

**Warm Up Activity:**

The Taj Mahal is most likely the first thing that comes to mind across the globe with the mention of the country of India. You will learn in *A Monumental Legacy* that standing in the presence of the iconic mausoleum is a “once in a lifetime experience.” The stunning effects of the Taj Mahal’s esthetic beauty surpass a mere love of art and architecture. The Taj Mahal has also altered Western society’s perception of India and Indian culture.

1. Work alone or form small groups of 3-4 students.
2. Orient yourself toward the article by focusing on its headline and the large-type pull-quotes. Look at the artwork, but don’t read the captions.
3. Discuss or jot down a sentence or two about what you think the main idea of this article is likely to be. Brainstorm a few questions you hope will be answered by the time you’re done reading and working with the article.