

# 3

# GREAT LANKA

## Activity 1

### Act out

Last Sunday, some of Kishan's friends met at his house to prepare a booklet on Sri Lanka for a class assignment. Kishan was watching a cricket match when Suresh and Suranga came in.

Suresh : Hey, Kishan, what's the score?

Kishan : Hi Suresh, hi Suranga. England has scored 23 for 01.

Suranga : Are they still batting?

Kishan : No. It's the lunch break now.

Suranga : Here, watch this.

Suresh : What's it? Ah yes, this would be useful for us.

Kishan : Great! It's a documentary about Sri Lanka.

Suranga : Let's watch it.

Suresh : There, the others are also coming.

Kishan : Hi friends, we have something interesting to watch.

Vihangi : What's it?

Suranga : Shh.. Let's watch it first.

## Activity 2

### Listening

The friends sat down to watch the programme. Listen to the narration and complete the blanks.

A)

1. The match is being played in \_\_\_\_\_.

a) Pallekele      b) Sooriyawewa      c) Dambulla      d) Galle

2. \_\_\_\_\_ is the special fishing technique mentioned in the narration.

a) Netting      b) Angling      c) Stilt fishing      d) Spearing

3. The cricket commentators visited different places in the country on the \_\_\_\_\_ of the match.

a) first day      b) second day      c) rest day      d) third day

4. \_\_\_\_\_ are the commentators.

a) Jack and David      b) Boon and John      c) David and James      d) David and John

5. When flying over the country they saw the \_\_\_\_\_ of the country.

a) inhabitants      b) greenery      c) vegetables      d) cultivators

6. They visited \_\_\_\_\_ and stopped at \_\_\_\_\_ for lunch.

a) Galle and Polonnaruwa      b) Polonnaruwa and Trincomalee      c) Colombo and Galle      d) Trincomalee and Colombo

B)

7. \_\_\_\_\_ won the toss.

8. Sri Lanka scored \_\_\_\_\_ runs.

9. England have lost \_\_\_\_\_ wicket/s.

10. \_\_\_\_\_ trail by 489 runs.

### Activity 3

#### Writing / Speaking

Look at the following map of Sri Lanka. Find the picture clues and mention what each place/city is famous for.



## Activity 4

### Speaking

Read aloud the conversation the friends had after watching the documentary and answer the questions that follow.

Radhika : Well, that was good.

Rikaz : Yes it was. Did you see the beautiful scenery they had captured?

Vihangi : Yes, I wish I could go back to our past, to the time of our ancient kingdoms.

Suresh : Me too. Shall we discuss our booklet now?

Radhika : What about the presentation?

Suranga : Alright, what's your plan?

Suresh : Shall we decide on the topics first and then find the necessary information?

Kishan : Oh good, I see your point, Suresh.

Madeena: Then, I'll write on beautiful places of the country.

Vihangi : Very well, Madeena, I'll find information on our kings.

Rikaz : Leave some topics for us too.

Radhika : Alright.

Suranga : I'll work on important historical places.

Radhika : I want to write about endemic animals, birds, trees...

Rikaz : Ah, you'll have a lot of work to do.

Suranga : No, that's fine. We each have something to do.

Suresh : You left out my favourite topic.

Madeena: What's that?

Vihangi : I'm sure it's technology.

Suresh : Yes, you got it.

Suranga : Now we can do a detailed presentation.

1. What was the purpose of their discussion?
2. What are the topics they discussed?
3. How many friends were engaged in the conversation?

## Activity 5

### Writing

Complete the table given below.

Name of the friend	Topic to be done for the presentation

## Activity 6

### Writing

- (i) Find the adjectives used in the conversation.  
e.g: beautiful scenery
- (ii) Use them and make your own sentences.

## Activity 7

### Speaking / Writing

Discuss in groups and do a presentation on Sri Lanka.



## REVISION POINT

### Simple Past Tense

We use the **simple past tense** when writing or talking about things that happened in the past.

e.g: Some of Kishan's friends **met** at his house last Sunday.

## Activity 8

### Writing

Find the past form of the following verbs and make sentences.

e.g: Go – went

1. hear –
2. put –
3. return –
4. inquire –
5. reply –
6. say –

## Activity 9

### Writing

i) Follow the facts given on one of the kings of Sri Lanka and write a short composition.

King Buddhadasa

- son of King Jettatissa
- Anuradhapura kingdom
- 4<sup>th</sup> century B.C.
- a just king
- did many meritorious deeds
- good physician
- cured even animals
- saw a sick snake one day
- operated and cured the snake

ii) Write a short composition about any famous king you know.

## Reading

Madeena has found some photographs related to Sri Lanka. Read the descriptions.



This is a map of ancient Sri Lanka. The name Ceilan is written on the top left-hand corner. A bay and several points can be seen on the map. There is a ship shown on the map. The country is surrounded by the sea. The map shows a lot of mountains, trees and animals such as elephant, deer, fox etc.

The map includes names of different places, sea and other important landmarks in a different language.



The big rock in the background of the picture is Sigiriya. King Kashyapa built a fortress on top of it. Now, it is listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. There is a group of tourists riding on an elephant. The mahout who is on the elephant has a goad in his hand. The tourists seem to be enjoying the natural beauty of the surroundings. Sigiriya has long been a popular tourist destination because of its natural beauty and historical value.

## Activity 10

a) State whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE.

1. Madeena has a map of ancient Ceylon in her collection of photographs. ( )
2. The map is marked in a different language. ( )
3. King Ravana built the Sigiriya rock fortress. ( )
4. Sigiriya is considered as one of the wonders of the world. ( )
5. Sigiriya is a famous tourist destination. ( )

b) Find synonyms for the following words.

1. ancient –
2. important –
3. popular –
4. built –
5. different –

## Activity 11

### Speaking / Writing

i) Select any one of the pictures given below and describe it.



ii) Write the description in your writing book.



## Activity 12

Write a description on one of the famous tourist destinations in Sri Lanka. You may include,

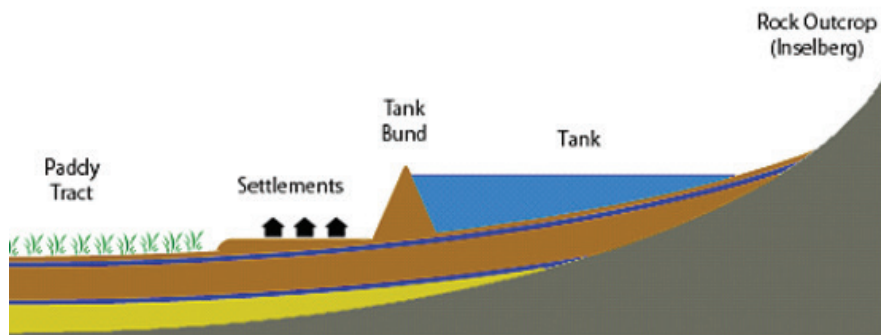
- The location
- The speciality
- Why you like this place
- Things to see etc....

## Reading

Kishan started practising his presentation.

Good morning, dear teacher and my dear friends! This presentation is on the irrigation system of Sri Lanka which dates back to 300 BC. We, Sri Lankans are proud of the many wondrous water managing systems of the ancient civilizations. We were the first to build water reservoirs to store water which are known as tanks (*wewa/kulam*). Many Sri Lankan Kings such as King Pandukabhaya, King Wasabha, King Mahasen, King Dhathusena, King Agbo I, King Agbo II and King Parakramabahu the Great built tanks to improve farming in Sri Lanka. The ancient kings followed the advice of the Buddhist monks and ruled the country. This led to the ancient concept of ‘tank and stupa’.

I’m sure that you all know the reason why these great kings built tanks. Can you tell me why? Well, it’s pretty obvious that the kings had a vision to cultivate the land and to make the country self-sufficient. Now I’ll show you a cross section of a tank.



Well, friends I have some more key points to discuss. I need your help to finish the rest.

## Activity 13

### Writing

Work in pairs. Continue the presentation using the rest of the facts given below. Add more details.

- Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa are the kingdoms where we find most of the tanks
- This irrigation agriculture helped in making ancient Sri Lanka a self-sufficient country
- Sri Lankans have two seasons for farming
- Rice, the staple food of Sri Lanka
- Man-made lakes
- The royal master builder of tanks was King Parakrambahu the Great (1164 - 1196 AD)
- Constructed or restored 165 dams, 3910 canals, 163 major tanks and 2376 minor tanks
- Sri Lanka came to be known as the Granary of the East