

HELBLING READERS

C L A S S I C S

CEFR A2

RUDYARD KIPLING

KIM

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FREE ONLINE ACTIVITIES

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INDIA'S

ENDANGERED ANIMALS

INDIAN ELEPHANT

In *Kim*, you will read a story about an elephant. Indian elephants are an endangered species, which means there aren't very many of them left in the world. They eat about 200 kilograms of food a day and weigh around 5 tonnes – that's a lot of elephant! They travel long distances to find water, and they live in family groups. Sometimes they are used as working animals. Indian elephants are protected, but the biggest danger comes from humans. People kill them for their ivory tusks or because they walk across farmers' fields and damage the plants.

LION-TAILED MACAQUE

In the story, the main character Kim is sometimes called a monkey. The lion-tailed macaque or wanderoo is a rare species of primate*. In fact they're the most endangered primate in the world. They're one of the smallest types of macaque and weigh from about 2 to 10 kilograms. They're black, but they've got very beautiful silver hair (or fur) around their faces, called a mane. They have a ball of fur at the end of their tails, just like a lion's tail, that's how they got their name. They live in the rainforests of India and they like climbing. They're shy and don't like people. Construction* and farming companies have cut down a lot of the trees in the rainforests, and lately the wanderoos' homes are in danger.

GLOSSARY

- **construction:** (here) building
- **ivory tusks:** pair of long pointed 'teeth' (see picture)
- **primate:** member of the group of animals that includes humans and monkeys
- **protected:** (here) protected by law, illegal to hurt

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FISHING CAT

Rivers play an important part in **Kim**. Fishing cats live near rivers or lakes in India because they catch fish to eat. They're excellent swimmers and can swim a long way, even under water. They're about twice the size of a pet cat and they can weigh up to 16 kilograms! It's difficult for people to see them because they sleep during the day.

OVER TO YOU!

Find out about other endangered species in India. Make a list.

BEFORE READING

- 1  Listen to the first part of the story and complete the description of Kim.

The boy's name was Kimball O'Hara, but people called him Kim or **a** '..... Friend of all the World'. He wasn't like other **b** boys in India, he was more like his **c** friends from the bazar. His face was **d** from the sun and he preferred speaking Urdu or Hindi to **e**

- 2 Look at the English words below. They are originally from the Hindu or Urdu languages.

Match the words to their definitions.

a bungalow

b shampoo

c dinghy

d khaki

e typhoon

f jungle

g pyjamas

h loot

1 small boat

2 liquid used to wash hair

3 violent storm with very strong winds

4 shirt and trousers for wearing in bed

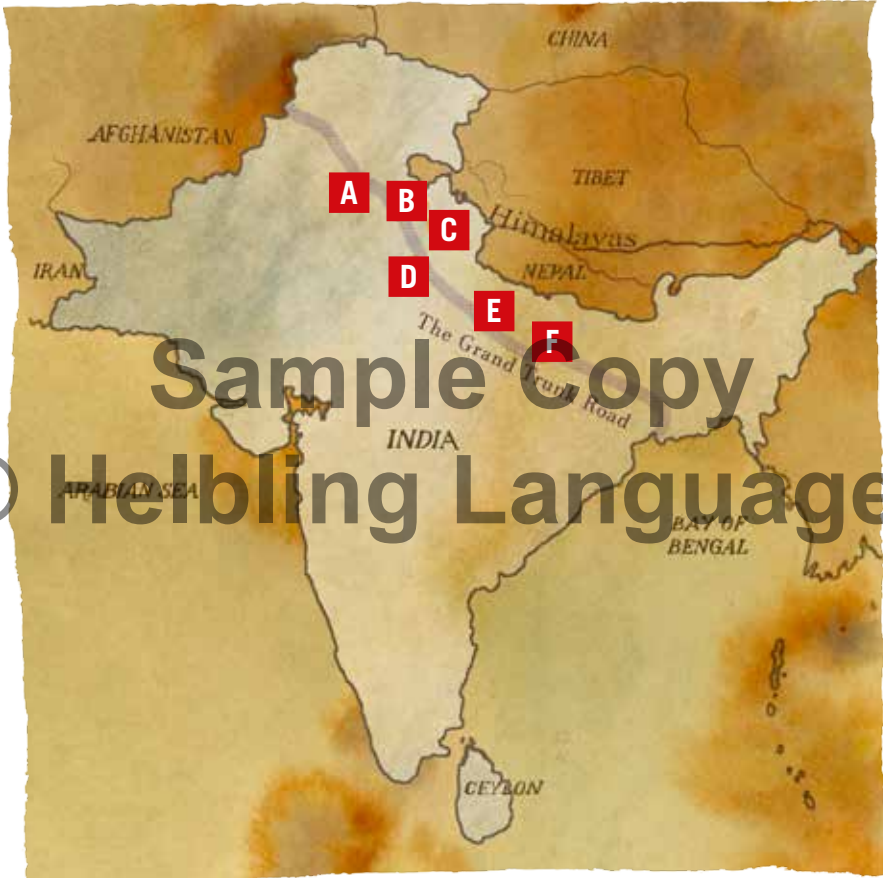
5 steal (or the things that are stolen)

6 tropical forest

7 house with all the rooms on the ground floor

8 green brown colour of soldiers' uniforms

- 3 Look at the map of Kim's India. Use the internet to find a map of India today. What has changed? Find out why.



- 4 Match the cities in the box below to the letters on the map. Use the internet to help you.

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lahore | <input type="checkbox"/> Umballa | <input type="checkbox"/> Benares |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lucknow | <input type="checkbox"/> Delhi | <input type="checkbox"/> Simla |

1 LITTLE FRIEND OF ALL THE WORLD

1 Outside the Lahore Museum, in Northern India, there was a large cannon. One hot afternoon, a young boy was sitting on the cannon.

‘Off, Kim! Get off! I want to sit on the cannon!’ shouted one of his friends from the bazar.

‘No! This is my cannon!’ The boy laughed. ‘I can sit here because India is *my* country!’

The boy’s name was Kimball O’Hara, but people called him Kim or ‘Little Friend of all the World’. He wasn’t like other British boys in India, he was more like his Indian friends from the bazar. His face was brown from the sun and he preferred speaking Urdu or Hindi to English.

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BRITISH INDIA

From 1858 until 1947, India’s government was British and included modern-day Pakistan. Many British children lived in India at this time. Why is Kim different from the other British boys in India?

Find reasons in the text.

GLOSSARY

- **bazar:** typical Eastern market
- **cannon:**



- **Urdu and Hindi:** Indian languages

Kim's father, a soldier in the army, and his mother were both dead. The boy didn't really remember his parents, and a poor woman from the bazar looked after him. She made a small leather bag for him and she put his father's papers in it. The woman didn't want him to go away to the school in the hills where other British children went when their parents died, so Kim stayed with her. The woman sometimes told Kim stories.

'A colonel in the British army will come for you,' she said, 'but first you'll meet a Red Bull in a green field. Your father told me.'

The woman was kind, but she wasn't his mother and Kim was free and wild. He had trousers and a shirt, but he preferred Hindu or Muslim clothes to British ones. People didn't notice a small boy who was wearing traditional clothes and Kim didn't want people to notice him. He travelled around Lahore, day and night. He delivered messages and begged for food. He loved secrets, danger and mystery. Life was a wonderful game for Kim.

KIM

Look at the text again. Tick (✓) the words that describe Kim.

poor	<input type="checkbox"/>	happy	<input type="checkbox"/>
sad	<input type="checkbox"/>	rich	<input type="checkbox"/>
free	<input type="checkbox"/>	wild	<input type="checkbox"/>

GLOSSARY

- **begged:** asked for food or money
- **bull:** male cow
- **colonel:** important person in an army
- **delivered:** brought or took
- **notice:** see or hear

As he sat on the cannon outside the museum, Kim looked around. He smiled at the policeman and the man selling water. It was good to know everyone in Lahore. As he was looking around, a man came out of the bazar. He was very tall, and he was wearing strange clothes. A rosary• and a pen case hung from• his belt and he had a large flat hat on his head.

‘Who’s that?’ said Kim to his friends.

‘Perhaps he’s a holy man•,’ said one of the boys.

The man came over to the boys and spoke to them. He spoke Urdu quite well.

‘Tell me boys, what is that big house?’

Kim saw that the man was very old. ‘It’s the Lahore Museum,’ he answered proudly•. ‘Where are you from? Are you Chinese?’

‘I come from the hills, where the air is fresh and the water is cool. I’m not Chinese, I’m a lama, a holy man from Tibet, and I’ve come to visit the Lahore Museum.’

Kim’s friends were afraid of the stranger and they ran home to their mothers. Kim just laughed. ‘Come with me,’ he said to the lama.

THE LAMA

Where is the lama from?

Find it on a map.

Now find Lahore on a map.

How far away is the lama’s home from Lahore?

- **holy man:** man who teaches people about his religion
- **hung from:** (here) was attached to
- **proudly:** in a pleased and important way

- **rosary:** necklace with beads (very small balls) that some people use when praying



The lama followed the boy into the entrance hall of the museum. He stopped in front of a beautiful statue of the Lord Buddha.

‘Here’s the *Sahib*,’ said Kim, as an Englishman with a white beard came over to them.

‘Welcome, lama from Tibet,’ the Englishman said. ‘Come into my office so we can talk.’

The two men talked for a long time, while Kim sat outside the office. He often listened to other people’s conversations, but this time he didn’t understand everything they said. He was beginning to get a little bored when the lama started to explain why he was travelling in India.

‘I have come to see the four holy places of Buddhism and I have my own special Search, too. This Search came to me in a dream. The Lord Buddha once shot an arrow into the air. When the arrow hit the ground, a great river appeared. I must find the River of Arrows and I must wash myself in its water. If I do that, I can be free from the Wheel of Things. You know many things, *Sahib*. Can you help me find the river?’

Kim sat up, interested in the lama’s words.

‘I don’t know where it is,’ said the Englishman. ‘And I can’t leave the museum because my work is here. Where will you start your Search?’

BUDDHISM

Buddhism is a religion.

Find out the main beliefs of Buddhism.

Do you have a religion?

What other religions do you know?

Write a list.

‘First, I’ll go to Benares. After that, I’ll go to other holy places and I’ll look everywhere for the river. I’ll travel on foot and by train. I have my bowl, so I will beg for food myself. When I left Tibet, I had a *chela*•. He begged for food for me, because lamas shouldn’t beg. He was a good young man, but he was ill and he died a few weeks ago.’

The Englishman was sad to hear the story. He noticed that the lama was wearing old, heavy glasses. He took off his own light, modern glasses and gave them to the holy man. ‘These will help you on your journey,’ he said.

‘How well I can see!’ said the lama. ‘They’re so light, too!’

The lama took his pen case from his belt and gave it to the Englishman. ‘This is a gift from me. After my Search, I’ll come back to Lahore to give you a map of the river!’

The two men said goodbye and the lama left the museum with Kim following him, excited.

‘The lama is going on an adventure and I’m going to be a part of that adventure. I’m going to see Benares and help the lama find his River of Arrows. Maybe I’ll find my Red Bull, too!’



GIFT

What gift does the Englishman give the lama?

What else does the lama own? Name three things.

Why do you think the lama doesn’t own many things?

GLOSSARY

- **arrow:** 
- **chela:** person who follows a religious teacher and helps him/her
- **Lord Buddha:** Buddhism is based on the life of this Indian holy man
- **Sahib:** Indian word, at that time used for a European man
- **Search:** (here) the lama’s holy journey for truth
- **statue:** 

AFTER READING COMPREHENSION

1 Put the events in the correct order.

- a Hurree Babu, the lama and Kim travel North to the mountains.
- b Kim delivers a message to Colonel Creighton in Umballa.
- c Kim finds his father's old regiment.
- d Kim gets better and the lama finds his river.
- e Kim meets the lama at the Lahore Museum.
- f Kim helps agent E23 on the train to Delhi.
- g Lurgan Sahib teaches Kim how to be a secret agent.
- h Mahbub Ali takes Kim to stay with Lurgan Sahib in Simla.
- i The lama goes to Benares and Kim goes to school.
- j The old soldier shows Kim and the lama the Grand Trunk Road.
- k Kim has a fever and is very ill.

2 Correct the five factual mistakes in this short summary of *Kim*.

Kim is the story of a young Indian boy, living in Lahore, who meets a lama from Tibet. The story follows them as they travel around India, by train and on foot. The lama is looking for the Lake of Arrows and Kim is looking for a Black Bull in a Green Field. Kim finds his bull, but has to go to school. The colonel pays for Kim to go to the best school in India. When Kim finishes school, the lama becomes a secret agent and they travel to the mountains, as part of the Great Game.

3 Read the sentences about Kim's time in the mountains and tick (✓) true (T) or false (F).

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a Walking up the mountains was easier for Kim than the lama. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b The Russian and the Frenchman were secret agents. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c The lama was angry when the Russian tore his drawing. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d The workers and the villagers didn't help Kim and the lama. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e Kim thought it was his fault that the lama was unhappy. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f The Russian and the Frenchman trusted Hurree Babu too much. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

4  **Listen and match the extracts to the pictures.**
Write 1, 2 or 3 in the boxes.



AFTER READING LANGUAGE

1 Write questions using the present perfect form of the words given. Then circle the correct answer for you.

a? (you / ever / visit / India)
Yes, I have. / No, I haven't.

b? (your parents / ever / ride an elephant)
Yes, they have. / No, they haven't.

c? (you / ever / see a monkey)
Yes, I have. / No, I haven't.

d? (your teacher / ever / eat Indian food)
Yes, she/he has. / No, she/he hasn't.

e? (you / ever / travel by train)
Yes, I have. / No, I haven't.

f? (you / ever / climb a mountain)
Yes, I have. / No, I haven't.

2 Circle the correct reflexive pronoun.

a 'I have to get away from here,' Kim said to **himself** / herself.

b I did the last exercise by **yourself** / myself.

c Do you ever talk to **themselves** / yourself?

d 'We made this cake by **ourselves** / themselves,' they said proudly.

3 Complete the text about Indian culture using *should* or *shouldn't*.

Tips for Travelling in India



India | traveller | top tips

India is a really interesting country to visit, but there are some things a traveller **a** know. For example, people don't usually wear shoes inside. If you visit a temple or a mosque, you **b** take off your shoes before you go inside. You **c** wear shorts or sleeveless tops if you're visiting religious places. You **d** worry if you're meeting someone, and they're late. People are often late, so it's considered normal! If you're waiting for a bus or a train, you **e** expect people to push. Public transport is often crowded, so you **f** get angry if someone pushes you. Enjoy your trip!

4 Complete the sentences with a relative pronoun in the box. Use each pronoun twice.

which who where

- a** A *chela* is a person begs for a lama.
- b** A museum is a place people can see interesting old things.
- c** There were things in Lurgan Sahib's shop smelt like temples.
- d** Simla is a place people go in the summer.
- e** A jug is a thing you can use for water.
- f** Traders are people buy and sell things.

RUDYARD KIPLING

KIM

Adapted by Janet Borsbey & Ruth Swan

“People called him Kim or ‘Little Friend of all the World’.”

Kim isn't like the other British boys in India. He is wild and free and prefers the company of his Indian friends. Then one day a lama from Tibet arrives.

He needs help to find the River of Arrows.

Together Kim and the lama go on an adventure around India, meeting strange and wonderful people along the way.

Will the lama find the River of Arrows?

What is Kim's destiny? And what is the Great Game?



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Recording in British English

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	5	B1	B1 Preliminary	5, 6

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