

Stealing Nasreen Glossary

Wondering what a pakora is? Stymied by the meaning of chalo? Maybe this list will help!

- Let's start with food, and there is a lot of food in *Stealing Nasreen*! Check out these two sites: <http://www.cuisinecuisine.com/Glossary.htm> and <http://indianfoodsite.com/glossary.htm> where you will find definitions for: bhel puri, paan, pakora, chai, paratha, matter paneer, dhai puri, gulan jamun, chapatti, lassi, thali and kulfi. Note that spelling may be a little different on this site (because these words are translated from Gujarati, Hindi and Urdu words).
- Better yet, go have an Indian meal and eat your way through the glossary! Didn't the novel leave you hungry? Moti Mahal (where Nasreen and her father have lunch) is a real restaurant in Toronto's Little India district and is located at 1422 Gerrard Street East, Toronto, ON M4L 1Z6. Have a thali there and finish up with some chai and a dil bahar (a sweet that is a combination of barfi and gulab jamun)—my favourite!
- During Salma, Nasreen and Asha's Gujarati classes, a number of Gujarati words are used. In many cases, the translation is right there in the text, and so those words are not included here. Some exceptions are:
 - Gujarati waat karwanoo: speak Gujarati
 - Arré?: the equivalent of "what?"
 - Daadi: father's mother
 - Nani: mother's mother
 - Khem cho?: How are you?
 - Majama chun: I'm fine
 - Barabar: correct
- Clothing:
 - Salvaar kameez: a knee-length tunic worn over loose-fitting pants.
 - Ridah: this is a version of a hijab or burqua, worn by Dawoodi Bohra (a sect of Islam) women. They are usually two-piece outfits with a skirt and a top that has an attached head covering. Often, they are quite pretty, in light material and sometimes have embroidery and sequins.
- A few other miscellaneous words:
 - Raani: queen
 - Raja: king
 - Beti: Dear
 - Masjid: mosque
 - Chalo: Let's go