

HISTORY · CHAPTER 5

Through the Eyes of Travellers: Perceptions of Society (c. 10th to 17th century)

A 1-page guide for parents · 90-second read.

EXPECTED MARKS

7-8 out of 10 on this chapter's questions. Below 5 means the basics need revisiting.

TIME TO MASTER

8-10 hrs

HELPLINE

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WHAT THIS CHAPTER IS, IN PLAIN ENGLISH

This chapter asks your child to read India through three foreign eyes: Al-Biruni from 11th-century Central Asia, Ibn Battuta from 14th-century Morocco, and Francois Bernier from 17th-century France. Each came in a different century — Al-Biruni as a scholar-hostage with Mahmud of Ghazni, Ibn Battuta as a jurist who became qazi of Delhi, Bernier as a French physician attached to Dara Shukoh. Each left a famous book — Kitab-ul-Hind, Rihla, Travels in the Mogul Empire. The chapter trains two skills: extract what outsiders observed (caste, postal runners, sati, coconut, paan, the Mughal land system)

5 QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CHILD

- What is the main idea of Through the Eyes of Travellers: Perceptions of Society (c. 10th to 17th century)?
- Can you explain one key concept from Through the Eyes of Travellers: Perceptions of Society (c. 10th to 17th century) in your own words?
- What is a real-world example of Through the Eyes of Travellers: Perceptions of Society (c. 10th to 17th century)?
- Which part of Through the Eyes of Travellers: Perceptions of Society (c. 10th to 17th century) do you find hardest?
- What questions has your teacher asked about Through the Eyes of Travellers: Perceptions of Society (c. 10th to 17th century) in class?

WEAK-SPOT INDICATORS

- Cannot define core terms from Through the Eyes of Travellers: Perceptions of Society (c. 10th to 17th century).
- Confuses Through the Eyes of Travellers: Perceptions of Society (c. 10th to 17th century) with the previous chapter.
- Skips long-answer questions on this chapter in mock tests.
- Cannot give an example without prompting.
- Writes answers that are <60 words for 5-mark Qs.

WHEN TO WORRY — AND WHAT TO DO

If your child scores under 50% on a mock paper on Through the Eyes of Travellers: Perceptions of Society (c. 10th to 17th century), that signals the foundational concepts need re-teaching, not just more practice.

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