

## 10 Worksheet Final Test: India – Answer Key

### A LISTENING COMPREHENSION

These tasks deal with a text on social mobility in India, provided by the British Council.

Take five minutes to study the tasks below. Then go to the following link, click on the “play” button top right (marked by the typical arrow or triangle pointing to the right) and listen to the audio text “Social Mobility” (this will be 4:03 long):

[http://www.learnenglish.org.uk/CET/cet\\_profs/social-mob5\\_tf.htm](http://www.learnenglish.org.uk/CET/cet_profs/social-mob5_tf.htm)

(Please copy and paste this hyperlink into your browser.)

Try to do some of the tasks while listening. Do not give in to the temptation of clicking on “tapescript”, for two reasons: Firstly, you cannot do the tasks while reading the tapescript, and if you use it to solve the tasks, you are not really practising your listening; and secondly, the tapescript differs in some passages from the words spoken in the audio text, some parts are even missing, so this would certainly confuse you. Just listen carefully. When you have reached the end, work on the tasks for about three minutes, then listen to the audio text again, and complete the tasks within another four minutes. Try to keep to the times indicated in order to get used to having limited time – just like in an exam.

#### Transcript<sup>1</sup>

##### Social mobility

India is the second most populous country in the world and the world's 12<sup>th</sup> wealthiest in 2005, according to the World Bank. The country's economy is growing very fast. In the US and many EU countries average GDP growth was around 3% last year, compared to 9% growth in India. The economy is heading for 10% growth this year, but not everyone in India is benefiting from this boom.

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<sup>1</sup> Not identical with the one offered at the website, but corresponding to the text actually spoken in the audio file.

While India has the most billionaires in Asia, many of the country's poor are actually getting poorer. There are over 1 billion people in India and 25% live in abject poverty. A UN report in 2006 pointed out that two thirds of India has no access to sanitation.

A case in point is Mumbai, India's biggest city, where almost 55% of the city's population live in slums - close to 8 million people. And very few of these slum homes have a safe supply of drinking water.

The Indian government wants to make the country slumfree by the year 2020 but it is a huge task and there aren't enough resources to relocate so many slum dwellers with more people arriving in India's cities from the countryside every day in search of a better life for themselves and their families.

More than 70% of India's population lives in the countryside and more and more people are migrating to the cities to find work because subsistence farming doesn't provide enough to make a living. There is a lack of investment in health care and education for rural communities and few employment opportunities, which is having disastrous consequences for many millions of people.

In October 2007, 25,000 landless workers, indigenous tribespeople and "untouchables" from the bottom of Indian society marched 320 km to Delhi to highlight the growing poverty in which they live. While some parts of Indian society are enjoying the economic boom, other parts are suffering from rocketing inflation, higher food prices and the loss of their lands. Government projects to promote Chinese-style special economic zones have displaced hundreds of thousands from their land, many of whom were not compensated or cheated on the price.

However, instead of focussing on the obvious poverty, the wealthy part of Indian society prefers to focus on newspaper headlines about record stock market highs, record mobile phone sales and record car production figures.

While incomes are going up, and tens of thousands of new jobs are being created, the government of India cannot seem to generate essential investment in public services such as health, education, sanitation, public safety and housing. Many observers now ask, 'Will India be able to sustain its rapid growth despite the widening gap between rich and poor?'

Campaigners believe that the economic disparities and social divisions have never been greater in the history of the country.

**1. Which of these statements is true, according to the text?**

- ☒ India is one of the 12 richest countries in the world.
- ☐ India is the elf richest country in the world.
- ☐ India is the 12<sup>th</sup> richest country in the world.
- ☐ India is the 12<sup>th</sup> richest customer of the World Bank.

**2. Which of these statements is true?**

- ☐ India's GDP growth was nine times higher than the European GDP growth.
- ☐ India's GDP growth is one third of the USA's.
- ☒ India's economy is growing three times as fast as the USA's economy.
- ☐ A GDP growth of three per cent is a considerable value for any country.

**3. Which of these statements is true?**

- ☐ A quarter of India's population are very wealthy.
- ☒ A quarter of India's population are very poor.
- ☐ A quarter of India's population are without sanitation.
- ☐ Three quarters of India's population are very wealthy.

**4. Listen closely and fill in the missing words:**

A case in point is Mumbai, India's biggest city, where \_\_\_\_ almost 55 % \_\_\_\_ of the city's population live in slums - \_\_\_\_ close to 8 million \_\_\_\_ people.

**5. What does the speaker say about "70% of India's population"? Give short answers to these questions:**

a) Where do they live? \_\_\_\_ In the countryside \_\_\_\_

b) Why are many of them trying to find work in the cities? \_\_\_\_ Subsistence farming does not provide enough to make a living. \_\_\_\_

c) In what two fields does the government invest too little? \_\_\_\_\_ Health care and education. \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Which of the following disadvantages does the poorer part of Indian society have to put up with? (do not tick more than 3 options)**

- ☒ quickly rising inflation
- ☐ higher living standards
- ☒ loss of their lands
- ☐ Chinese fireworks
- ☐ increasing exports of rockets
- ☒ higher food prices

**7. The rich people of India seem to concentrate on records in three areas. What are they?**

a) \_\_\_\_\_ the stock market \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_ mobile phones \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_ car production \_\_\_\_\_

**8. Many observers ask, 'Will India be able to sustain its rapid growth?' What are the reasons for that question? Listen closely and fill in the gaps.**

While incomes are going up, and tens of thousands of new jobs are \_\_being created\_\_, the government of India cannot \_\_seem to generate\_\_ essential investment in public services such as health, education, \_\_sanitation\_\_, public \_\_safety\_\_ and housing.

## B TEXT COMPREHENSION AND ANALYSIS

Please read this article by Helen Pidd at the website of the *Guardian* (24 June 2012):

### India's latest TV hit offers rare window on abortion and 'honour' killings

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/jun/24/india-tv-hit-aamir-khan>

(Please copy and paste this hyperlink into your browser.)

**Annotation: par. 16 Lord Reith** 1889-1971, the first general manager of the BBC (1922-27) and its first director-general (1927-38), with great influence on the development of broadcasting in the UK, expecting radio and television to 'educate, inform and entertain'

#### Questions on the text

- 1 What is unusual about the contents of the remarkably successful TV show "Satyamev Jayate"? Refer to the first two paragraphs.
- 2 In par. 3, there is this statement: "the show is not only shaping public debate but has already shamed politicians into action". - Paraphrase what this means and analyse the stylistic device used here.
- 3 What does Aamir Khan hope to achieve with his show? Is he successful?
- 4 Sum up what Khan is criticised for in connection with this show.

#### Answers

- 1 India's highly successful television shows do not usually require their audience to think about what they are watching, they are pure entertainment like soap operas or talent shows (cf. par. 1).  
"Satyamev Jayate", however, expects its viewers to deal with taboo topics like abortion of unborn female children or "honour" killings, which makes watching the show much more demanding (cf. par. 2).
- 2 "Satyamev Jayate" dominates what people are talking about in public, and it has even made politicians so ashamed of the state of affairs that they are taking measures to improve the situation. - The stylistic device used in the original is alliteration. The "sh" sound at the beginning of three keywords in that sentence underlines the connection between "show", "shape" and "shame" and emphasizes that the show is not only "shaping public debate", but that it has already been successful in moving politicians to do something - from a feeling of "shame" that the situation is so bad, and that the public is discussing it.
- 3 Aamir Khan made it clear in an interview that his main aim is that a viewer should "make a revolution within himself" (par. 6); he wants everybody to reflect on his own attitude in

order to improve the situation for himself and the family members around him. He seems to be very successful indeed; evidence of his success are not only the prices for ad slots that have more than doubled, but much more what the news magazine Open wrote about him, claiming that his show had massively influenced “the social consciousness of Indians” (par. 10).

- 4 There are a number of different criticisms of Khan’s show. First of all, critics say that the problems he portrays are often more complex than he claims (cf. par. 15). Others cannot accept his change from his former roles as romantic lover in Bollywood movies to the morally deep educator.

Some people also say Khan has no right to criticize other people and give them advice because his own family did not work out either (divorce, cf. par. 16). And finally, some critics accuse him of making a lot of money from exploiting poor people’s private problems (cf. par. 19).

## C TEXT PRODUCTION

*Choose one of these topics and write 200 to 250 words.*

- a) Do you think TV shows like “Satyamev Jayate” should be produced? Support your opinion with arguments of your choice.
- b) Teaspoon (one-word essay).

## D MEDIATION

*Choose one of the following tasks.*

- a) Translate paragraphs 14 to 17 of the text in section B (“India’s latest TV hit ...”) into idiomatic German (from “The programme has been compared to Oprah Winfrey’s ...” to “... their two children”). Bear in mind that you must be very precise in this kind of task.
- b) A British e-pal of yours, Alison, has found the text „Die gebotene Schärfe” by Michael Allmaier on the internet. It is an article which was published in the German weekly *Die Zeit* in June 2012. Alison thinks it sounds interesting because it seems to be about Britishness, fish and chips, and chicken tikka masala, but her German is not good enough to understand all of it. So she has asked you to tell her what part one of this text is about. Write her an e-mail in English giving her the information she wants. Write between 250 and 300 words.

Read the German text here:

<http://www.zeit.de/2012/26/City-Guide-Stammgericht-London> (part one)

(Please copy and paste this hyperlink into your browser)

Do not include part 2 in your mediated text.

**a) Model translation**

Das Programm ist schon mit Oprah Winfrey's Show verglichen worden, aber Khan sagt, er strebe an, „eine viel ganzheitlichere Sicht“ zu vermitteln, indem er sich nicht bloß auf persönliche Geschichten konzentriere, die auf die Tränendrüse drücken, sondern auch belegbare Tatsachen liefere und Lösungen für Indiens Nöte anbiete.

Er moderiert die Show in einem Studio vor Publikum, das sich mit Kommentaren einschalten kann, und zusammen sehen sie sich Spielfilme an, in denen alles Mögliche vorkommt, von einer verdeckten Ermittlung in einer Abtreibungsklinik bis zu einer Reihe von Straßeninterviews, in denen Männer befragt werden, warum sie ihre Frauen schlagen.

Obwohl das Programm hauptsächlich positive Kritiken bekommen hat, hat man Satyamev Jayate „gefährliche Vereinfachung“ vorgeworfen.

Khan wurde auch von denen unter Beschuss genommen, die seine Verwandlung vom Herzensbrecher auf der Kinoleinwand zur moralischen Autorität des indischen Fernsehens nicht nachvollziehen können. Man hat ihm schwer angekreidet, dass er während der Sendung regelmäßig in Tränen ausbricht und dass er es wagt, für die Privatangelegenheiten anderer Leute Lösungsvorschläge zu machen, während er sein eigenes Privatleben nicht in den Griff bekommen hat (er ließ sich von seiner ersten Frau scheiden und ließ sie mit ihren zwei Kindern zurück).

*(Peter Ringeisen)*