

CHAPTER-8 | Kathmandu

QUIZ-01

1. What is the atmosphere at the Pashupatinath temple described as?
- Peaceful and serene
 - Organized and calm
 - Chaotic and confused
 - Quiet and meditative (C)

Explanation: The Pashupatinath temple is described as having a "febrile confusion" with priests, hawkers, tourists, and animals, creating a chaotic environment.

2. What is the unique restriction at the Pashupatinath temple?
- Only Nepalese can enter
 - Only Hindus are allowed entry
 - Only women are permitted inside
 - Only foreigners are allowed entry (B)

Explanation: The text mentions that a sign outside the temple declares, "Entrance for the Hindus only," restricting entry to followers of Hinduism.

3. What activity contrasts the atmosphere of Baudhnath stupa with Pashupatinath temple?
- Devotees fighting for attention
 - Peaceful surroundings and meditative quietness
 - Animals roaming freely
 - Loud music and blaring sounds (B)

Explanation: The Baudhnath stupa is described as a haven of quietness, providing a sharp contrast to the chaotic atmosphere at Pashupatinath.

4. What item does the author compare to porcupine quills?
- A basket of flowers
 - Flutes carried by a seller
 - Shrines on the riverbank
 - Tree branches near the temple (B)

Explanation: The flutes carried by the seller are compared to porcupine quills because they protrude in all directions from the pole he holds.

5. What is the belief associated with the shrine by the Bagmati river?
- It symbolizes eternal peace
 - It holds offerings for prosperity
 - Its full emergence will mark the end of Kaliyug
 - It brings blessings to the worshippers (C)

Explanation: The text describes a belief that when the shrine emerges fully, the goddess inside will escape, ending the Kaliyug period.

6. How does the author describe Kathmandu's busiest streets?
- Spacious and quiet
 - Filled with small shrines and bustling activity
 - Empty and devoid of life
 - Lined with luxurious shops (B)

Explanation: The streets are described as vivid and bustling, with shrines, hawkers, fruit sellers, and shops selling a variety of items.

7. What does the author buy during his indulgence in Kathmandu?
- A traditional flute
 - A bar of marzipan, roasted corn, comics, and drinks
 - Religious artifacts and spices
 - Nepalese antiques and postcards (B)

Explanation: The author indulges himself with various items, including marzipan, roasted corn, love story comics, and drinks like Coca-Cola.

8. Why does the author decide not to take the longer route back home?
- He wants to avoid the rainy season
 - He feels exhausted and homesick
 - He misses his flight schedule
 - The longer route is too dangerous (B)

Explanation: The author decides to avoid the longer scenic route and opts for a direct flight home due to exhaustion and homesickness.

9. What does the flute seller's behavior signify?
- His aggressive marketing
 - His focus on making profits
 - His meditative and casual attitude towards sales
 - His disinterest in playing the flute (C)

Explanation: The flute seller plays meditatively and sells flutes casually, as if the sales are incidental to his craft.

10. According to the author, what makes the flute a universal instrument?
- Its variety of shapes and materials
 - Its similarity to the human voice and living breath
 - Its historical significance across cultures
 - Its ability to produce loud and clear sounds (B)

Explanation: The author reflects that the flute's motive force—living breath—and its similarity to the human voice make it a universal instrument.