

Online Book Club

The Mystery at the Taj Mahal

Talk About It!

1. Have you, or anyone in your family, ever experienced jet lag? If so, explain what jet lag is and how it affects people.
2. The *boalis* were used as wells. There is talk that the Neemrana *baoli*, which is over 600 years old, is to be converted into a bazaar where people can sell their goods. Do you think that is a good or bad idea? Defend your opinion.
3. Discuss the significance of the lavender scent in the story. What is happening when a character smells the scent of lavender?
4. Scientists believe that Moghul Emperor Shah Jahan never intended to build a black Taj Mahal. Use information from the story to back this claim. What do you think?
5. Would you like to travel to India? Why or why not? If your answer is yes, what would you like to see there?
6. India has the second-highest population in the world. What country has the highest population? What are some problems that could arise in a country with an extremely high population?
7. Who is your favorite character in the mystery? Explain why.
8. Think about some of the unusual means of transportation experienced by the kids in the mystery. Which would you prefer—riding in a camel cart or on top of a bus? Why?

