



1. Draw up a list of the different festivals celebrated in your locality. Which of these celebrations are shared by members of different regional and religious communities?

Ans: Festivals shared by different regional and religious communities are:

- Independence Day
- Republic Day
- Gandhi Jayanti

These are our national festivals, so every Indian celebrates them irrespective of region and religion.

2. What do you think living in India with its rich heritage of diversity adds to your life?

Ans: India is a country with a rich heritage of diversity. People here belong to various religions, speak different languages, wear different clothes, eat different things, among other diversities. However, despite all this, we unite together as Indians. We share the same national symbols, national virtues and feelings. Being an Indian gives us the divine idea of 'sarvadharmā sambhava', which means that we have the virtue of respecting all religions, since all religions are one.

3. Do you think the term "unity in diversity" is an appropriate term to describe India? What do you think Nehru is trying to say about Indian unity in the sentence quoted above from his book "The Discovery of India"?

Ans: Yes, I believe "unity in diversity" is an appropriate term to describe India.

Diversity. India is a large country and people of different parts follow different faiths, speak various languages, wear and eat differently. This shows that India has a diversity spread across its people.

Unity. Despite the diversities, as Indians, we are one. As an Indian, we are no more a Gujarati or a Bengali, we celebrate the national days with equal zeal, we sing the national anthem with the same passion. This shows our unity. Therefore, the phrase "unity in diversity" is justified.

Nehru has written in his book "The Discovery of India", "It was something deeper and within its fold, the widest tolerance of belief and custom was practised and every variety acknowledged and even encouraged." He means that when one ponders over it deeply, one finds that India is not only united, but its people also know how to accept other customs and beliefs.

4. Underline the line in the poem sung after the Jallianwalla massacre, which according to you, reflects India's essential unity.

Ans: Don't forget the days of blood, O friend

In the midst of your happiness remember to shed a tear for us
The hunter has torn away every single flower
Do plant a flower in the desert garden dear friend
Having fallen to bullets we slept in Jallianwalla Bagh
Do light a lamp on this lonely grave O friend
The blood of Hindus and Muslims flows together today

Do soak your robe in this river of blood dear friend
 Some rot in jails while others lie in their graves
 Do shed a few tears for them O friend.
 The underlined line reflects India's unity. When it came to struggling for freedom of the country, the Hindus and Muslims came together to fight and 'their blood flows together'.

5. Choose another region in India and do a similar study of the historical and geographical factors that influences the diversity found there. Are these historical and geographical factors connected to each other? How?

Ans: Do yourself.

I. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Choose the correct option to complete the statements given below:

(i) Samir Do thought Samir Ek did not know

- (a) English
- (b) Hindi
- (c) Punjabi
- (d) Urdu.

(ii) Samir Do's family lived in.....

- (a) Delhi
- (b) Meerut
- (c) Bihar
- (d) Jaipur.

(iii) Which of these not an example of inequality?

- (a) casting the vote for electing government
- (b) belonging to a different religion
- (c) speaking one language and not another
- (d) earning money.

(iv) Which of these is not a reason for diversify?

- (a) history of a region
- (b) habitat of a person

(i) Ladakh is a desert in the state of.....

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Jammu and Kashmir
- (d) Rajasthan.

Ans. (i)—(b), (ii)—(b), (iii)—(a), (iv)—(d), (v)—(c).

II. FILL IN THE BLANKS

Fill in the blanks with appropriate words to complete each sentence.

(i) The caste system is a form of.....

(ii) Inequality comes when a person does not have access to..... and.....

(iii) A country's customs, religions, arts and history constitute its

(iv) People travelled in search of.....

(v) When people travel to other places, of cultures takes place.

(vi) Habitat is associated with the one lives in.

(vii) Both Kerala and Ladakh were influenced by..... and.....

(viii) A British general opened fire on a public meeting in..... on April 13, 1919.

(ix) The Discovery of India' is a book by.....

Ans:

- (i) inequality
- (ii) resources, opportunities
- (iii) culture
- (iv) new lands and people
- (v) intermixing
- (vi) geographical area
- (vii) Chinese, Arab

- (viii) Jallianwalla Bagh
- (ix) Jawahar Lai Nehru.

III. TRUE/FALSE

State whether each of these sentences is true (T) or false (F).

- (i) All Indians share the national anthem.
- (ii) All Indians have the same national language.
- (iii) All Indians speak the same language.
- (iv) Pt. Nehru was the first President of India.
- (v) Caste system is an example of diversity.
- (vi) Kerala and Ladakh are in different parts of India.
- (vii) The geography of Ladakh allows cultivation of spices.

Ans.

- (i) True,
- (ii) True,
- (iii) False,
- (iv) False,
- (v) False,
- (vi) True,
- (vii) False.

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