

Create your own Hindu god!

LO: To use relative clauses
in descriptive sentences.



We looked at some amazing images of Hindu gods and goddesses this week, and we looked at the story of Rama and Sita earlier in the term.

Can you remember who Ravana was?



Ravana was the 10-headed, 20-armed, demon king that Rama fought.

Ravana was an 'asura' one of the evil gods.



Hindus believe that there are different sorts of gods:

Devas who are kindly or protective gods

Asuras who are evil gods

Rakshasas who are demons, ogres and monsters

Yakshas who are nature spirits, like fairies and hobgoblins (and neither good nor bad).



Hindus believe there are millions of different gods and spirits.

There are stories in India about every kind of creature you can imagine.

Look at this picture of the goddess Kali.

Can you spot the small figure of Shiva on her head?

(We can tell it's Shiva because he's carrying a drum and trident and has blue skin.)



Write a description of Kali as she is shown in this picture.

How many faces and arms does she have?

What colour is her skin?

What is she holding in her hands?

What is coming out of her mouth?

(Don't just say 'snakes' – be specific: three cobras, green, yellow and brown.)

Make your description as detailed as possible.

Remember that Kali is the goddess of Time.

Do you think that the face inside the open mouth is someone she has devoured?

Why might time be represented as a 'hungry' force?



Now invent a Hindu god of your own!

Look through the pdf of Hindu gods from earlier in the week.

Talk about your ideas with your family.

Be as imaginative as you can!

Divide your page into four sections – like the example here:

1. Physical description.
2. What do they ride? What do they carry?
3. What are they the god or goddess of?
4. Any other ideas.

Description (How many heads, etc.)

What do they ride? What do they carry?

What are they god or goddess of? (For example: fire, beauty, etc.)

Any other information (How were they born? Where do they live?)

Here are some ideas and suggestions, if you're feeling stuck!

How many faces, arms, eyes, mouths, noses, legs, has your god or goddess got?

What colour is their skin: black, blue, gold, silver, red or green?

Is their body like a human, snake, eagle, monkey, bear, wolf, tiger or elephant?

Were they born from a drop of blood, a golden egg, a cloud, or a lightning bolt?

Are they the god or goddess of beauty, wisdom, destruction, fire, light, darkness, time – or something else?

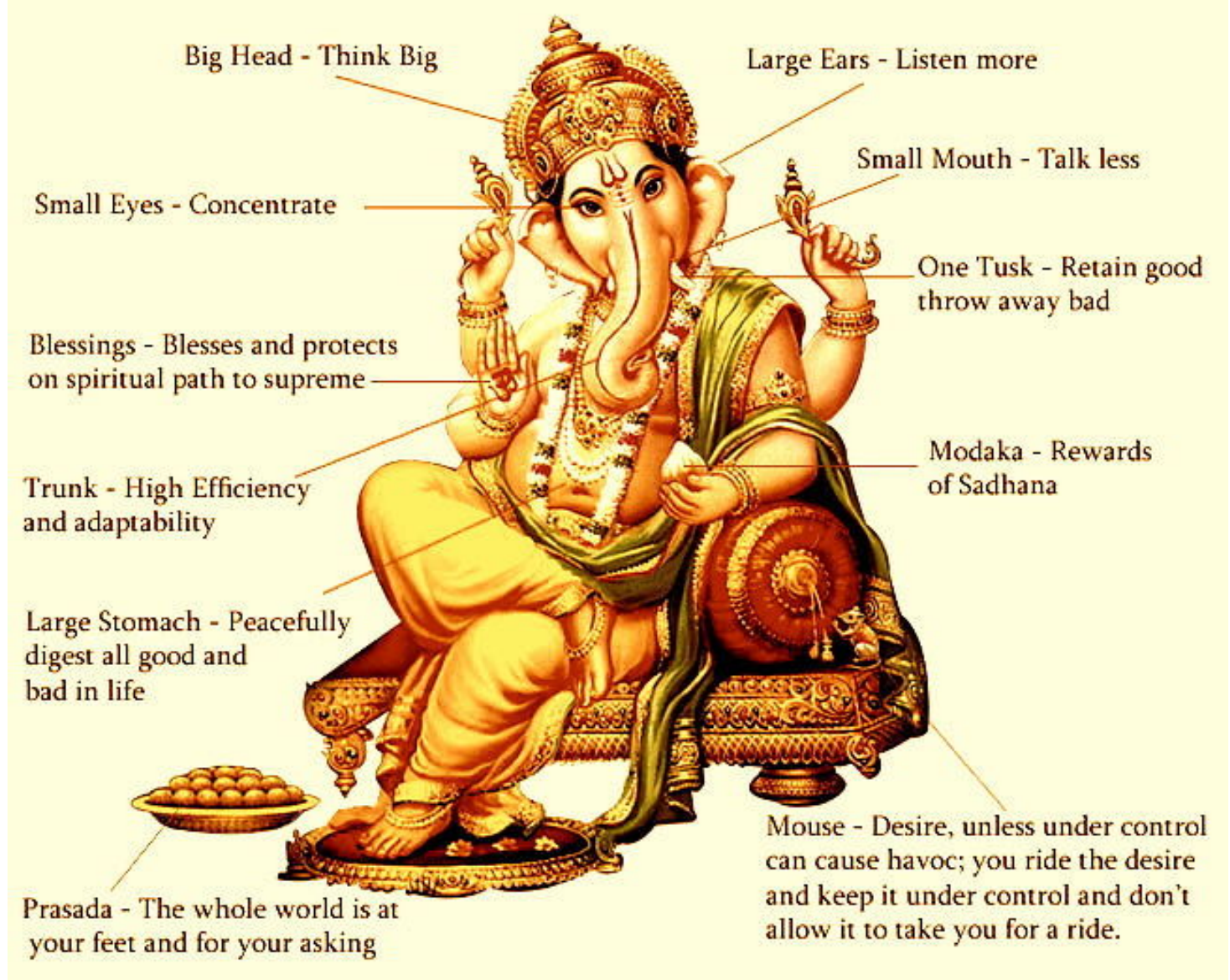
Do they ride a bee, a frog, a sparrow, a swan, a crow, a lion, an elephant, or a mouse?

Is their weapon a club, a trident, an axe, a fireball, a thunderbolt, or beautiful music?

Are they wearing a necklace of skulls, jewellery, garlands of flowers, or a crown?

Do they carry a mountain, a magic flower, a string of beads, a drum, a bowl of sweets?

Make your description as colourful as you can! You can start thinking of story ideas too. Have fun!



Remember: every detail could mean something, or tell a story!

This is Kalki, the final avatar (incarnation) of Vishnu, who some Hindus believe will bring about the end of the world. You can see Kalki has the face of a horse, and a crown.

Look through the pictures below if you need ideas for your god or goddess.



BRAHMA is the creator god in Hinduism. Once there was nothing but an eternal, endless ocean.

A golden egg emerged and broke open revealing Brahma, who had created himself within it.

Then, Brahma created the universe, the earth, angels, demons, people and animals.

Brahma has four faces, looking north, south, east and west, and four arms. He rests on a lotus flower or rides a crane or swan.



SHIVA is called the Destroyer. He has a serpent around his neck, a third eye and moon on his forehead and the sacred river Ganges flows from his hair.

He carries a trident and a drum, and dances a cosmic dance of creation and destruction, standing on a demon dwarf who represents delusion and ignorance.



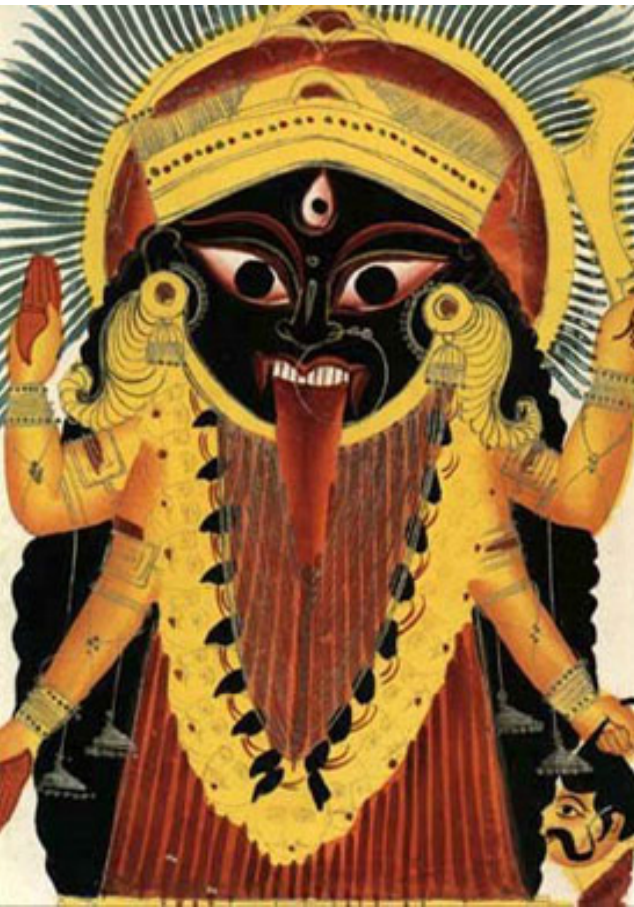
KALI is the goddess of Time and mother of the Universe.

She has black skin, four arms, red eyes, and is shown sticking out her tongue.

She wears a skirt made of human arms and a necklace of skulls or human heads.

She is accompanied by snakes and jackals,

and is sometimes shown standing on the body of Shiva.



SARASWATI is the goddess of knowledge, music, speech and wisdom.

She is shown as a beautiful woman dressed in white, standing on a white lotus flower and riding a swan.

She has four arms, and is often shown playing a musical instrument.



Remember Lakshmi's wonderful winged elephants!



Next write out your description again,
using complex sentences with relative clauses.

For example:

The God of Fire has four arms. He has a flaming sword in each hand.

Could be re-written like this:

The God of Fire, who has four arms, carries a flaming sword in each hand.

When you've written
your description,
you could draw a picture of
your god or goddess.

You could even write a
legend about your
character!

name or title

portrait