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SIKKIM

A. WARMER

Have you ever visited a mountainous state? If yes, tell class about its people, food habits, dresses, climate etc.

Sikkim is a tiny mountainous state in the heart of the eastern Himalayas. It is bounded by the Tibetan Plateau in the north, the Chumbi Valley of Tibet and the kingdom of Bhutan in the east, Nepal in the west, and Darjeeling (West Bengal) in the south. In 1975, Sikkim became the 22nd state of India. It has only 540,493 inhabitants, and a total area of 7,096 square kilometres. Sikkim is the least populated state of India.



The word 'Sikkim' is a combination of two words, Su and Khyim. Su means "new", and Khyim, means "palace" or "house". Therefore, the word means new palace or house, in reference to the palace built by the state's first ruler, Phuntsok Namgyal. The Tibetan name for Sikkim is 'Denjong', which means the "valley of rice".

Sikkim is divided into four districts which include East Sikkim, West Sikkim, North Sikkim and South Sikkim. The district headquarters are Gangtok, Geyzing, Mangan and Namchi respectively.

Gangtok is the capital of Sikkim, literally meaning a 'high hill'. It offers magnificent views of the snow clad *Kanchenjunga*, the world's third highest peak which is regarded as the guardian deity of Sikkim.

Sikkim is rich in flora and fauna, streams, ancient monasteries, and lakes. The flora of Sikkim includes the rhododendron (the state tree), orchid, fig, banana, *sal* tree and bamboo. Oak, chestnut, maple, birch, alder and magnolia also grow in large numbers. The orchid *Dendrobium nobile* is the state flower of Sikkim.

The fauna of Sikkim includes the snow leopard, the musk deer, the *Bhoral*, the Himalayan *Tahr*, the red panda, the Himalayan marmot, the *serow*, the *goral*, the barking deer, the common *langur*, the Himalayan Black Bear, the clouded leopard, the Marbled Cat, the leopard cat, the wild dog, the Tibetan wolf, the hog badger, the binturong, the jungle cat and the civet cat. Among the animals more commonly found are yaks, mainly reared for their milk, meat and as a beast of burden.

The birds found in Sikkim include the *Impeyan* pheasant, the crimson horned pheasant, the snow partridge, the snow rooster, the *lammergeyer* and griffon vultures, as well as golden eagles, quail, plovers, woodcock, sandpipers, pigeons, babblers and robins.

Sikkim is predominantly inhabited by the Lepchas, the Nepalese, and the Bhutias. Nepali is the *lingua franca* of Sikkim. English and Hindi are also spoken and understood in most of Sikkim. Other languages spoken in Sikkim include Bhutia, Gurung, Lepcha, Limbu, Magar, Newari, Rai, Sherpa, Sunuwar and Tamang.

The people in the rural areas grow cardamom, ginger, orange, apple, tea and orchids. Rice is grown on the hillsides of the southern areas. Sikkim is the biggest producer of cardamom in India. The minerals mined in Sikkim are copper, dolomite, limestone, graphite, mica, iron and coal.

The people of Sikkim celebrate major Indian festivals such as *Diwali* and *Dussera*. As the people of Sikkim mostly follow Buddhism, the festivals celebrated here are associated with the Buddhist festivals. The popular festivals they celebrate include *Losar*, *Saga Dawa*, *Lhabab Dhuechein*, *Phang Lhabsol*, *Drupka Teshi*, *Bumchu*, *Losoong*, *Tihaar*, *Dasain* and *Christmas*.

GLOSSARY AND NOTES

mountainous (adj):	surrounded by mountain	पर्वतीय
bounded (adj):	surrounded	घिरा हुआ
inhabitants (n):	dwellers	निवासी
literally (adv):	word for word	शाब्दिक
magnificent (adj):	decent	शानदार, सुंदर
view (n):	scenery	दृश्य, नजारा
clad (adj):	covered	ढँकी हुई
regard (v):	consider	समझा जाना, माना जाना
flora (n):	vegetation	वनस्पति
fauna (n):	living beings	जीव-जन्तु
monasteries (n):	dwellings of Buddhist monks	मठ
predominantly (adv):	mainly, chiefly	मुख्यतः, प्रमुखता से
lingua franca (n):	prime/ contact language	मुख्य भाषा, सम्पर्क भाषा

B. LET'S COMPREHEND**B.1. THINK AND TELL****B.1.1. Answer the following questions:**

1. Why is Sikkim considered a tiny state?
2. By which plateau is Sikkim bounded in the north? What is in the north of India?
3. When did Sikkim become a state of India? When did Bihar become a state?
4. The word 'Sikkim' is a combination of which two words? What do they mean? Can you tell how has Bihar got its name?
5. Who are the prime inhabitants of Sikkim?

B.2. THINK AND WRITE**B.2.1. Say whether the following are true or false according to the passage.**

Write 'T' for true and 'F' false:

- (1) Sikkim is a tiny mountainous state in western Himalayas.
- (2) Sikkim became the 21st state of India in 1975.
- (3) Gangtok is the capital of Sikkim.
- (4) English and Hindi are not spoken in Sikkim.
- (5) Sikkim is the biggest producer of cardamom in India.
- (6) The mineral mines in Sikkim are gold and silver.
- (7) The people of Sikkim mostly follow Hinduism.

B.2.2. Answer the following questions in about 30 words.

1. Write the boundary of Sikkim.
2. What is the Tibetan name of Sikkim? What does it mean?

3. Which is the guardian deity of Sikkim? What do you know about it?
4. What are the chief flora and fauna found in Sikkim?

B.2.3. Answer each of the following questions in not more than 50 words:

1. How many districts are there in Sikkim? Write them with their respective headquarters. Do you know how many districts are there in our state?
2. Which birds are found in Sikkim? Name some of them.
3. Write about the inhabitants and languages of Sikkim.
4. Which are the main festivals of India? Can you name some festivals of Bihar?

C. WORD STUDY

C.1. Fill in the blanks with the suitable words from the box:

high hill mined follow eastern
flower festivals

1. Sikkim is in the heart of _____ Himalayas.
2. Literally Gangtok means _____.
3. The orchid *Dendrobium nobile* is the state _____ of Sikkim.
4. The minerals _____ in Sikkim are copper, dolomite etc.
5. The people of Sikkim mostly _____ Buddhism.
6. The popular _____ of Sikkim are Losar, Losoong, etc.

C.2. Given below are some jumbled words. Rearrange them to get words

that make sense. One has been done for you.

vaylle – valley

snouiatuomn, dneduob, tsbae, tvalifse, einm

C.3 Match the words given in column 'A' with their meanings in column 'B'.

	Column A	Column B
1	tiny	surrounded
2	kingdom	grower
3	burden	load
4	bounded	small
5	producer	empire

D. GRAMMAR

D.1. Fill in the blanks with the suitable prepositions given in the box below:

of, for, off, on, at, to

- He has come here _____ treatment.
- Switch _____ the light.
- Our M.P. is _____ hunger strike.
- Seema is fond _____ sweets.
- Look _____ the picture.
- I prefer tea _____ coffee.

D.2. Look at the following sentences from the lesson:

- (a.) *Sikkim is divided into four districts which include.....*
- (b.) *Sikkim is predominantly inhabited by the Lepchas, the Nepalese, and the Bhutias.*

These two sentences are in the passive voice. The passive voice is formed by using a form of **be + past participle**. It is sometimes followed with a **by** phrase; e.g.,

Godan was written by Premchand.

The active voice focuses on the person who performs the action; e.g., in 'Premchand wrote Godan.', whereas the passive voice focuses on the receiver of the action.

When the verb is in the active voice, the subject performs the action. When the verb is in the passive voice, the subject receives the action.

Active : The man *ate* the fish.

Passive: The fish *was eaten* by the man.

Passive voice can be used with different tenses and modals. The tense of the sentence is shown by the verb **be**. You can use the past participle with every tense. You can see in the following table how the verbs in active sentences are changed in passive sentences.

TENSES	ACTIVE VOICE	PASSIVE VOICE
Simple present tense	I eat food.	Food is eaten by me.
Present continuous Tense	I am eating food.	Food is being eaten by me.
Past simple tense	I ate food.	Food was eaten by me.
Past continuous tense	I was eating food.	Food was being eaten by me.
Present perfect simple	I have eaten food.	Food had been eaten by me.
Present perfect continuous	I have been eating food	Food has been being eaten by me.
Past perfect	I had eaten food	Food had been eaten by me.
Past perfect continuous	I had been eating food	Food had been being eaten by me.
Simple future tense	I will eat food	Food will be eaten by me.
Future continuous tense	I will be eating food	Food will be being eaten by me.
Future perfect tense	I will have eaten food	Food will have been eaten by me.
Future perfect continuous tense	I will have been eating food	Food will have been being eaten by me.

We don't use *do/does/did* with the passive voice.

The movie *wasn't* made in Ranchi. (NOT: The movie didn't made/make in Ranchi.)

If two verbs in the passive voice are connected with '*and*' we do not repeat

by.

The Oscar ceremony *is televised and seen* by millions of people.

There is a difference in pronouns in an active sentence and a passive sentence. After *by*, the object pronoun is used.

ACTIVE: **She** saw **him**.

PASSIVE: **He** was seen by **her**.

ACTIVE: **They** helped **us**.

PASSIVE: **We** were helped by **them**.

D.2.1. Pick out five active sentences and five passive sentences from the following text:

I was given three movie passes for my birthday. I invited two of my friends to go with me. We went to a new movie theatre/cinema hall in Patna. We saw a movie that was directed by Prakash Jha. This was my first time in a movie theatre/cinema hall, and several things happened that were unusual for me.

I was surprised that people were eating during the movie. Popcorn, potato chips, *samosas*, and cold drink are sold in the theatre lobby. I don't understand why people buy food to eat during the movie. Also, coming attractions are shown before the movie. Another unusual thing was that at the end of the movie, nobody applauded. While the credits were being shown, people were leaving.

It was also strange for me that popcorn boxes and empty packets of potato chips were left on the floor of the theatre/cinema hall.

Anyway, in spite of all these surprises, I enjoyed the movie very much.

D.2.2. Fill in the blanks with the passive voice of the verb, using the tense given in the brackets:

Example: (simple present ; *give*)

The best actor is given an Oscar.

(a) (simple present: *see*)

The awards ceremony _____ by millions of people.

(b) (future: *choose*)

Which actor _____ next year?

(c) (simple past : *give*)

Salman Khan _____ an award for Best Actor, for *Dabang*.

(d) (modal : *can; see*)

The movie _____ at many cinema halls.

(e) (present continuous : *show*)

A good movie _____ at the cinema hall near my house.

(f) (simple past: *give*)

In 2010, no award _____ to an Indian actor.

D.2.3. Change from active to passive. Do not mention the doer/agent of action. Use the same tense as in the underlined verb.

Example: People will see the movie on TV.

The movie will be seen on TV.

(a) They gave A.R. Rahman an Oscar for his music in '*Slumdog Millionaires*'.

(b) Which actor will they choose next year?

(c) People have seen Amitabh Bachchan in many movies.

(d) You should see '*Robot*' on a big screen.

(e) They are filming a new movie in Rajgir.

- (f) They don't permit children under 18 to see some movies.
- (g) When did they make 'Deewar'?

D.2.4. The following sentences would look better in active voice because the doer of the action is a specific person. Change these sentences to active voice. Use the same tense as in the passive voice:

Gangtok is liked by me. → I like Gangtok.

- (a) A video will be rented by me.
- (b) The video should be returned by me.
- (c) The winner was predicted by the reviewer.
- (d) The winner's name is being announced by Amitabh Bachchan.
- (e) The *Kaun Banega Karorpati* serial was being watched by me when my friend came.
- (f) Good movies have been made by Aamir Khan.
- (g) A Filmfare Award was won by Shahrukh Khan.
- (h) Was the music composed by A. R. Rahman?
- (i) Were the tickets bought by you?
- (j) The students will be shown a movie by the teacher.

E. LET'S LISTEN, WRITE AND TALK

E.1. Listen to your teacher and complete the following table on Nagaland:

Nagaland

Nagaland is a hill state located in the north eastern part of India. It has a population of 1,988,636 people, and a total area of 16,579 km. Thus, it is one of the smallest states of India. After the independence of India in 1947, the area remained a part of the province of Assam. In 1963, Nagaland officially became a state. It borders the state of Assam to the west, Arunachal Pradesh and part of Assam to the north,

Myanmar to the east and Manipur to the south. The capital of Nagaland is Kohima. The largest city is Dimapur.

Nagaland is rich in flora and fauna. Pangolins, porcupines, elephants, leopards, bears, many species of monkeys, sambar, deers, oxen and buffaloes are abundantly found in the forests of Nagaland. The Great Indian Hornbill is one of the most famous birds found in the state.

The tribes of Nagaland are Angami, Ao, Chakesang, Chang, Khienmungan, Kuki, Konyak, Lotha, Phom, Pochury, Rengma, Sema, Sangtam, Yimchunger and Zeliang. The Angamis, Aos, Konyaks and Semas are the largest Naga tribes. English is the official language of Nagaland. The major languages of the state include Ao, Angami or Tenyidie, Chakesang, Chang, Khienmungan, Konyak, Lotha, Phom, Pochury, Rengma, Sema, Sangtam, Yimchunger, Liangmei, Kuki, and Zeme. The contact or link language is Nagamese.

Weaving is a traditional art in Nagaland. Each of the major tribes has its own unique designs and colours. The state produces shawls, shoulder bags, decorative spears, table mats, wood carvings and bamboo works. Tribal dances add colour and happiness to the lives of the Naga people. War dances and dances belonging to distinctive tribes are a major art form in Nagaland.

The main festivals of the various tribes are: Sekrenyi, Ngada, Nga-Ngai, Mimkut, Tsukhenyi, Nazu, Moatsu, Aoling, Monyu, Nkanyulum, Metemneo, Amongmong, Tokhuemong, and Tuluni.

Agriculture is the most important economic activity in Nagaland. The crops include rice, maize or corn, millets, pulses, tobacco, oilseeds, sugarcane, potatoes and fibres.

Complete the table given below:

	Nagaland
Neighbouring states	
Year of becoming a state	

Population	
Capital	
Animals	
Tribes	
Languages	
Handicrafts	
Festivals	
Crops	

E.2. Talk about your own state, Bihar.

F. COMPOSITION

Write a letter to your pen friend describing the beauty of the place where you live and request him to visit this place during the summer vacation.

G. TRANSLATION

Translate the following into English:

हमारे राज्य का नाम बिहार है। यह देश के बड़े राज्यों में से एक है। इसकी राजधानी पटना है जो गंगा के तट पर स्थित है। यहाँ मुख्य रूप से हिन्दी, भाषाएँ बोली जाती हैं। बिहार के लोगों का मुख्य पेशा कृषि है। यहाँ मुख्य रूप से चावल, गेहूँ, गन्ना, मक्का इत्यादि उपजाया जाता है।

H. ACTIVITY

Look at the map of India and list the mountainous states. Also find out the most popular tourist places in these states. Which of them would you like to visit and why?

