (tall, long-necked bird)
4. **Kakapo** (green parrot-like bird)
5. **Rhea** (large bird similar to an ostrich, South America)
6. **Penguin** (black and white aquatic bird)
7. **Galapagos Cormorant** (dark bird with short wings)
8. **Emu** (large brown bird native to Australia)

**Know with Derek:**  
The **Inaccessible Island rail** is the smallest known flightless bird in the world. It lives on the Inaccessible Island located in the South Atlantic Ocean.

## ****10. Identify these Creatures****

Read the clues and identify the creatures using the Help Box.

1. It has zebra-like markings on its legs. — **Okapi**
2. The patronus produced by Hermione Granger takes the shape of this animal. — **Otter**
3. Native to South America, its wool is very expensive. — **Vicuna**
4. Also known as an elk, it is the largest species in the deer family. — **Moose**
5. It is a wild mountain goat with long, curved horns. — **Ibex**
6. It is the first animal name you will come across in an English dictionary. It has a long snout, similar to that of a pig, which is used to sniff out food. — **Aardvark**