

# Guided Reading Activity



## India's First Empires

### Lesson 3 *The Mauryans and the Guptas*

#### Review Questions

**Directions:** Read the lesson and complete the outline below. Refer to your textbook to fill in the blanks.

#### I. Three New Empires

A. After 400 B.C. India faced threats from the \_\_\_\_\_, who extended their empire into western India, and then from the \_\_\_\_\_ and Macedonians under the leadership of \_\_\_\_\_.

B. The Mauryan Empire's greatest ruler, \_\_\_\_\_, expanded \_\_\_\_\_ and used \_\_\_\_\_ ideals to rule.

C. After the collapse of the Mauryan Empire, nomadic warriors seized power and established the new \_\_\_\_\_ kingdom, which prospered though trade along the \_\_\_\_\_.

D. The \_\_\_\_\_ actively engaged in mining and trade and welcomed religious \_\_\_\_\_ until invasions by nomadic \_\_\_\_\_ weakened their empire.

#### II. Indian Accomplishments

A. The \_\_\_\_\_ accomplishments of India include lasting achievements in oral and written \_\_\_\_\_, stone \_\_\_\_\_, and science and mathematics.

B. India's literature includes religious chants and stories from the \_\_\_\_\_, epics such as the *Mahabharata* and the \_\_\_\_\_, and poems such as Kālidāsa's \_\_\_\_\_.

C. Stone \_\_\_\_\_ from Aśoka's reign mark sites important to the Buddha's life, while \_\_\_\_\_ house Buddhist relics and \_\_\_\_\_ house monks and are used for ceremonies.

D. Indian mathematicians invented the Indian Arabic \_\_\_\_\_ system, introduced the concept of and symbol for \_\_\_\_\_, and were the first scientists known to have used \_\_\_\_\_.

# Guided Reading Activity *Cont.*



## India's First Empires

### Summary and Reflection

**Directions:** Summarize the main ideas of this lesson by answering the question below.

What is the importance of the *Mahabharata* to Indian culture and world culture?

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