A. Answer the following questions orally:

Question 1.

Have you ever visited a sacred place? Share your experiences with your friends. Answer:

Yes, I have visited a sacred place. It is Deoghar or Baba Dham in Jharkhand. It is a very fine place. The whole place was charmed. One can get, people worshipping Lord Shiva there, I also entered the temple and worshipped the Lord. It is a worth visiting place. It was the month of Shrawan (July) in this month Lakhs of people come here bringing the Ganga water in Karwar. The whole city turns in Kawarias colour. That is ochrous (Gerua). The whole environment looks beautiful.

Question 2.

Name some of the holy places of your state.

Answer:

Some holy places of our state are Bodh Gaya, Rajgir, Pawapuri, many places in Darbhanga, Pumiya and Patna.

Question 3. Describe the surroundings of a holy place you have visited.

Answer:

Once I got a chance to visit Gurudawara the temple of Patna Saheb. It is famous all over India and abroad. It is a place of pilgrimage for the Sikhs. It is the holy place of Guru Gobind Singhji. Thousands of devotees and worshippers visit it daily. Recitations from Holy Granth go on in the temple at all times. It is very ennobling and to sit in the temple for an hour. Surroundings of the holy place are full of shops. Only Sikhs are seen here as shopkeepers. A visit to this religious place is not without merit.

B.1.1. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false statements:

- 1. At Pashupatinath, there is an atmosphere of 'febrile confusion'.
- 2. By the main gate an Indian struggles for permission to enter.
- 3. I consider what route should take back home.

- 4. From a balcony a basket of flowers and leaves, old offerings now wilted, is dropped into the lake.
- 5. I enter a Nepal Airport office and buy a ticket for the day after tomorrow flight.

Answer:

- 1. T
- 2. F
- 3. T
- 4. T
- 5. F

B.1.2. Answer the following questions very briefly:

Question 1.

With whom does Mr Vikram Seth visit the two temples in Kathmandu?

Answer:

Mr Vikram Seth visited the two temples in Kathmandu with his son and nephew.

Question 2.

Why does a party of saffron-clad Westerner struggle?

Answer:

A party of saffron-clad Westerner struggles for permission to enter the temple.

Question 3.

Briefly describe Baudhnath Stupa?

Answer:

At the Boudhanath Stupa there is a sense of stillness. It has a white dome small shops are there. That is a heaven of quietness in the busy streets around.

Question 4. What does the author buy at Nepal Airlines? Answer: At Nepal Airlines, the author buys a ticket for the next day's flight.

Question 5.

When will the Kaliyug end on earth?

Answer:

The Kaliyug will end on earth when the small shrine half protruding from the stone platform on the river bank at the Pashupatinath emerges fully. The goddess inside will escape, and the evil period of the Kaliyug will end on earth.

B.2. Answer the following questions very briefly:

Question 1. Where does the anther look at the flute seller? Answer: The author looks at the flute seller standing in a comer of the square near the hotel.

Question 2. Name three kinds of the flute. Answer: The three kinds of the flute are the reed neh, the recorders and the deep baosuri of Hindustani classical music.

Question 3. What does the flute seller have in his hand? Answer: In the flute seller's hand, there is a pole with an attachment at the top from which fifty or sixty bansuri protrude.

Question 4. Why does the author find it difficult to go away from the square? Answer: Tire author attracted by the flute music so he finds it difficult to go away from the square.

C. 1. Long Answer Type Questions

Question 1.

Why is Kathmandu famous? Describe briefly.

Answer:

Kathmandu is the capital of Nepal. It is famous for its two temples that are most sacred to Hindu and Buddhists. The first is die Pashupatinath temple. The second is the Baudhnath stupa that is a heaven of the compass in the busy streets around. Besides these, Kathmandu is a very lovely wealthy and religious place.

Question 2.

Describe Baudhnath Stupa and its surroundings.

Answer:

At Baudhnath stupa there is calm and quiet just outside and in the shrine. There are no crowds. Outside the shrine there are small shops of Tibetan immigrants selling felt bags. Tibetan prints and silver jewellery. The Buddhist shrine is a haven of quietness. It is a complete contrast of the Pashupatinath shrine.

Question 3.

Describe daily happenings at Pashupatinath.

Answer:

At Pashupatinath, there is an atmosphere of utter confusion mixed with excitement in and outside the shrine. Priests, hawkers, devotees, tourists, cows, monkeys, dogs and pigeons – all roam through the grounds. The crowd of worshippers push each other to go to the front to get "darshan". There is noise confusion and disorder. There is a fight of monkeys inside the temple and quarrel for permission to enter by the saffron-clad foreigners.

Question 4.

What, according to the author, has been the pattern of the flute seller's life? Answer:

According to the author die flute seller stands in a comer of the square near. In his hand is a pole with an attachment at the top from which fifty or sixty bansuris protrude in all directions like die quills of a porcupine. From time to time he stands the pole on the ground selects a flute and plays for a few minutes. The sound rises clearly above the noise of the traffic and the hawker' cries. He plays slowly meditatively, without excessive display. He makes sale also. Sometimes he breaks off playing to talk to the fruit seller. This has been the pattern of his life for years.

Question 5.

The author was moved by the music of the flute. Describe a similar experience of your own. Answer:

Once there was a cultural programme at Ravindra Kala Bhawan in Patna. I had been there. I was watching it. A man appeared at the stage, at first sight, he looked like an ordinary man. He played the guitar and it was so good that I listened patiently. I was so charmed that I felt to be in a world of pleasure.

C. 2. Group Discussion

Discuss the following in groups or pairs

Question 1.

Religious tolerance is inbuilt in Indian society.

Answer:

India is a secularism country. Here people of all religions, irrespective of caste or creed enjoy equal rights. There is no religion of the state. This thought is nothing new for us, as it is embedded in the cultural ethos that makes us tolerant, magnanimous and receptive to ail religions like Sikhism, Jainism and Buddhism and of course Hinduism. People over the centuries lived in peace, except for the last two centuries when foreign rules visited this harmony by their much-maligned policy of divide and rule. Yet we are tolerant Benjamin Franklin said, "We must indeed hang together or, most assuredly we shall all hang separately" The true success of this belief will be when we regard ourselves first as Indians and then as Hindu. Sikhs and Muslims.

Question 2.

Music has overwhelming power.

Answer:

It is true to say that music has overwhelming power. Music is such an art that can soothe and relax our heart. It is an art of making pleasing. It is combinations of sounds in rhythm and harmony. It finds people with a common bond. It is also a source of living to hear music it is to be drawn into the commonality of all mankind to be moved by music. Its motive force too is living breath, It clearly differs from noise.