

## NCERT Solutions for Class 9

### English Beehive

#### Chapter 10 – Kathmandu

#### Thinking about the Text

1. On the following map mark out the route, which the author thought of but did not take, to Delhi.



**Ans:** The author thought of taking the following route:

From Kathmandu to Patna by bus or train, then Benaras followed by Allahabad and Agra and finally from there to Delhi.

**I. Answer these questions in one or two words or in short phrases.**

**1) Name the two temples the author visited in Kathmandu.**

**Ans:** Pashupatinath temple and Boudhanath stupa.

**2) The writer says, “All this I wash down with Coca Cola.” What does ‘all this’ refer to?**

**Ans:** Here, ‘all this’ refers to a bar of marzipan, a corn-on-the-cob rubbed with salt, chili, and lemon roasted in a charcoal stove and reading few love story comics and a reader’s digest.

**3) What does Vikram Seth compare to the quills of a porcupine?**

**Ans:** Vikram Seth compares a flute seller to the quills of a porcupine. The flute seller was holding a long pole that had around fifty to sixty flutes at its top.

**4) Name five kinds of flutes.**

**Ans:** The following are the five kinds of flutes:

- The reed neh
- The Japanese Shakuhachi
- The deep bansuri of Hindustani classical music
- The clear or breathy flutes of South America
- The high pitched Chinese flutes

## **II. Answer each question in a short paragraph.**

**1. What difference does the author note between the flute seller and the other hawkers?**

**Ans:** The author sees that while other vendors were shouting to attract the customers, the flute seller frequently selected one of his flutes and played it slowly, meditatively. He also made occasional sales. This is the difference the author notes between the flute seller and the other hawkers.

**2. What is the belief at Pashupatinath about the end of Kaliyug?**

**Ans:** At Pashupatinath, there is a small shrine that half protrudes from the stone platform at the bank of the Bagmati river. It is believed that

when it fully emerges, the goddess inside will come out and then the evil kalyug period will end.

**3. The author has drawn powerful images and pictures. Pick out three examples each of**

**i. the atmosphere of ‘febrile confusion outside the temple of Pashupatinath (for example some people trying to get the priest’s attention are elbowed aside...)**

**Ans:** The pictures of ‘febrile confusion outside the temple of Pashupatinath drawn by the author are: two monkeys fighting with each other, a royal Nepalese princess for whom everybody makes way, and a group of saffron-clad westerners struggling to enter the temple as the temple allowed only Hindus to enter.

**ii. the things he sees**

**Ans:** The author has drawn very powerful and beautiful images of what he sees. Some are as follows: the things he sees at the Pashupatinath temple and Boudhanath stupa, like, the hawkers selling flutes, fruits, postcards, and various shops selling western cosmetics, chocolate, Nepalese antiques and copper utensils, etc.

**iii. the sounds he hears**

**Ans:** The sounds he hears are, the sound of various hawkers and vendors shouting out their wares, the sound of movie songs coming out of the radio, the sounds of car horns and bicycle bell rings, etc.

**III. Answer the following questions in not more than 100 – 150 words each.**

**1. Compare and contrast the atmosphere in and around the Baudhnath shrine with the Pashupathinath temple.**

**Ans:** The main difference between the atmosphere at the Baudhnath shrine and the Pashupatinath temple is that the Pashupatinath temple

was a noisy and highly chaotic place while the atmosphere at the Baudhnath shrine was quite calm. At Pashupatinath temple, there were so many things happening simultaneously and adding to the chaos. For example, the monkeys were fighting, people were struggling to enter the temple. The people were pushing each other to get to the front and struggling to get the attention of the priest. At the bank of the river Bagmati, washerwomen were washing their clothes while a corpse was being cremated. On the contrary, the Baudhnath shrine was very quiet. There was no crowd. The author felt that it was a heaven of quietness in the busy streets around.

**2. How does the author describe Kathmandu's busiest streets?**

**Ans:** The author describes the busiest streets of Kathmandu on the basis of the things he sees and the sounds he hears. The author describes that along the busiest streets of Kathmandu, there were several small shrines and flower-adorned dieties. Also, there were many hawkers selling fruits, flutes, postcards, copper utensils, film rolls, chocolates, and some Nepalese antiques shouting out their wares. He also hears some sounds on these streets, such as the sound of movie songs blaring out of a radio, sounds of the honking of the cars, and the sound of bicycle bells. The author also draws a beautiful picture of the flute seller not shouting but producing calm music with his flutes which could be heard over the honking of the vehicles and the shouting of other vendors.

**3. "To hear any flute is to be drawn into the commonality of all mankind." Why does the author say this?**

**Ans:** The author believes that the music of a flute is "the most universal and most particular" of all the music. The flute is present in all cultures. There are different types of flutes used around the world, be it the reed neh, the recorder, the Japanese shakuhachi, the deep bansuri of Hindustani classical music, the clear or breathy flutes of South America, the high-pitched Chinese flutes. Even though these different flutes have different fingering and compass, but, the author believes that in spite of their differences, all the flutes produce music with the help of the human breath. Hence, for an author, "to hear any flute is to be drawn into the

commonality of all mankind” because just like flutes, humans also have the same living breath running through all of them despite the differences in their caste, culture, religion, region, etc. The author believes that all human beings are the same.

### Thinking about Language

**I. Read the following sentences carefully to understand the meaning of the italicised phrases. Then match the phrasal verbs in Column A with their meanings in Column B.**

1. A communal war broke out when the princess was abducted by the neighboring prince.
2. The cockpit broke off from the plane during the plane crash.
3. The car broke down on the way and we were left stranded in the jungle.
4. The dacoit broke away from the police as they took him to court.
5. The brothers broke up after the death of the father.
6. The thief broke into our house when we were away.

A	B
i. Break out	(a) To come apart due to force
ii. Break off	(b) End a relationship
iii. Break down	(c) Break and enter illegally, unlawful trespassing
iv. Break away	(d) Of start suddenly, (usually a fight, a war or a disease)

vii. <b>Break up</b>	<b>(e) To escape from someone's grip</b>
viii. <b>Break into</b>	<b>(f) Stop working</b>

**Ans:**

A	B
i. Break out	(d) Of start suddenly, (usually a fight, a war or a disease)
ii. Break off	(a) to come apart due to force
iii. Break down	(f) Stop working
iv. Break away	(e) To escape from someone's grip
v. Break up	(b) end a relationship
vi. Break into	(c) break and enter illegally; unlawful trespassing

## II.

1. Use the suffixes **-ion** or **-tion** to form nouns from the following verbs. Make the necessary changes in the spellings of the words.

**Example: proclaim – proclamation**

<b>Cremate</b> ___	<b>Act</b> ___	<b>Exhaust</b> ___
<b>Invent</b> ___	<b>Tempt</b> ___	<b>Immigrate</b> ___
<b>Direct</b> ___	<b>Meditate</b> ___	<b>Imagine</b> ___
<b>Dislocate</b> ___	<b>Associate</b> ___	<b>Dedicate</b> ___

**Ans:**

Cremate- cremation	Act-action	Exhaust-exhaustion
Invent- invention	Tempt- temptation	Immigrate- immigration
Direct- direction	Meditate- meditation	Imagine- imagination
Dislocate- dislocation	Associate- association	Dedicate- dedication

**2. Now fill in the blanks with suitable words from the ones that you have formed.**

- i. Mass literacy was possible only after the \_\_\_ of the printing machine.**
- ii. Ramesh is unable to tackle the situation as he lacks \_\_\_.**
- iii. I could not resist the \_\_\_ to open the letter.**
- iv. Hard work and \_\_\_ are the main keys to success.**
- v. The children were almost fainting with \_\_\_ after being made to stand in the sun.**

**Ans:**

- i. invention
- ii. direction
- iii. temptation
- iv. dedication
- v. exhaustion

### **III. Punctuation**

**Use capital letters, full stops, question marks, commas, and inverted commas wherever necessary in the following paragraph.**

**an arrogant lion was wandering through the jungle one day he asked the tiger who is stronger than you O lion replied the tiger who is more fierce than a leopard asked the lion you sir replied the leopard he marched up to an elephant and asked the same question the elephant picked him up in his trunk swung him in the air and threw him down look said the lion there is no need to get mad just because you don't know the answer.**

**Ans:** An arrogant lion was wandering through the jungle. One day, he asked the tiger, "Who is stronger than you?" "You, O lion!" replied the tiger. "Who is more fierce than a leopard?" asked the lion. "You sir," replied the leopard. He marched up to an elephant and asked the same question. The elephant picked him up in his trunk, swung him in the air, and threw him down. "Look," said the lion, "there is no need to get mad just because you don't know the answer."

#### **IV. Simple Present Tense**

**In these sentences words like everyday, often, seldom, never, every month, generally, usually, etc. may be used.**

**1. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb in brackets.**

- i. The heart is a pump that \_\_\_(send) the blood circulating through our body. The pumping action \_\_\_(take place) when the left ventricle of the heart \_\_\_(contract). This \_\_\_(force) the blood out into the arteries, which \_\_\_(expand) to receive the oncoming blood.**

**Ans:** sends, takes place, contracts, forces, expands



- ii. The African lungfish can live without water for up to four years. During drought, it \_\_\_(dig) a pit and \_\_\_(enclose) itself in a capsule of slime and earth, leaving a tiny opening for air. The capsule \_\_\_(dry) and \_\_\_(harden), but when rain \_\_\_(come), the mud \_\_\_(dissolve) and the lungfish \_\_\_(swim) away.

**Ans:** digs, encloses, dries, hardens, comes, dissolves, swims

- iii. Mahesh: We have to organise a class party for our teacher. \_\_\_(Do) anyone play an instrument?

**Vipul:** Rohit \_\_\_(play) the flute.

**Mahesh:** \_\_\_(Do) he also act?

**Vipul:** No, he \_\_\_(compose) music.

**Mahesh:** That's wonderful!

**Ans:** Does, plays, Does, composes