

CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature
Beehive Chapter-10 Kathmandu
Test Paper-02

Read the following passages and answer the questions:

1. A fight breaks out between two monkeys. One chases the other, who jumps onto a Shivalinga, then runs screaming around the temples and down to the river, the holy Bagmati. A corpse is being cremated on its banks; washerwomen are at their work and children bathe. From a balcony a basket of flowers and leaves, old offerings now wilted, is dropped into the river. A small shrine half protrudes from the stone platform on the river bank. When it emerges fully, the goddess inside will escape, and the evil period of the Kaliyug will end on earth.
 - a. Where was the corpse being cremated?
 - b. Where did a fight break out between two monkeys?
 - c. What was half protruding from the stone platform & where?
 - d. What was the notion of the people about the protruding temple?
2. At the Baudhnath stupa, the Buddhist shrine of Kathmandu, there is, in contrast, a sense of stillness. Its immense white dome is ringed by a road. Small shops stand on its outer edge: many of these are owned by Tibetan immigrants; felt bags, Tibetan prints and silver jewellery can be bought here. There are no crowds: this is a haven of quietness in the busy streets around.
 - a. How was this temple different from the Pashupatinath temple?
 - b. Where were the shops and what articles did they sell?
 - c. To which god is the Baudhnath stupa devoted?
 - d. How was atmosphere around the temple?

Answer the following questions in about 30 words:

3. How was the activity around Baudhnath temple?
4. What was the instance that the writer remembered when he was listening to the music on flute being played by flute seller?
5. A fight between the monkeys is written by the writer. What is your perception why did he mention it?

6. What other activities around Pashupatinath temple did he describe?
7. Which river is flowing near Pashupatinath temple? What's its sanctity?
8. What is the myth attached to temple protruding from Bagmati river?

Answer the following questions in about 100 words:

9. A few powerful images and pictures have been drawn by the author. Pick out three examples about the atmosphere of 'febrile confusion' outside the temple of Pashupatinath.
10. Describe various images of the things he sees in and around the two temples.

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Answers

1.
 - a. The corpse was being cremated on the bank of holy river Bagmati.
 - b. A fight broke out between two monkeys on the ground of the temple where one chased the other and later jumped on the Shivalinga.
 - c. A shrine was half protruding from the stone platform on the banks of river Bagmati.
 - d. The notion of the people about the protruding temple was that when the temple fully emerges, the goddess will escape, and it will be end of Kaliyug.
2.
 - a. The Baudhnath temple is devoted to Buddhist deity Gautam Budha and Pashupatinath temple is devoted to Hindu deity Lord Shiva.
 - b. The shops stand on its outer edge of the road that ringed the white dome of Baudhnath Stupa. These shops sell felt bags, Tibetan prints and silver jewelry etc.
 - c. The Baudhnath stupa is devoted to Lord Budha the god of Buddhists.
 - d. The atmosphere around the temple was very serene. There was no hustle-bustle like the other temple. There were no crowds and shopkeepers were not shouting.
3. There was utter chaos around Baudhnath temple. A large crowd of people along with monkeys and cows were on the ground of the temple. Shopkeepers and hawkers were shouting.
4. Listening to the music on flute being played by flute seller the writer remembered his previous visits to his home after a long absence abroad. He says he had hardly noticed such details, as he did it then.
5. A fight between the monkeys is written by the writer. My perception is that he mentioned that people were not perturbed when one of the monkey jumped over the Shivalinga. He wanted to express the large heartedness of Hindu devotees who respected animals at the temple.
6. Around Pashupatinath temple there were priests, hawkers, devotees, tourists, cows, monkeys, pigeons and dogs roaming through the grounds. Policemen did not allow a few saffron clad westerners for they were not Hindus.
7. River Bagmati is flowing near Pashupatinath temple. It is considered a holy river where

people cremate their dead, take bath in the holy river to get rid of their sins. and

8. The myth attached to temple protruding from Bagmati river is that when it fully emerges, the goddess will escape and evil period of Kaliyug would come to an end.
9. A few powerful images and pictures have been drawn by the author. Three examples about the atmosphere of 'febrile confusion' outside the temple of Pashupatinath are
 - i. Priests, hawkers, devotees, tourists, cows, monkeys, pigeons and dogs roam through the grounds.
 - ii. There are so many worshippers that some people trying to get the priest's attention are elbowed aside by others pushing their way to the front.
 - iii. A fight breaks out between two monkeys. One chases the other, who jumps onto a Shivalinga, then runs screaming around the temples and down to the river, the holy Bagmati.
10. The writer describes the busy streets near the temple of Pashupatinath and quiet atmosphere at the Baudhnath Stupa, the hustle-bustle of the city of Kathmandu. He also describes the chaotic atmosphere in and around the Pashupatinath temple where there is congregation of animals and birds like cows, monkeys, dogs like pigeons etc. and the rush of devotees, tourists, hawkers and priests. The streets are filled with the shouts of hawkers and shopkeepers wrestling to sell their wares. Flute seller playing his flutes amidst the din of noises. There's quietness around the Baudhnath stupa where there is stillness and pristine silence all around in contrast to the din near the other temple.