

### Literacy Rates of Selected Countries of Asia

Percentage of Literate Population (age 15 and over can read and write)

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/resources/the-world-factbook/>

Country	Men	Women	Total
China	99%	95%	97%
Pakistan	71%	47%	59%
Nepal	79%	60%	68%
India	82%	66%	74%
Burma	80%	72%	76%
Bangladesh	74%	71%	73%

- Which country has the highest combined literacy rate?
  - Which country has the lowest combined literacy rate?
- Which country has the largest difference between the literacy rates of men and women?
  - How can you tell that country is the lowest?
- On a separate piece of paper, create a line graph for the literacy rates of the total population of the countries listed.
- On a separate piece of paper, create a bar graph for the women's literacy rates. (You will be adding men's literacy rates, which will create a double bar graph, so be sure to leave room for the second bar graph to fit next to your first one.)
  - Add the men's literacy rates to create a double bar graph. Be sure to use a different color to show the men's literacy rates.
  - Based on your double bar graph, what can you tell about the literacy rates of the men and women in the majority of these countries?

6.
  - A. In the three lowest countries, what is approximate percentage of people who are literate?
  - B. What can you infer about men vs. women from that percentage?
7. Why is literacy important?
8. Based on the reasons of why literacy is important, what can you infer about the lives of the people in the three countries with the lowest literacy rates?

## Literacy Limbo Worksheet **ANSWER KEY**

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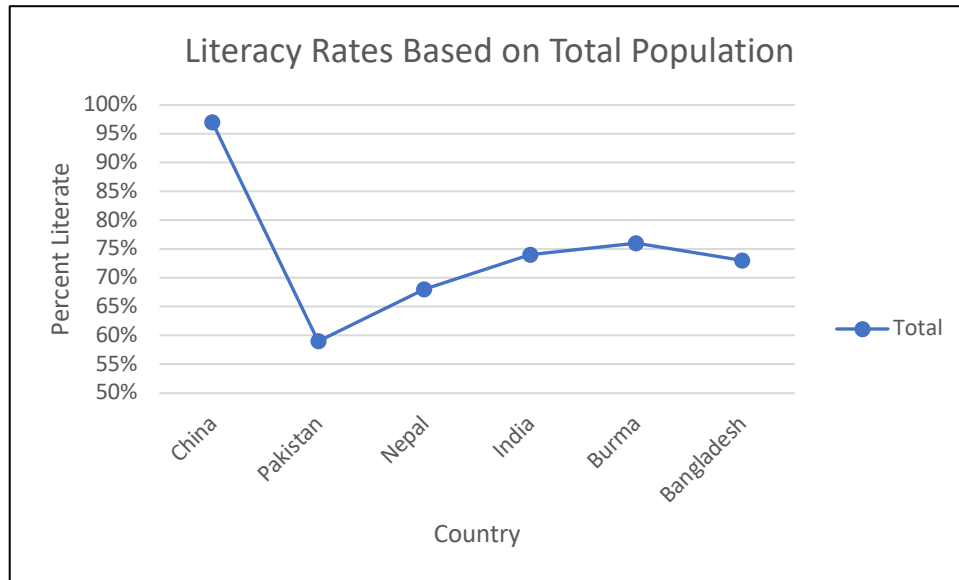
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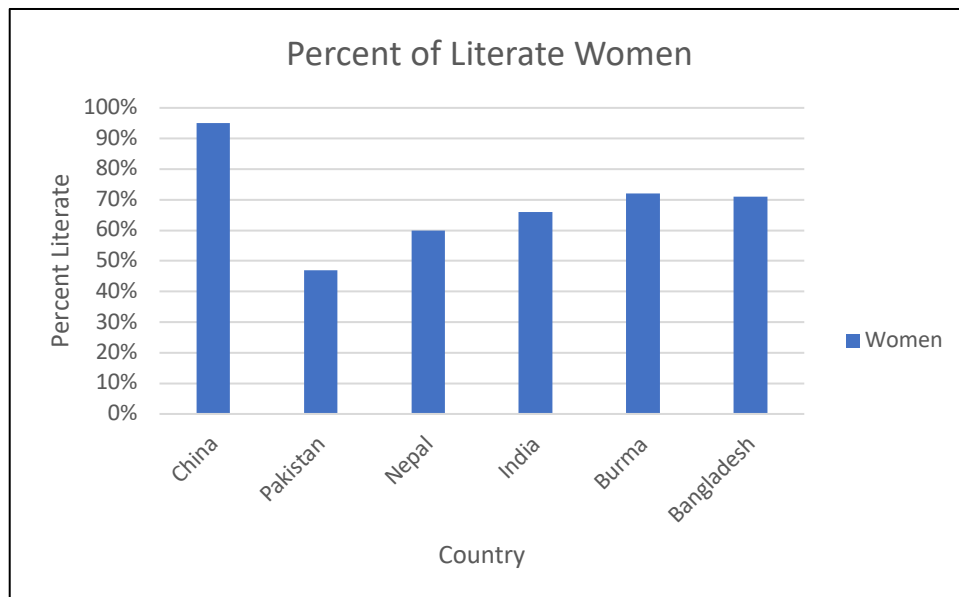
- A. Which country has the highest combined literacy rate? **China**

B. Which country has the lowest combined literacy rate? **Pakistan**
- A. Which country has the largest difference between the literacy rates of men vs. the literacy rates of women? **Pakistan**

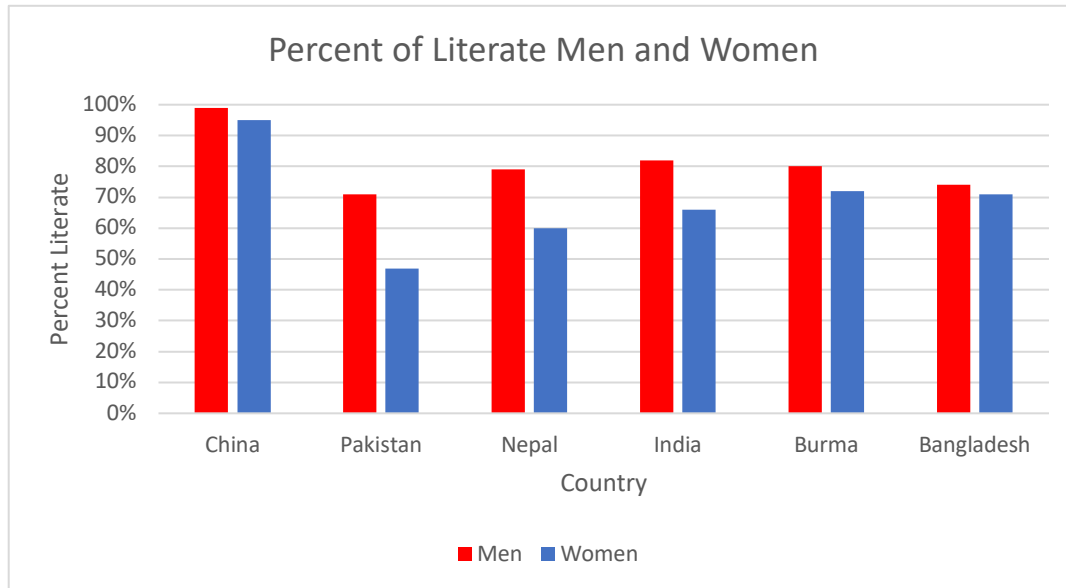
B. How can you tell that country is the lowest? **For all of the countries, subtract the women from the men to get the difference. The largest difference will be the answer.**
- On a separate piece of paper, create a line graph for the literacy rates of the total population of the countries listed.



4. On a separate piece of paper, create a bar graph for the women's literacy rates. (You will be adding men's literacy rates, which will create a double bar graph, so be sure to leave room for the second bar graph to fit next to your first one.)



Add the men's literacy rates to create a double bar graph. Be sure to use a different color to show the men's literacy rates.



Based on your double bar graph, what can you tell about the literacy rates of the men and women in the majority of these countries? **Answers can include: The men are more likely to get an education and be literate.**

6. A. In the three lowest countries, what is approximate percentage of people who are literate? **57%**
  - B. What can you infer about men vs. women from that percentage? **Answers may vary and include: Education is not provided for all people, and men are more likely to get an education. Men are expected to control the finances and power structure. Men are expected to be the wage earners. There could be other religious and social reasons for the differences.**
7. Why is literacy important? **Answers may vary and include: Literacy is important for getting good jobs, for making good decisions, for having control over your life and your children's lives. Literacy is necessary to enjoy certain arts, to communicate with others, and to protect your property and family.**
8. Based on the reasons of why literacy is important, what can you infer about the lives of the people in the three countries with the lowest literacy rates? **Answers may vary and include: Many of the people have low paying jobs. Many of the people have jobs that are menial and not jobs that progress to higher paying jobs. Some illiterate people can be scammed by others since they cannot read and write. Some illiterate people may not participate in politics because they do not have the written communication skills. Some illiterate people may be reluctant to enter into written contracts.**