

JINENDER SONI
Founder, MISSION GYAN

Chapter-8 | Kathmandu Worksheet-2

Multiple Choice Questions

1. **What does the narrator buy for pleasure?**
 - (a) Only religious items
 - (b) Just clothes
 - (c) Marzipan, roasted corn, comics, and drinks
 - (d) Souvenirs and antiques
2. **What is the narrator's mood by the end of his walk?**
 - (a) Energetic and excited
 - (b) Homesick and tired
 - (c) Angry and upset
 - (d) Curious and adventurous
3. **What does the narrator finally decide to do?**
 - (a) Visit another temple
 - (b) Go trekking
 - (c) Take a flight home
 - (d) Go to Patna by train
4. **What instrument does the man in the square play?**
 - (a) Guitar
 - (b) Drum
 - (c) Flute
 - (d) Violin
5. **How does the flute seller behave?**
 - (a) Aggressive
 - (b) Loud and insistent
 - (c) Quiet and thoughtful
 - (d) Very competitive
6. **What does the narrator compare the flutes to?**
 - (a) Bird songs
 - (b) Human voice
 - (c) Wind chimes
 - (d) Church bells
7. **Which cultures are mentioned in relation to flutes?**
 - (a) Only Indian and Japanese
 - (b) European and African
 - (c) Indian, Japanese, South American, Chinese
 - (d) American and Russian
8. **What is common among all flutes across cultures?**
 - (a) Shape
 - (b) Material
 - (c) Living breath as motive force
 - (d) Sound pitch

9. **What does the narrator say about hearing the flute?**
(a) It gives him a headache (b) It connects him to humanity
(c) It reminds him of home food (d) It annoys him
10. **What surprises the narrator about his own reaction?**
(a) He doesn't like kathmandu (b) He forgets to buy a flute
(c) He is deeply moved by simple things (d) He misses his train

Fill in the blanks :

11. The flute seller carries his flutes on a pole like a _____.
12. The narrator feels affected by the _____ of the flute music..

True / False

13. The flute seller loudly promotes his wares in the square.
14. The Bagmati river is mentioned in the context of cremation rituals.

Very Short Type Questions

15. What did the saffron-clad Westerners want?
16. What is the belief of the people at Pashupatinath temple?

Short Type Questions

17. Give a brief description of Kathmandu Bazaar.
18. What activities did the author see going on at the bank of the river Bagmati?

Essay Type Questions

19. How does the author describe Kathmandu's busiest streets?
20. Which two temples did Vikram Seth visit in Kathmandu? What difference did he find?

HOTS

21. **Assertion (A) :** The author found the Baudhnath Stupa to be a haven of stillness.
Reason (R) : The streets around the Stupa were packed with vendors and noisy traffic.
- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(c) A is true, but R is false.
(d) A is false, but R is true.



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Answer & Solution

1. (c)
He indulges himself by buying snacks and magazines.
2. (b)
He feels exhausted and homesick, wanting to return home.
3. (c)
He buys a ticket from Nepal Airlines to fly home.
4. (c)
The man plays various types of flutes.
5. (c)
He plays meditatively and doesn't aggressively market his flutes.
6. (b)
He says flute music is closest to the human voice.
7. (c)
The narrator lists various world cultures having flutes.
8. (c)
All flutes need breath to produce music, symbolizing universality.
9. (b)
He finds flute music universally human and emotionally moving.
10. (c)
He is surprised that familiar flute music moves him deeply.
11. porcupine
12. familiarity
13. False
14. True
15. The saffron-clad Westerners wanted to go inside the temple of Pashupatinath. But the policeman stopped them. He did not let them go inside the temple because he was not convinced that they were Hindus. To get inside the temple, the westerners had to prove themselves to be Hindus. The entrance was only for Hindus in the temple.
16. It is the belief of the people at Pashupatinath temple that when a small shrine emerges fully on the river Bagwati, the goddess inside will escape and the evil period of the Kalyug will come to an end on the earth.
17. Kathmandu Bazaar is a business hub, and has religious places with many shrines, and deities decorated with flowers on the narrow busy streets. There are hawkers selling fruits, flutes, and postcards for the tourists. Shops were selling imported cosmetics, film rolls which were used in the old cameras, chocolates, copper utensils and Nepalese antiques. Many different sounds can be heard like music from the radio, car horn, bicycle bells, moo sound of the cows and screaming vendors selling their wares.

18. There was a lot of activity going on near the holy river Bagmati that flows near the Pashupatinath temple. There the author saw a dead body being cremated, washerwomen washing clothes and children bathing in the river. The writer noticed how the river was being polluted when a basket of dry withered flowers was thrown into it from the balcony of a building.
19. The author presents the busiest streets of Kathmandu as 'vivid, mercenary and religious'. Besides the famous places like the Pashupatinath temple and the Boudhnath stupa, Kathmandu also has small shrines and deities. It is a place with a vivid landscape and constant religious activity. It is 'mercenary' as a lot of business flourishes in the narrow streets. There are shops selling various things like cosmetics, rolls of film, chocolates, antiques of Nepal, and copper pots and pans. There is a bedlam of noises created by radios playing film songs, sounds of car-horns, bells of bicycles and vendors shouting. One can find fruit sellers, flute sellers, and hawkers selling postcard photographs. Cows also bellow as they hear motorcycles. Thus, the streets of Kathmandu are full of noise and din.
20. The author, Vikram Seth, visited two temples in Kathmandu, the Pashupatinath Temple and the Boudhnath Stupa. He found contrasting differences in both temples. The atmosphere in Pashupatinath Temple was full of chaos and confusion. Hawkers, devotees, cows, monkeys, etc., were found roaming around in the ground with full freedom. Some people were trying to forcibly enter the temple. They were stopped by the policeman. In sharp contrast, the atmosphere at Boudhnath Stupa was quite different. It was not crowded and there was no confusion and chaos, unlike Pashupatinath Temple. The place was calm, peaceful and quiet with a few small Tibetan shops. The author found the ambience of the Boudhnath Stupa to be serene.
21. (b)
The Stupa was peaceful despite the chaos around it, but the reason for it being a haven of stillness is its tranquil nature, not the noise around.