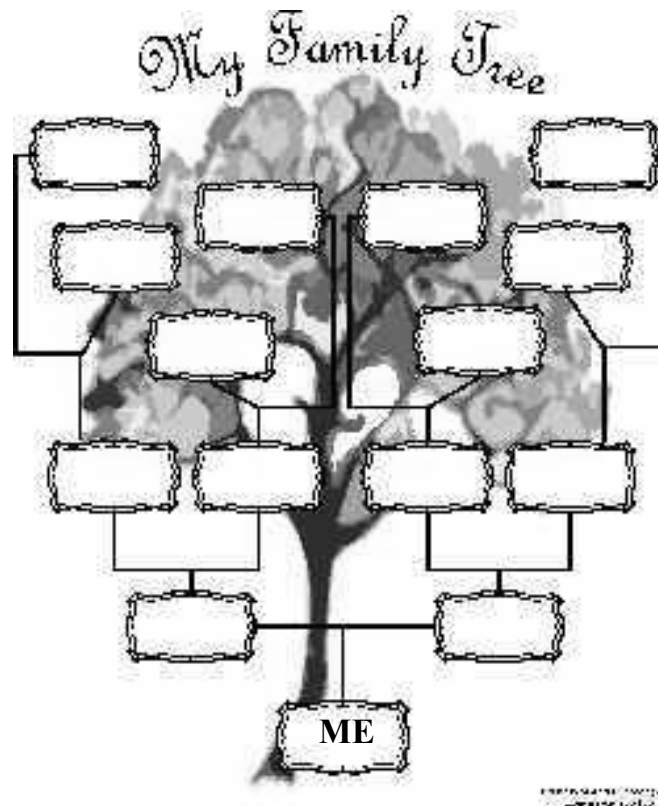




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CHINMAYA INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

HOLIDAY ASSIGNMENT: Dec. 2005



### What is a family?

Who makes up your family? Is it just the people you live with?

It's more than that! You are a part of other families. You are a part of your grandparents' families, and you are a part of their parents' families.

And if you go back in history, you will find even more parts of these families.

You can see how you are related to all of these families by looking at a **family tree**.



## Where do you come from?



**A family tree** is like a map. Its branches show how you are related to each member of your family.

**A family tree** includes a number of aspects, such as names, dates of birth, languages spoken etc.

A simple tree would show just your parents, with an arrow pointing to you.

But most family trees are larger, like the one shown on Page 1, which you are going to use as a basis, keeping in view the following aspects:

### ❖ **Collect information for your family tree:-**

As you get more details about your family, you will find that your **family tree** grows bigger. Here are some useful tips to gather information for your **family tree**:

- Ask your parents and grandparents about all the family members they remember and make a list.
  - Ask your parents and grandparents whether your surname has any meaning. Has the spelling changed over the years ?
  - Find out where different members of your family were born.
  - Enquire if anyone in your family has a written history.
  - Go through old family photographs and identify your family members; Ask your parents to tell you about them.
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- ❖ **Timeline:** Trace the roots of your family, as far back as possible. Mention the major events/current events for that time and place in history, births, marriages and transfers (from one place to another) in the family. Is someone in your family famous? If so, why?
  - ❖ **External Features:** A good collection of family photographs will help you. Identify which relatives had the same shape of the eyes, nose or mouth and which characteristic is repeated most often. Which characteristic (viz curly hair, attached ear-lobe etc.) is inherited by the next generation?
  - ❖ **Languages:** Which languages are spoken by your family members? Are there any languages which were spoken by your grandparents/ great grandparents but are not spoken now?
  - ❖ **Festivals:-** Make a list of the festivals you celebrate at home with your family.
  - ❖ **Geography:** Plot on a map the various towns and countries your family members were born in, and write a sentence or two about each location and why it was important.
  - ❖ **Journalism:-** Take picture interviews with your Grandparent or Great-Grandparent.
  - ❖ **Draw your own family tree :**  
Once you know about your family, you can draw your own **family tree**.  
Design your own **family tree**.

- ❖ **Grow even more!** Add all of your aunts and uncles who came into your family through marriage, and their children i.e. your cousins ! Are you lucky enough to have great-grandparents still living? Go for it! Even if they are no longer living, you probably can find out their names.

You will learn so much about yourself as you research and draw your own **family tree**. And maybe someday you'll be a parent and help your **family tree** grow!

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### ***Make Your Own Family Tree!***

**Fill in the blanks below:**

My name:

My mother's name:

My mother's mother:

My mother's father:

My mother's brothers and sisters (if any):

My father's name:

My father's mother:

My father's father:

My father's brothers and sisters (if any) :

My own brothers and sisters (if any) :

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### ***Enjoy your work***

*Don't forget to ask them about your family presiding deity and how they went about with the worship. Also find out the zodiac signs of your family tree members and collect the picture of that particular zodiac sign.*

***Best of Joyful learning!***