

People and Snow Leopards: living together

Many people live among the high peaks where snow leopards roam. Because these people come from 12 different countries they all have very different lifestyles, but there are also similarities. You will read a letter from someone who lives in a snow leopard range country. Your partner will read a different letter from someone who lives in another snow leopard range country. You will each find information to fill in this table then you will share what you find out. Learn how different lifestyles present different challenges and opportunities for conservation.

	Tsering	Narantuya
Country	<i>India</i>	<i>Mongolia</i>
Village / province	<i>Village: Kibber Province: Lahaul-Spiti</i>	<i>Gobi Altai</i>
Main income / food	<i>Peas, road construction jobs, tourism</i>	<i>Livestock products: milk, meat, wool</i>
Conservation issue	<i>Snow leopard prey species (bharal and ibex) reduced due to competition for grazing land with domestic livestock</i>	<i>Livestock gets attacked by snow leopards, then herders want to kill snow leopards in retribution</i>
Conservation solution	<i>Set aside grazing land for wild sheep and goats. Find alternative income sources for villagers.</i>	<i>Help people understand why snow leopards are important. Offer financial incentives to counterbalance losses to SL</i>
Other special information (how people feel about snow leopards)	<i>(Whatever inspires individual students)</i>	
Difficult words	<i>Bharal=kind of wild sheep Ibex=kind of wild goat</i>	<i>Ger=mobile dwelling made of felt over a wooden frame</i>

With your partner, look for similarities and differences between the two people. Use the pictures as well as the text for information. Try to find at least three similarities and three differences. See if other groups or pairs found anything different from what you found.

Similarities	Differences
<i>Both list ibex and snow leopards as one of the species of wildlife</i>	<i>In Kibber they graze livestock communally, in Gobi they graze individual household livestock</i>
<i>Both use livestock products: wool and milk</i>	<i>In Kibber they have agriculture, in Gobi not</i>
<i>Both have problems with snow leopards attacking livestock</i>	<i>In Kibber main income comes from cash crop (peas) in Gobi from sale of wool from cashmere goats and camels.</i>
<i>Both have children</i>	
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Now your teacher may give you some additional photographs, look at them carefully, read the letters again and see if you can identify which photograph comes from which country.

1. Mongolia: cutting wool from camel;
2. India: settled village with agriculture;
3. India: roads along steep mountain sides;
4. India: shawls;
5. Mongolia: spinning;
6. Mongolia: riding camel;
7. both – ibex