

**CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature**

**Beehive Chapter-10 Kathmandu**

**Test Paper-03**

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**Read the following passages and answer the questions:**

1. Kathmandu is vivid, mercenary, religious, with small shrines to flower-adorned deities along the narrowest and busiest streets; with fruit sellers, flute sellers, hawkers of postcards; shops selling Western cosmetics, film rolls and chocolate; or copper utensils and Nepalese antiques. Film songs blare out from the radios, car horns sound, bicycle bells ring, stray cows loom questioningly at motorcycles, vendors shout out their wares.
  - a. Who is a mercenary? Motivated solely by a desire for monetary or material gain
  - b. What is the meaning of word 'vivid'?
  - c. What type of street sellers were there in Kathmandu?
  - d. What are the sound words used in the above para?
2. I consider what route I should take back home. If I were propelled by enthusiasm for travel per se, I would go by bus and train to Patna, then sail up the Ganges past Benaras to Allahabad, then up the Yamuna, past Agra to Delhi. But I am too exhausted and homesick; today is the last day of August. Go home, I tell myself: move directly towards home. I enter a Nepal Airlines office and buy a ticket for tomorrow's flight.
  - a. What route did the writer consider for going back home?
  - b. How did he finally go back home?
  - c. Which rivers did the writer wanted to travel to go from Patna to Delhi?
  - d. Why did the writer choose air travel over the other route?

**Answer the following questions in about 30 words:**

3. Why was there a change in the plans of the author to return to Delhi?
4. What did the devotees do to gain the attention of the priests?
5. Where was the flute seller? How was he different in selling his wares? What was his attitude towards selling his flutes?
6. What were the sounds that created a chaos on the streets of Kathmandu?
7. Describe the fight between the monkeys and the scene they created in the temple.
8. Why couldn't the author tear himself away from the square near the temple?

**Answer the following questions in about 100 words:**

9. Compare and contrast the atmosphere in and around the Baudhnath shrine with the Pashupatinath temple.
10. How does the author describe Kathmandu's busiest streets?

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**Answers**

1.
  - a. A mercenary is a person motivated solely by a desire for monetary or material gain.
  - b. The word 'vivid' means 'producing powerful feelings or strong clear images in the mind'.
  - c. There were different types of street sellers in Kathmandu from fruit sellers, flute sellers, hawkers of postcards; shops selling Western cosmetics, film rolls and chocolate; or copper utensils and Nepalese antiques
  - d. The sound words used in the above para are: film songs blaring out from the radios, car horns sound, bicycle bells ring, stray cows low and vendors shout about their wares.
2.
  - a. The writer considered to take a bus and train to Patna, then sail on the Ganges past Benaras to Allahabad and then up the Yamuna past Agra to Delhi, for going back home.
  - b. He finally took a plane to go back home.
  - c. The writer wanted to travel on river Ganga from Benaras to Allahabad and river Yamuna from Agra to Delhi.
  - d. The writer chose air travel over the other route because he had been exhausted after a long journey and was homesick and decided to shorten the period of travel.
3. There was a change in the plans of the author to return to Delhi because he was exhausted and was also homesick as he had been on a long journey and wanted to reach home quickly. Initially he had decided to travel by bus, train and through water ways.
4. There were some devotees who tried to push other devotees to gain the attention of the priests whereas others elbowed them to find a way to reach the sanctum sanctorum.
5. The flute seller was on the square near Pashupatinath temple. He was different in selling his wares because he did not shout out his wares but played on different flutes to gain the attention of his customers. His attitude towards selling his flutes was very indifferent. It seemed that it wasn't his main business.
6. The sounds of shouting of hawkers and shopkeepers, blaring of radio, barking of dogs,

honks of cars and motorcycles, and bells of bicycles created a chaos on the streets of Kathmandu.

7. 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 river that flowed through the city.
8. The author tear himself away from the square near the temple because Flute music always enchanted him. He said it is the most universal and most particular of sounds. There is no culture that does not have its flute and its music.
9. The atmosphere in and around the Baudhnath shrine is 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. There were no crowds, this was a haven of quietness in the busy streets around. At the Pashupatinath temple there is an atmosphere of 'febrile confusion'. Priests, hawkers, devotees, tourists, cows, monkeys, pigeons and dogs roam through the grounds. princess of the Nepalese royal house appears; everyone bows and makes way. By the main gate, a party of saffron-clad Westerners struggle for permission to enter. The policeman is not convinced that they are 'the Hindus' (only Hindus can enter the temple).
10. The author described Kathmandu as a vivid, mercenary, religious place, with small shrines to flower-adorned deities along the narrowest and busiest streets; with fruit sellers, flute sellers, hawkers of postcards; shops selling Western cosmetics, film rolls and chocolate; or copper utensils and Nepalese antiques. Film songs blare out from the radios, car horns sound, bicycle bells ring, stray cows low questioningly at motorcycles, vendors shout out their wares. There are vendors who sell a corn-on-the-cob roasted in a charcoal brazier on the pavement (rubbed with salt, chilly powder and lemon); love story comics, and even Reader's Digest.