

CLASS – 10

ENGLISH

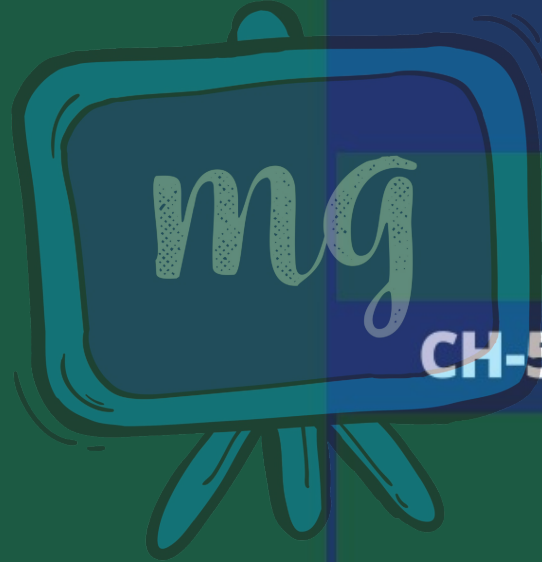
First Flight

CH-5 : Glimpses of India

Part – 5

Tea From Assam

ARPITA SHARMA

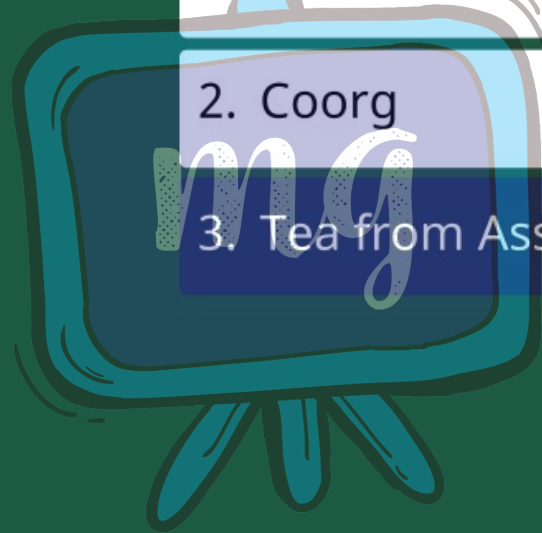


OVERVIEW

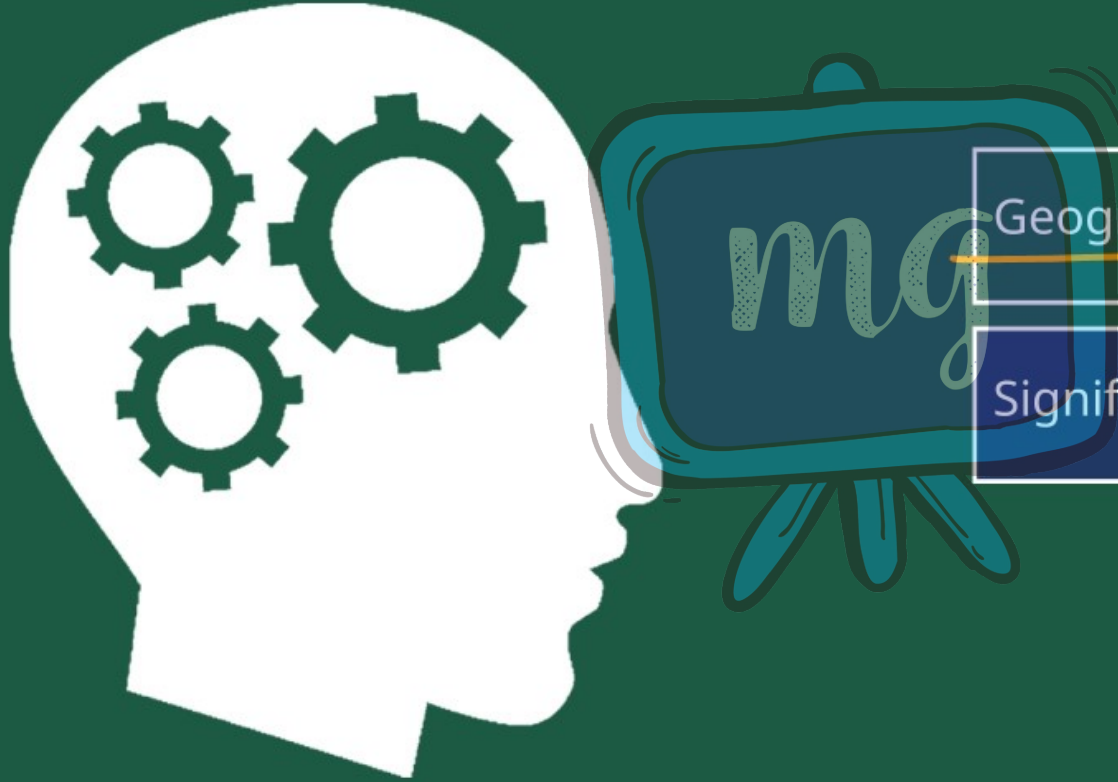
1. A Baker from Goa

2. Coorg

3. Tea from Assam

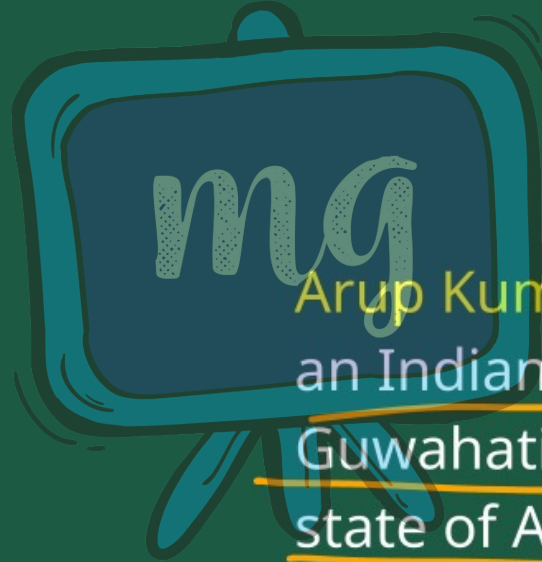


COMPETENCY BASED LEARNING



Geographical Features of Assam

Significance of Tea



Arup Kumar Datta (2nd July, 1946) is an Indian writer and Journalist from Guwahati, the tea-growing Indian state of Assam.

'Tea from Assam' Arup describes how popular tea has become as a beverage in the world.

III. Tea from Assam

Pranjol, a youngster from Assam, is Rajvir's classmate at school in Delhi. Pranjol's father is the manager of a tea-garden in Upper Assam and Pranjol has invited Rajvir to visit his home during the summer vacation.

mg

"CHAI-GARAM... garam-chai," a
vendor called out in a high-pitched
voice.

He came up to their window and
asked, "Chai, sa'ab?"

"Give us two cups," Pranjol said.

✓ Vendor : विक्रेता



They sipped the steaming hot liquid. Almost everyone in their compartment was drinking tea too.



"Do you know that over eighty crore cups of tea are drunk every day throughout the world?" Rajvir said.

"Whew!" exclaimed Pranjol. "Tea really is very popular."

The train pulled out of the station. Pranjol buried his nose in his detective book again. Rajvir too was an ardent fan of detective stories,

- ✓ Ardent : उत्साही
- ✓ Detective : जासूस

but at the moment he was keener
on looking at the beautiful scenery.

It was green, green everywhere.

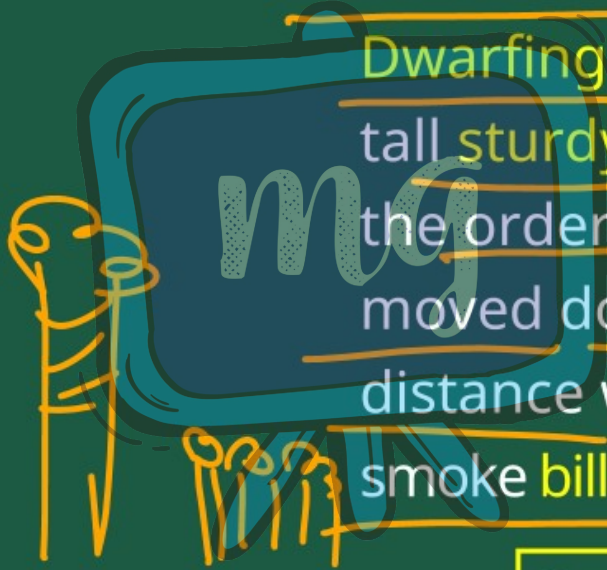
Rajvir had never seen so much
greenery before. Then the soft green
paddy fields gave way to tea bushes.

It was a magnificent view. Against
the backdrop of densely wooded

Paddy Fields	:	धान वाला क्षेत्र
Magnificent	:	आकर्षक/भव्य
Densely	:	घने

hills a sea of tea bushes stretched
as far as the eye could see.

Dwarfing the tiny tea plants were
tall sturdy shade-trees and amidst
the orderly rows of bushes busily
moved doll-like figures. In the
distance was an ugly building with
smoke billowing out of tall chimneys.



Dwarfing : छोटा करना

Sturdy : मजबूत

✓ Billowing : बाहर निकलना

"Hey, a tea garden!" Rajvir cried excitedly.

Pranjol, who had been born and brought up on a plantation, didn't share Rajvir's excitement.

"Oh, this is tea country now," he said. "Assam has the largest concentration of plantations in the world. You will see enough gardens to last you a lifetime!"

Concentration : केन्द्रीकरण

"I have been reading as much as I could about tea," Rajvir said.

"No one really knows who discovered tea but there are many legends."

"What legends?"

"Well, there's the one about the Chinese emperor who always boiled water before drinking it. One day a

✓ Legends : लोककथा

few leaves of the twigs burning
under the pot fell into the water
giving it a delicious flavour. It is said
they were tea leaves."

"Tell me another!" **scoffed** Pranjol.

"We have an Indian legend too.
Bodhidharma, an ancient Buddhist

Scoffed : हंसी उड़ाना

ascetic, cut off his eyelids because
he felt sleepy during meditations.

Ten tea plants grew out of the
eyelids. The leaves of these plants
when put in hot water and drunk
banished sleep.

"Tea was first drunk in China,"
Rajvir added, "as far back as 2700
B.C.! In fact words such as tea, 'chai'

- | | | |
|------------|---|--------------|
| ↳ Ascetic | : | सन्यासी |
| ↳ Banished | : | छुटकारा पाना |

and 'chini' are from Chinese. Tea came to Europe only in the sixteenth century and was drunk more as medicine than as beverage."

The train clattered into Mariani junction. The boys collected their luggage and pushed their way to the crowded platform.

Pranjol's parents were waiting for them.

- ✓ Beverage : पेय पदार्थ
- ✓ Clattered : खड़खड़ाना

Soon they were driving towards Dhekiabari, the tea-garden managed by Pranjol's father.

An hour later the car veered sharply off the main road. They crossed a cattle-bridge and entered Dhekiabari Tea Estate.

On both sides of the gravel-road were acre upon acre of tea bushes.

- ✓ Veered : मुड़ जाना
- ✓ Gravel-road : बजरी वाली सड़क

all neatly **pruned** to the same height. Groups of **tea-pluckers**, with bamboo baskets on their backs, wearing plastic aprons, were plucking the newly **sprouted** leaves.

Pranjol's father slowed down to allow a tractor, pulling a trailer-load of tea leaves, to pass.



Pruned : कटे हुए

Sprouted : अंकुरित



"This is the second-flush or sprouting period, isn't it, Mr Barua?" Rajvir asked. "It lasts from May to July and **yields** the best tea."

"You seem to have done your homework before coming,"

Pranjol's father said in surprise.

"Yes, Mr Barua," Rajvir admitted.

"But I hope to learn much more while I'm here."

Yields : उपलब्ध कराना

LEARNING OUTCOMES



1 | The Significance of Tea in India and Globally

2 | The Tea Plantations



1

Why was Rajvir excited to see the tea gardens?

A

He had never seen so much greenery before.

B

He was a tea lover and wanted to taste fresh tea.

C

He was interested in the process of tea making.

D

He wanted to meet the tea pluckers.

2

Which of the following is NOT true about tea?

- A Tea originated in China.
- B Tea was initially used as medicine.
- C India is the largest producer of tea in the world.
- D Tea is a popular beverage worldwide.



3

What is the significance of the second flush period in tea production?

- A It is the time when tea plants are pruned.
- B It yields the best quality tea.
- C It is the time when tea pluckers are busiest.
- D It is the start of the tea season.



4

The word "magnificent" in the text means:

A

Ordinary

B

Splendid

C

Small

D

Ugly

