

7. Ahmedabad – India's First World Heritage City

WORKSHEET

1

COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage and answer the questions below:

Harsh ka Teela is the popular name used by the locals of Thanesar-Kurukshetra while referring to the Archaeological Survey of India-managed complex. The vehicle moves through slow-moving traffic and congested roads. After a series of turns, all of a sudden this complex looms up in the form of a high wall. Flanked on two sides by a row of unremarkable, supposedly 'modern' houses, the walled structure looks almost Martian amidst the surrounding chaos.

But the origin of the main structure within the walled complex is Mughal rather than Martian. This is the madrasa and the tomb of the Sufi saint, Abdur Rahim. The saint is said to have been the spiritual teacher of the Mughal prince Dara Shikoh and, while this is not confirmed, the design, elegance and ornamentation of the tomb suggest a patron of considerable wealth. The tomb is believed to have been built around AD 1650 which is the time Dara's star was in the ascendant. Having said that, it is remarkable that the tomb survived the pillages of Aurangzeb who detested everything his brother Dara stood for.

Sheikh Chilli's tomb and madrasa have survived and in a great style at that. The complex is entered into by an arched gateway much like one would enter a small citadel. Within, a person finds himself in an open courtyard flanked on all sides by a quadrangular madrasa. Each side of the quadrangle has nine cells, each of which is entered into via a high-arched gateway and they now house an ASI museum and offices. A stairway from a corner of the madrasa leads to the tomb which is built on a raised platform. The tomb platform is ringed by chhatris on all sides with a small pavilion at one end. In the exact centre of the platform rises the actual tomb - a slender octagonal structure made of yellow buff stone with a nearly white bulbous dome at the top. The place has been heavily restored but that does not take away from the effect.

Driving away from the place, back through Thanesar's chaos, it is hard to imagine a Mughal prince patronising the place or a king of the stature of Harsha ruling much of India from here. But then, imagination is what history is all about.

From: Sufi Island in Thanesar - Arjun Kumar

A Answer the following questions.

1. What is Abdur Rahim's tomb popularly called?

2. Which organisation manages the tomb complex?

3. What is believed about Abdur Rahim?

4. Describe the actual tomb.

5. Why do you think that the author says that it is difficult to imagine a prince patronising this place or King Harsha ruling from here?

B Fill in the blanks with suitable words from the passage.

1. The vehicle moves through _____ traffic and _____ roads.
2. The origin of the main _____ within the _____ complex is Mughal.
3. The _____, _____ and _____ of the tomb suggest a _____ of considerable _____.
4. An open courtyard is _____ by a _____ madrasa on all sides.
5. The place has been heavily _____ but that does not take away from the _____.

C Explain what you think is meant by:

Imagination is what history is all about.

GRAMMAR

A Change the following adjectives into adverbs.

- | | | | |
|----------|-------|-----------|-------|
| 1. Happy | _____ | 2. Single | _____ |
| 3. Kind | _____ | 4. Quick | _____ |
| 5. Wise | _____ | 6. True | _____ |

B Give the Comparative and Superlative forms of the following:

	Positive	Comparative	Superlative
1. Difficult	_____	_____	_____
2. Simple	_____	_____	_____
3. Little	_____	_____	_____
4. Much	_____	_____	_____
5. Many	_____	_____	_____
6. Old	_____	_____	_____

C Some adverbs in different forms change in meaning and some don't. Give the meaning of the underlined adverbs:

- (a) Rajiv works hard.
(b) Meeta hardly ever does her homework.
- (a) Sit near me in the park.
(b) We are nearly home now.
- (a) I am pretty sure he is the same man.
(b) Mona dressed very prettily.
- (a) The music was very loud.
(b) He sang very loudly.
- (a) The train arrived late.
(b) Lately there has been an increase in thefts.

VOCABULARY AND WRITING

A Explain the idiomatic phrases underlined in the following sentences:

1. He is going to dispose of his car for ₹ 1 lakh.
2. I have hit upon a good plan for our trip.
3. That matter has been cleared up.
4. The politician cried out against corruption.
5. Can you make out the meaning of this poem?

B Fill in the field to which the words given belong. Select from the box:

democracy school movies games aircraft medicine

1. Actor - Theatre - Director - _____
2. Elections - Vote - Party symbols - _____
3. Tracks - Field - Practice - _____
4. Blackboard - Assembly - Notebook - _____
5. Stethoscope - Prescription - Doctor - _____
6. Jet engine - hangar - pilot - _____

C Write a paragraph describing your parents: their appearance, interests, work, etc.
