

ENGLISH TEXT SUMMARY NOTES
**“Voices And Visions From
India”**

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AREA 1:

READING & THE STUDY OF TEXTS: VOICES & VISIONS FROM INDIA

Chapter 1 GENRE

A text can usually be categorized into the general kind or type of text that it is. There are many different genres to appeal to a wide variety of personal preferences.

A multi-media CD ROM is a diverse collection of narrative and non-narrative texts which may or may not have any directly or indirectly related themes. *Voices and Visions of India* accordingly includes a number of different kinds of texts. The stated aim of the CD ROM is to 'promote greater cultural understanding', and the various are texts about disparate subjects of Indian life which they believe will assist in this.

Only four of these areas are for study: *Being Different, Love, Marriage*. Within the four areas chosen for study are a number of texts:

Novel extracts	<i>The God of Small Things. Untouchable.</i>
Play	<i>Tara.</i>
Short stories	<i>Kabuliwallah. A Suitable Boy.</i>
Films	<i>Vanaprastham. Hyderabad Blues. Angali.</i>
Web site	<i>Taj Mahal.</i>
Advertisement	<i>Matrimonials.</i>

1.1 Title

The text's title can often be revealing – what it tells about itself. It may give direct and/or indirect indications of genre, and also of aspects of plot, characters and/or themes. The CD-ROM is called *Voices and Visions*, indicating that it includes both points of view and images of India. Interestingly, its reference to India is not limited to Indians in India, but of Indians wherever they may be in the world.

1.2 Audience

An author will have a target audience in mind. Genre can often be useful to help determine who the audience may be. *Voices and Visions* is a multi-media text aimed at providing a range of individual texts to those who wish to learn more about India.

1.3 Purpose

The stated purpose of this DVD is to 'promote greater cultural understanding' about India. Of the four chosen areas of study, this understanding includes the following:

The God of Small Things: Family issues [divorce], colonialism, the status of women.

Untouchable: Social class. Religion.

Tara: Physical impairment. Gender equality. Guilt.

Kabuliwallah: Childhood. Adult/child relationships.

A Suitable Boy: Love. Marriage. Social class.

Vanaprastham: Love.

Henna: Marriage.

Angali: Impairment. Social alienation.

Matrimonials: Love. Marriage.

Hyderabad Blues: Change. Social alienation.

Taj Mahal: Love. Death.

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