

## Reteaching Activity

**Reading Comprehension** Find the missing word or phrase that best completes each of the sentences below. Write your answers in the blank.

Indian civilization began in the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Valley about 2500 B.C. A thousand years later, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ crossed the Hindu Kush Mountains and spread across northern India. Their culture played a key role in the development of Indian civilization. They pushed native Indians, called (3) \_\_\_\_\_, toward the south. Two great Indian empires eventually emerged on the lower Ganges. Beginning in 321 B.C., the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ united most of India. Several centuries later, the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ came to power. By the early A.D. 1500s, Muslims had established the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ over much of India.

In the 1500s, (7) \_\_\_\_\_ traders came to India looking for spices, cloth, and other goods not available in Europe. Through its trading arm, the (8) \_\_\_\_\_, Britain gained control over India's trade with Europe in 1757. In 1857, Britain established direct rule over India. The great Indian leader, (9) \_\_\_\_\_, began an opposition movement against Britain based on nonviolent resistance. Eventually, Britain gave in and granted India its freedom. Under Prime Minister (10) \_\_\_\_\_, India adopted a (11) \_\_\_\_\_, making the new country a democratic republic.

A great challenge for India is to promote economic growth and raise standards of living. Most farm families in the country struggle to survive on what they can grow. One solution being considered for this problem is (12) \_\_\_\_\_—a more balanced distribution of land among farmers. While India's economy is modernizing, many Indians still live and work in traditional ways. (13) \_\_\_\_\_ and (14) \_\_\_\_\_ remain at the center of Indian life. India is a land of great variety, but the dominant force in the lives of most Indians is Hinduism. The (15) \_\_\_\_\_—the Aryan system of social classes—is one of the cornerstones of Hinduism.