

CLASS 3

Current Affairs

VIVA EDUCATION

Officially Recognized Languages of India

As per Articles 344(1) and 351 of the Indian Constitution the eighth schedule recognizes the following 22 Indian languages.

LANGUAGE	STATE(S)/UT(S)
Assamese	Assam, Arunachal Pradesh
Bengali	West Bengal, Tripura, Assam, Jharkhand, Andaman and Nicobar Islands
Bodo	Assam
Dogri	Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab
Gujarati	Gujarat, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu
Hindi	Across the states in the Hindi belt*
Kannada**	Karnataka
Kashmiri	Jammu and Kashmir
Konkani	Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Kerala (The Konkan Coast)
Maithili	Bihar, Jharkhand
Malayalam**	Kerala, Puducherry, Lakshadweep

Manipuri	Manipur
Marathi	Maharashtra, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, Goa
Nepali	Sikkim, Darjeeling district of West Bengal
Odia**	Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal
Punjabi	Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, West Bengal
Sanskrit**	Uttarakhand (Official language)
Santali	Jharkhand, Odisha, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Mizoram, Tripura, West Bengal
Sindhi	Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat
Tamil**	Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Andaman and Nicobar Islands
Telugu**	Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Puducherry
Urdu	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Telangana, Delhi, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Jammu and Kashmir

*The Hindi belt comprises Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh.

**Listed as a classical language

2019 at a Glance

International

The UN Climate Change Conference, also known as COP25, was held in Madrid. The aim of the conference was to make the Paris Climate Change Agreement fully working.

The 2019 UN Climate Action Summit was held at the headquarters of the United Nations in New York City on the theme 'Climate Action Summit 2019: A Race We Can Win. A Race We Must Win'. The Climate Action Summit called attention to the global understanding that 1.5°C is the safe limit for global warming by the end of this century. The world needs to work to have zero emissions by 2050 to achieve this.

The Dau Tieng Solar Power Complex, Southeast Asia's largest solar power farm, opened in Vietnam. It has the capacity to produce 688 million kWh of electricity annually. It was claimed that the plant will also prevent the emission of 595,000 tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere every year.

The 2019 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to the Prime Minister of Ethiopia Abiy Ahmed Ali for his efforts to achieve peace and international cooperation, and in particular for his decisive initiative to resolve the border conflict with neighbouring country Eritrea.

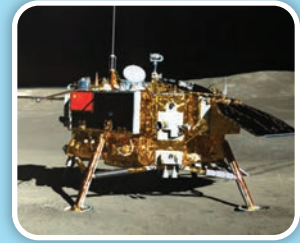
British author Bernardine Evaristo jointly won the Booker Prize for Fiction 2019 with Canadian author Margaret Atwood. Evaristo won for her book *Girl, Woman, Other*, which is a wide-ranging novel that follows the struggles and conflicts in the lives of twelve characters. Atwood won for *The Testaments*, a sequel to her dystopian novel *The Handmaid's Tale*. Evaristo is the first black woman to win the prestigious prize.

Omani writer and academic Jokha Alharthi won the International Booker Prize for her novel *Celestial Bodies*.



Science

On 3 January 2019 China's *Chang'e-4* became the first ever spacecraft to reach the far side of the moon – the side of the moon that faces away from Earth. The probe successfully landed on the Moon.



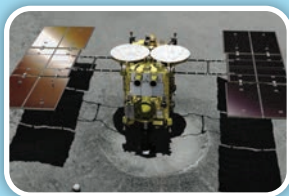
Scientists took the first ever image of a black hole using the Event Horizon Telescope – a group of eight telescopes placed all over the world. They scanned the centre of the M87 galaxy for ten days to capture the image. The black hole measures 40 billion km across. It is larger than the size of our entire solar system.

The Food and Drug Administration of the United States approved the first vaccine for the prevention of dengue called Dengvaxia. It is only prescribed for those who are 9–45 years of age and have had dengue fever before.



2019 was a great year for the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). ISRO completed 13 missions, including 6 launch vehicle missions and 7 satellite missions.

India's moon mission *Chandrayaan-2* was launched successfully on 22 July 2019 on a GSLV Mk-III from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR, Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh. It orbited the moon as scheduled but the mission's *Vikram* lander crash landed on the moon's surface due to a technical glitch.



Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency's *Hayabusa2* became the first spacecraft to successfully collect underground samples from an asteroid. *Hayabusa2* had landed inside a crater it had created on the Ryugu asteroid months earlier.

Sports

The 2019 Wimbledon Championships were held in London, England. The winners were as follows:

- Ladies' Singles: Simona Halep
- Gentlemen's Singles: Novak Djokovic
- Ladies' Doubles: Hsieh Su-wei and Barbora Strýcová
- Gentlemen's Doubles: Juan Sebastián Cabal and Robert Farah
- Mixed Doubles: Ivan Dodig and Latisha Chan



The 2019 Australian Open was held in Melbourne, Australia. The winners were as follows:

- Women's Singles: Naomi Osaka
- Men's Singles: Novak Djokovic
- Women's Doubles: Samantha Stosur and Zhang Shuai
- Men's Doubles: Pierre-Hugues Herbert and Nicolas Mahut
- Mixed Doubles: Barbora Krejčíková and Rajeev Ram

The ICC Cricket World Cup 2019 was held in England and Wales. England won its first Cricket World Cup, defeating New Zealand in the final match. After a tied match and a tied Super Over, the winner was decided based on the number of boundaries hit by the teams.





The 2019 Asian Youth Athletics Championships was held in Hong Kong. India finished second with a total of 26 medals including 8 gold, 9 silver and 9 bronze medals, whereas China topped with 31 medals including 12 gold, 11 silver and 8 bronze medals. Japan finished third with 20 medals that included 6 gold, 8 silver and 6 bronze medals.

The 13th South Asian Games were held in Kathmandu, Nepal. India finished on top for the thirteenth time with 311 medals – 173 gold, 93 silver and 45 bronze. Sri Lanka came second with 251 medals and Nepal finished with 206.



The Special Olympics World Summer Games took place in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. These were the first Special Olympics World Games to be held in the Middle East/North Africa region. India finished with 368 medals – 85 gold, 154 silver and 129 bronze medals.

Indian States and Union Territories

STATE/UNION TERRITORY	CAPITAL
Andaman and Nicobar Islands*	Port Blair
Andhra Pradesh	Amaravati**
Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar
Assam	Dispur
Bihar	Patna
Chandigarh*	Chandigarh
Chhattisgarh	Raipur
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu*	Daman
National Capital Territory of Delhi*	New Delhi
Goa	Panaji
Gujarat	Gandhinagar
Haryana	Chandigarh
Himachal Pradesh	Dharamshala (Winter) Shimla (Summer)
Jammu and Kashmir*	Jammu (Winter) Srinagar (Summer)
Jharkhand	Ranchi
Karnataka	Bengaluru
Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram
Ladakh*	Leh
Lakshadweep*	Kavaratti

Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
Maharashtra	Nagpur (Winter) Mumbai
Manipur	Imphal
Meghalaya	Shillong
Mizoram	Aizawl
Nagaland	Kohima
Odisha	Bhubaneswar
Puducherry*	Puducherry
Punjab	Chandigarh
Rajasthan	Jaipur
Sikkim	Gangtok
Tamil Nadu	Chennai
Telangana	Hyderabad
Tripura	Agartala
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
Uttarakhand	Dehradun
West Bengal	Kolkata

*Union Territory

**Amaravati is the *de facto* capital of the newly-formed state.

Largest Islands in the World

NAME	AREA (SQUARE KILOMETRES)
Greenland	2,175,600
New Guinea	809,500
Borneo	746,000
Madagascar	587,000
Baffin Island	507,065
Sumatra	474,300
Honshu	227,400
Great Britain	218,041
Victoria Island	217,300
Ellesmere Island	196,236

Largest Lakes by Area

NAME	AREA (SQUARE KILOMETRES)
Caspian Sea	371,000
Lake Superior	82,100
Lake Victoria	69,500
Lake Huron	59,600
Lake Michigan	57,800
Lake Tanganyika	32,900
Lake Baikal	31,500
Great Bear Lake	31,300
Lake Malawi	29,604
Lake Winnipeg	24,387

Largest Hot Deserts in the World

NAME	LOCATION	AREA (SQUARE KILOMETRES)
Sahara	North Africa	8,600,000
Arabian Desert	Southwest Asia	2,300,000
Gobi	Mongolia/China	1,300,000
Kalahari Desert	Southern Africa	930,000
Patagonian Desert	South America	673,000
Syrian Desert	West Asia	520,000
Great Basin Desert	USA	492,000
Great Victoria Desert	Australia	418,750
Great Sandy Desert	Australia	400,000
Chihuahuan Desert	North America	362,600

Longest Rivers in the World

NAME	LOCATION	LENGTH (KILOMETRES)
Amazon	South America	6,992
Nile	Africa	6,853
Yangtze	Asia	6,300
Mississippi-Missouri	North America	6,275
Yenisei-Angara	Asia	5,539
Huang He	Asia	5,464
Ob-Irtysh	Asia	5,410
Paraná	South America	4,880
Congo	Africa	4,700
Amur-Argun	Asia	4,444

Quiz

1. Who is the prime minister of Pakistan?



Arif Alvi



Sheikh Hasina



Imran Khan

2. Which of the following is an amphibian?



fish



frog



monkey

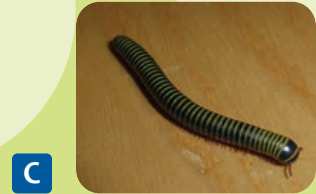
3. Which of the following is the young form of a butterfly?



worm



caterpillar

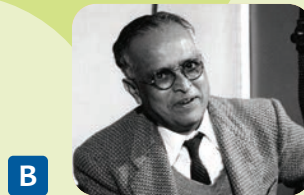


millipede

4. Who wrote *Swami and Friends*?



Ruskin Bond

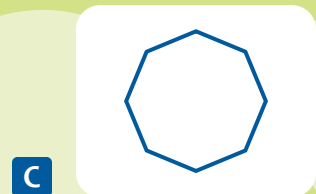
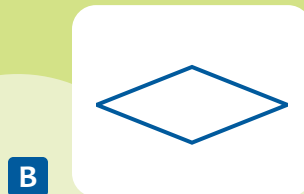
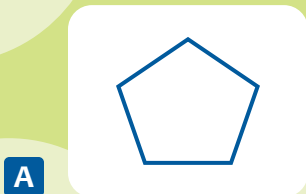


R.K. Narayan



Vikram Seth

5. Which of the following is a pentagon?



6. Who wrote *Wings of Fire*?
A Mahatma Gandhi **B** A.P.J. Abdul Kalam **C** Jawaharlal Nehru
7. What is the national tree of India?
A peepal tree **B** banyan tree **C** mango tree
8. What protects us from the excess ultraviolet rays of the sun?
A ozone layer **B** carbon dioxide **C** the moon
9. Which is the largest ocean on the earth?
A the Indian Ocean **B** the Pacific Ocean **C** the Atlantic Ocean
10. Who was the only Indian to become the president of the United Nations General Assembly?
A Indira Gandhi
B Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit
C Pratibha Patil
11. What was the former name of Myanmar?
A Pakistan **B** Burma **C** Sri Lanka
12. Which is the oldest satellite surrounding the earth?
A Sputnik 1 **B** Aryabhata **C** the moon
13. Which company or organization employs the largest number of persons in India?
A Infosys **B** Microsoft **C** Indian Railways
14. What is the symbol of kilogram?
A kgs **B** kg **C** k
15. Who was the first human being to enter into space?
A Yuri Gagarin **B** Rakesh Sharma **C** Neil Armstrong

1. C 2. B 3. B 4. B 5. A 6. B 7. B 8. A 9. B 10. B 11. B 12. C
 13. C 14. B 15. A

Answers: