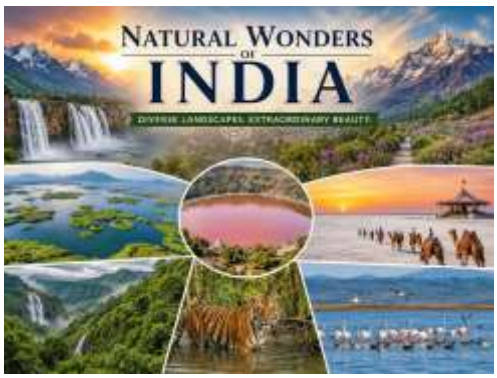
INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VIII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of submission: October 2026
Worksheet No: 19	Topic: Spectacular Wonders	Note: To be written in notebook

Word Bank



1. Mystifying: strange or impossible to explain

2. spectacle : an unusual sight that attracts interest

3. exotic : uncommon

4. botanical : relating to plants

5. feats : tasks difficult to achieve, especially those involving a lot of skill

6. indigenous: native

7. tangible : noticeable

8. futile : useless

9. intertwined : twisted together

10. persist: continue to exist

11. whopping : huge

12. nestled : situated in a half-hidden or sheltered position

13. colossal: extremely large

14. cradles : holds

15. rugged : rough

16. terrestrial : on or related to earth

17. allure : attraction

18. optical illusion: something that tricks your eyes and makes you see it differently

19. serene : calm

20. backwaters : a part of a river where the water does not flow

21. bioluminescence : light produced inside the body of a living organism by a chemical reaction

22. eco-tourism : tourism that is reposible towards preserving the environment

23. acquaint : to become familiar with something

24. estuarine : living in an estuary(an area where a freshwater river meets the ocean)

25. retreats : goes backwards

26. ebb tide : period of time when water flows away from the shore

27. mystique : mystery

28. enigmatic : puzzling

29. intrigue : interest

I. Read the given extracts and answer the questions that follow.



1. *India is home to some of the most mystifying natural phenomena that surprise and spark our imagination.*

(i) Replace the underlined phrase with one from the extract. India is the birthplace of several rare species of flora and fauna that thrive in its diverse ecosystems.

ans. home to

(ii) What does the phrase 'nature's unusual side' suggest about the phenomena described?

ans. It suggests that nature can create rare, strange, and unexpected events or sights that are different from everyday natural experiences and can leave us surprised or amazed.

(iii) Complete the similarity by choosing the correct option,
spark: imagination : : _____ : _____
A. inspiration; creativity
B. wonder; amazement
C. effort; reward
D. knowledge; books

ans. B. wonder : amazement

(iv) Identify whether the following statement is true or false.
Some natural phenomena can surprise people.

ans. True



2. *Have you seen things disappearing in front of your eyes? Well, such things happen at times, when we keep things at some place, and just forget where we have kept them. But, what if there's a sea that disappears?*
This happens in Odisha. It is a beach in the Balasore district where one can witness the sea disappearing mysteriously—the Chandipur Beach which is known for its unique feature of playing hide-and-seek with its visitors.

(i) Complete the following sentence with a suitable reason.
The writer's most likely purpose to introduce the information about the Chandipur Beach phenomenon with a question is to _____ (engage the reader's curiosity and create a sense of suspense/draw the reader to learn more about the unusual phenomenon/set the tone for the surprising nature of the content that follows)

Ans. engage the reader's curiosity and create a sense of suspense.

(ii) Select the option that is correct for both Assertion (A) and Reason (R).
(A): Chandipur Beach in Odisha is known for its unique feature of the sea disappearing.
(R): The tides retreat drastically, exposing the Chandipur beach.
A. Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
B. Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
C. (A) is true, but (R) is false.
D. (A) is false, but (R) is true.

ans. A. Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

(iii) What does the term 'unique' suggest about the beach in Balasore?
A. very popular
B. one of its kind
C. ancient place
D. far from city

ans. B. One of its kind

(iv) What does the writer want to convey with the use of the phrase 'playing hide-and-seek with its visitors?

ans. The writer wants to express the surprising and magical quality of the sea disappearing and

reappearing at Chandipur Beach, just like a game of hide-and-seek, making it an unusual natural spectacle.

Answer the following questions



1. How are the Living Root Bridges a boon for the local people of Meghalaya?

ans. The Living Root Bridges are a boon because they offer a sustainable, long-lasting solution to cross rivers and streams, especially during monsoons. They are made naturally using tree roots, are strong, and reflect the ingenuity and environmental knowledge of the indigenous people.

2. Why is the Lonar Crater Lake considered a remarkable and rare site?



ans. It is the only crater in India formed in basaltic rock by a meteorite impact and ranks as the third-largest crater in the world. Its perfect circular shape, unique saline lake, and blend of celestial and terrestrial features make it a rare geological wonder.



3. What might be the writer's purpose of highlighting the awe-inspiring natural wonders of India?

ans. The writer aims to evoke a sense of wonder and appreciation for nature, highlight India's diverse natural heritage, and encourage curiosity, environmental awareness, and exploration of these unique places.

4. The writer uses descriptive language and introductory questions for some of the natural phenomena. What impact does it have on the readers?

ans. It grabs the reader's attention, creates curiosity, and makes the content more engaging. It also helps readers visualize the wonders and understand their uniqueness more vividly.

5.Which of these unusual phenomena did you find the most interesting and why?

ans. I found the Glowing Waters of Kerala most interesting because the idea of water glowing in the dark due to living organisms is magical and scientifically fascinating. It combines beauty with mystery.

EXTRA QUESTIONS FOR REFERENCE

1. Why do you think people attracted to places where nature appears to 'defy' science?

People are attracted to places where nature seems to defy science because these mystifying phenomena spark our imagination and challenge our understanding of the natural world. As highlighted in the lesson Spectacular Wonders, places like Ladakh's Magnetic Hill leave visitors in

disbelief by creating optical illusions that captivate our senses. These awe-inspiring sights blend scientific intrigue with magical charm, reminding us of the extraordinary forces shaping our environment.



2. Why is the valley of Flowers considered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site?

The Valley of Flowers National Park, located in the Chamoli district of Uttarakhand, is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site due to its exceptional biodiversity and breathtaking natural landscape. Between May and October, the area transforms into a botanical wonderland featuring around 600 species of exotic flowers, including orchids, poppies, primulas, marigolds, daisies, and anemones blooming in full glory. Set against the majestic backdrop of the mighty Himalayan ranges with wild streams and spectacular waterfalls, the valley also serves as a critical sanctuary for rare wildlife and insect species, such as the snow leopard, red fox, grey langur, flying squirrel, and lime butterfly.

WEB RESOURCE

https://youtu.be/k2UmeeDd0RU?si=4RdfIs5_Vr57QyG3