

CHAPTER-6 | Silk Road

QUIZ-01

1. What farewell gift did Lhamo give the author?
A. A bag of food
B. A warm hat
C. A long-sleeved sheepskin coat
D. A silver prayer wheel (C)

Explanation: Lhamo gave the author a sheepskin coat, commonly worn by men, to help him stay warm during his journey.

2. What did the author notice as they left Ravu and entered the plains?
A. Herds of domesticated sheep
B. Forests full of pine trees
C. A few gazelles and wild ass
D. Groups of Buddhist monks (C)

Explanation: As they crossed the plains, the author saw gazelles and a herd of wild ass (kyang) on the stony grasslands.

3. What did the Tibetan mastiffs do when the car approached the tents?
A. Ran away in fear
B. Chased the vehicle aggressively
C. Barked from a distance
D. Hid inside the tents (B)

Explanation: The Tibetan mastiffs fearlessly chased the vehicle, sometimes causing Tsetan to brake and swerve.

4. Why was crossing the snow patch risky?
A. The snow was too deep
B. There were hidden rocks
C. The surface was icy and slippery
D. The road signs were missing (C)

Explanation: The snow patch had a hard, icy top layer that could cause the car to slip and possibly overturn.

5. What marked the top of the mountain pass at 5,515 metres?
A. A Buddhist monastery B. A road sign
C. A cairn of rocks with prayer flags
D. A frozen river (C)

Explanation: The peak of the pass was marked by a cairn of rocks adorned with silk scarves and prayer flags.

6. Why did Tsetan unscrew the petrol tank cap slightly at high altitude?
A. To check the fuel level B. To fix a leak
C. To release pressure from fuel expansion
D. To warm up the engine (C)

Explanation: Due to lower atmospheric pressure, fuel expanded and a hissing sound was released when he loosened the cap.

7. What made Hor appear grim and miserable to the author?
A. Heavy snowfall and poor visibility
B. Lack of hotels and cafes
C. Dust, rocks, and accumulated garbage
D. Unfriendly locals (C)

Explanation: Hor had no vegetation and was littered with years of garbage, making it look dirty and unpleasant.

8. How did the author describe the physical effects of high altitude at Darchen?
A. Constant sneezing and fever
B. Complete loss of appetite
C. Difficulty sleeping and chest heaviness
D. Nosebleeds and headaches (C)

Explanation: He experienced sinus blockage, difficulty breathing while lying down, and a strange heaviness in his chest.

9. What was unusual about the Tibetan doctor at Darchen?
A. He used Western medicine
B. He wore a formal white coat
C. He looked like an ordinary villager
D. He charged a high consultation fee (C)

Explanation: The doctor did not wear any professional gear and looked like any other Tibetan in woollen clothing.

10. Why did Norbu say prostrating around Mount Kailash was not possible for him?
A. He lacked religious faith B. He had no time
C. He found it physically too demanding
D. The route was closed (C)

Explanation: Norbu humorously admitted that he was too fat and it would be very tiring for him to prostrate throughout the kora.