

Passages for Listening

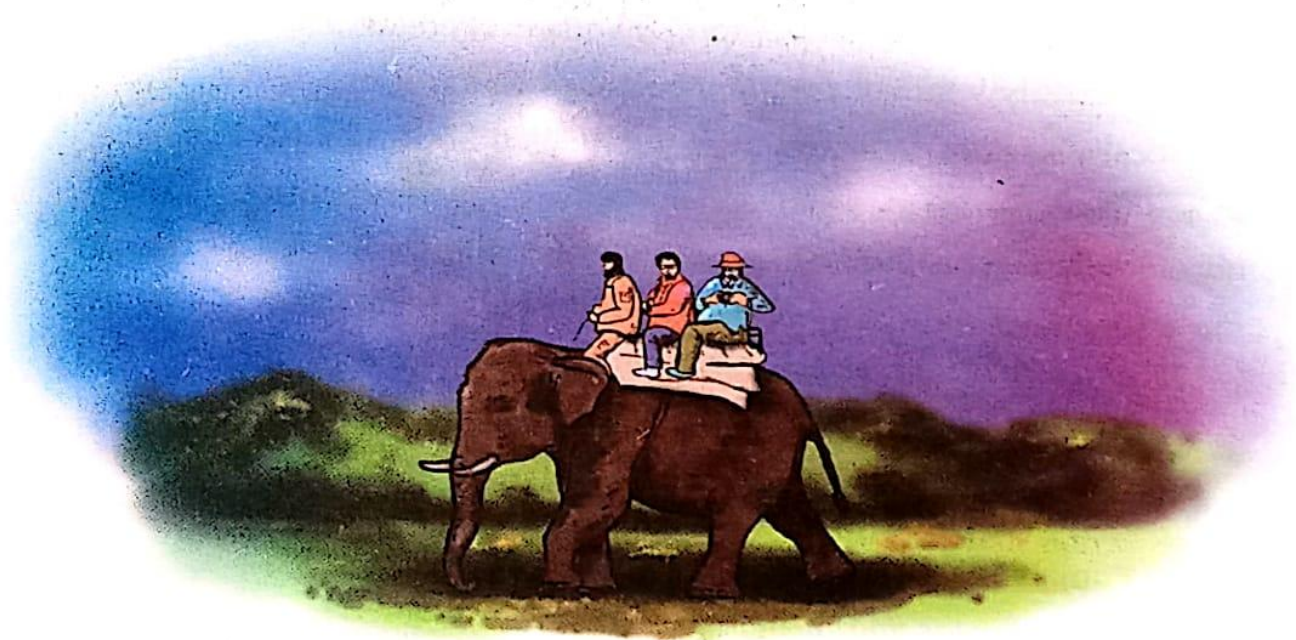
Lesson 4, Activity 5: Travel guide for Assam

Assam is one of the most beautiful tourist destinations in North East India. It has a long history. The famous Kamakhya temple at Guwahati is visited by a number of tourists every year.

You must visit Assam to see many different things. You must visit Kaziranga to see the one horned rhinoceros. On the way, you will see the lovely tea gardens. If you are lucky, you will also see many Asian elephants.

If you like history, you must visit Sivasagar, where the Ahom kings had their capital Gargaon. Don't miss visiting the Rang ghar when you go to Sivasagar. It is a two-storeyed structure with wide doors and windows from which the royal family watched buffalo fights and other sports. You should also visit the royal palace Karengghar, which had seven storeys, three below, and four storeys above the ground.

Do visit Assam for other exciting things!



Lesson 4, Activity 10

India is famous for its variety of festivals, languages and cultures. One of its most interesting aspects is the variety of clothes worn in different states, from Kashmir in the north, Punjab in the central-west, Bengal in the east and Kerala in the south.

The traditional dress worn by Bengali women is the saree. Bengal is well known for its saree fabrics and designs on jute, silk, tussor, jamdani and tangail. But more famous is the white Bengali cotton saree with a red border. Bengali women wear this saree on special occasions, such as weddings and festivals.

In Kerala, men and women wear a special type of garment around the waist, closely related to the *dhoti* and the *lungi*. This is called the *mundu*, and is normally made of cotton. The *mundu* is usually white or cream in colour. Kashmir is one of the coldest places of India, especially in winter. So Kashmiri men and women wear a warm woollen cloak over their clothes. Embroidered with beautiful flowers and bird motifs, this cloak is known as the *phiran*. The *phiran* looks like a *kurta*, and is worn over pyjamas, a *salwar* or a *churidar*.

In the state of Punjab, the traditional dress of men is a kind of *lungi* known as the *tamba* or *tehmat*. The *tehmat* is worn by Punjabi men when they dance the *bhangra*. They also wear colourful *kurtas* and *turbans* with the *tehmat*.

