

## 3 Visual Literacy: Worksheet on Analysing a Picture Collage

Pictures in: Mita Banerjee and Susanne Stadler, *India*, Viewfinder Topics (München: Langenscheidt, 2010), pp. 4-5.

### A VOCABULARY TO ANALYSE A PICTURE COLLAGE

If there is one coherent collage covering two pages, as in the collage “India: Model Democracy or Many-Headed Giant - Facts and Figures”, the term for it is a ‘double-page spread’.

In order to make it clear which part of the collage you are referring to, it is sensible to use the following terms:

- foreground, background
- in the upper/ lower part; at the top / bottom; in the centre
- in front of, behind, next to, by
- on the right(-hand side), on the left(-hand side), in the middle
- in the bottom left corner / in the top right corner

For the arrangement of the elements in the collage, you may want to use these terms:

- in rows / in columns
- clockwise / anti-clockwise
- jumbled / neatly arranged

Sometimes a collage does not only consist of **photographs**, but also contains

- paintings, drawings, cartoons, clipart, one or several text boxes;

some of the elements may be black and white, but more often everything will be in colour.

In addition to being referred to by their names (e.g. blue, green, purple), colours may be described with the following adjectives:

- light, dark, loud, warm, cool, faded

## B TASK

Analyse the collage “India: Model Democracy or Many-Headed Giant - Facts and Figures” on pp. 4-5 in your Viewfinder Topic *India*. If you have gone through the texts of this book already, also try to indicate which texts deal with certain elements of the collage.

*(Peter Ringeisen)*