

prose called Kathmandu, which is an excerpt from Vikram Seth's book "Heaven Lake," is found in Chapter 10 of the Beehive textbook for Class 9 English. Vikram Seth recounts his travel to Kathmandu, the capital city of Nepal, in the prose. So, how is the author finding his trip to this location? Let's explore this

Kathmandu Class 9 Summary

The Kathmandu summary highlights specifics from the narrative of Vikram Seth's book, "Heaven Lake." The author's emotions and the capital city of Nepal have both been vividly portrayed in the description. The author was planned to stop in at neighbouring Nepal and Tibet on his hitchhiking journey from China to India. He then travelled to Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. He went to the Boudhanath Stupa and the Pashupatinath Temple, and he saw many variations between the locations and their surroundings. He observed that the Boudhanath Temple was for Buddhists and the Pashupatinath Temple was a Hindu pilgrimage site. The author noted that only Hindus were permitted entry into the Pashupatinath Temple. Between the tourists, pilgrims, and priests, this caused havoc. There were instances of individuals swimming in the river's waters, tossing rubbish and dry flowers into it, and washing their clothes in the River Bagmati. Later, he visited the Boudhanath Temple and discovered that the situation had changed. The Buddhist temple had a sizable dome that was white in colour. The atmosphere was one of tranquilly throughout the entire area. Outside the temple, there was a Tibetan market where individuals were selling clothing, accessories, bags, and other similar items. The author learned that Kathmandu is a city with a variety of tourist attractions in addition to religious landmarks. There were various stores selling cosmetics, photography, jewellery, chocolates, and other items. The city was very noisy due to the cacophony of traffic horns, music at bars, and sellers shouting for their wares. During this visit, the author ate maize, drank Coca-Cola, and enjoyed a marzipan bar. He spent time reading Reader's Digest books, comic books, and love stories there. He made the decision to take an exciting trip to Delhi by bus, boat, or train. Later, he abandoned his concept because he thought it would be exhausting. He purchased a flight as a result. Near his hotel, the author came across a flute vendor who seemed interesting and had a pole made up of numerous flutes that made him look like a porcupine. This flute vendor performed a variety of songs on his instruments. The salesperson, in the author's opinion, stood out from other individuals selling flutes solely because he was playing his tunes carefully.

Without yelling for customers, he continued playing his instruments. The author was drawn in by this and was inspired to consider how widespread flutes are. Vikram Seth began contrasting human voices with the flutes' musical output. He became aware of the fact that he could now appreciate the little things in life as a result of this. The Kathmandu chapter Class 9 summary concludes with this.



Kathmandu Class 9

Kathmandu Class 9 Notes

Introduction

Nepal's capital is Kathmandu. Vikram Seth is taken from the author's book, *Heaven Lake*. Vikram Seth recalls his experiences during his trip to Kathmandu in this chapter. The author had been traveling from China to India, intending to pass through Nepal and Tibet in between. During this era, he visited Kathmandu, Nepal, and a story about that trip was published. In it, he describes his impressions of the city. He portrays the environment surrounding Kathmandu's numerous little shrines. Even the smallest elements, like the monkeys fighting in the temple, are noticed by him. Below is a summary in both short and lengthy form for Class 9 English Kathmandu.

Explanation (story)

In this excerpt from his book "*Heaven Lake*," Vikram Seth discusses his trip to Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. He sees two temples while on his journey and is astounded by the dramatic disparities between them. Hindus made a pilgrimage to the Pashupatinath temple, one of several temples.

Following that, there existed the Buddhist temple of Baudhnath. He observes that only Hindus are permitted admission to the Pashupatinath temple. As a result, there was considerable pandemonium among the pilgrims, visitors, and priests. To top it all off, people were bathing in, dumping dry flowers into, and washing clothing in the River Bagmati, which was being contaminated.

He then proceeded to the Baudhnath temple. He realised that this situation was entirely distinct from what he had witnessed in the Pashupatinath temple. This Buddhist temple features a huge white dome. The environment was serene and tranquil. There was a Tibetan market outside the temple where people were selling bags, clothing, jewellery, and other items.

He observes the wide range of offerings Kathmandu has, from holy sites to popular tourist attractions. Additionally, it offers a variety of businesses selling things like chocolates, cameras, cosmetics, and more. However, the city is quite noisy, from the music and merchants to the car horns. In the metropolis, he relished a marzipan bar, some maize, and a Coca-Cola. After that, he read romance novels, comic books, and Reader's Digest books.

He considered returning to Delhi through an exciting route that involves riding a bus or train and then a boat excursion, but he decided against it since it would have been too taxing. He then scheduled a flight home. Outside his hotel, he noticed a fascinating flute vendor. He resembled a porcupine and had a pole with numerous flutes on it.

The flute vendor continued to play his instruments while switching between different tunes. But his intelligent flute playing was what distinguished him from the other flute vendors. He played it rather than screaming to draw customers. The author was drawn to this and wondered why flutes are so prevalent everywhere. Then he states that he is now noticing even the smallest details, likening it to the human voice.

Author

In the travelogue you just read, Vikram Seth describes his visits to two holy sites in Kathmandu. Kathmandu by Vikram Seth is taken from the author's book, Heaven Lake. The narrative describes the author's trip to Kathmandu,

Nepal's capital. The author had been travelling from China to India, intending to pass through Nepal and Tibet in between.

Word Meaning

Sl. No.	Words	Meanings
1	Sacred	Regarded with great respect and reverence by a particular religion, group, or individual
2	Proclaim	To announce officially or publicly
3	Entrance	An opening, such as a door, passage, or gate, that allows access to a place
4	Febrile	Extremely active, or too excited, imaginative, or emotional
5	Hawker	A person who travels about selling goods, typically advertising them by shouting
6	Devotee	A strong believer in a particular religion or god
7	Saffron	Having a dark yellow colour
8	Clad	Covered with clothes

9	Cremate	Dispose of a dead person's body by burning it to ashes, typically after a funeral ceremony
10	Wilt	To lose its presence, strength, and prominence; dying
11	Protrude	To have something extend above its surface
12	Kaliyug (Sanskrit)	The age of darkness and misery; Kali is a demon and 'yuga' means 'era' or age'
13	Shrine	A holy place where a sacred relic or idol is placed and worshipped
14	In Contrast	To be opposite to an idea o a sentence previously presented.
15	Dome	A rounded vault forming the roof of a building or structure
16	Ring(ed)	To surround someone or something
17	Immigrant	A person who comes to live permanently in a foreign country
18	Haven	A safe or peaceful place
19	Mercenary	Interested in making money from a situation

20	Adorn	To add something decorative to a person or thing
21	Deity	A god or goddess
21	Antique	Something made in an earlier period that is collected and considered to have value because it is beautiful, rare, old, or of high quality
22	Stray	(Of an animal) having no home, or lost
23	Indulge	To allow yourself or someone else to have something enjoyable
24	Corn-on-the-cob	The tube-shaped part of maize (corn) that is cooked (whole corn)
25	Brazier	A metal container for burning coal, wood, etc., used to give warmth or to cook on
26	Wash down	To drink something after putting food or medicine in your mouth, especially so that you can swallow more easily
27	Nauseating	Making you feel as if you are going to vomit
28	Propel	Drive or push something forwards
29	Per se	A Latin phrase – by or of itself

30	Homesick	Experiencing a longing for one's home during a period of absence from it
31	Square	An open, typically four-sided, area surrounded by buildings in a village, town, or city
32	Pole	A long, thin stick of wood or metal, often used standing straight up in the ground to support things
33	Quill	The hollow sharp spines of a porcupine, hedgehog, or other spiny mammals
34	Porcupine	A large rodent with defensive spines or quills on the body and tail
35	Meditatively	Doing something seriously, and yet in a relaxed manner
36	Wares	Articles offered for sale
37	Incidental	Happening as a minor accompaniment to something else
38	Tear away	Leave despite a strong desire to stay
39	Enterprise	Business or trade

40	Universal	Relating to or done by all people or things in the world or in a particular group; applicable to all cases
41	Fingering	A manner or technique of using the fingers, especially to play a musical instrument
42	Drawn into	To involve somebody or make somebody take part in something
43	Commonality	The fact of sharing interests, experiences, or other characteristics with someone or something

Notes

- In Kathmandu, the author stopped at two temples. He visited "Pashupatinath," a well-known Hindu temple in Nepal, as well as "The Boudhanath Stupa," a well-known Buddhist shrine.
 - There was a sign outside the Pashupatinath shrine reading, "For only Hindus." The area around the shrine was rather disorderly.
 - Priests, merchants, and worshippers were many. The worshippers travelled from various parts of the nation.
 - Everyone salutes and makes room for a princess from the Nepalese royal family as she enters the area. The majority of the priests wore saffron clothing.
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- There was a monkey fight. During their battle, one of the monkeys climbed up the Shivling. Nearby, the Bagmati River runs. While the clothing were being washed, cremation was taking place. A few of the boys were taking baths in the river as well. For the worship of God, there were modest platforms close to the river beaches.

- According to myth, goddess Durga would appear and put an end to the evil era when a little shrine fully rises.
 - The Bodhnath Stupa, a place of Buddhist pilgrimage, contrasts it with its mood.
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- A sizable white dome is present. A road circled the dome as well. Along its periphery, there were a lot of little shops as well. Most of their store proprietors were Tibetan immigrants.
 - No one was in a crowd. The stores sold belt bags and clothing in Tibetan fashion. There was an entire object.
 - The author depicts Kathmandu as having a large population of monks and mercenaries.
 - The roads were incredibly busy and congested. There were a lot of fruit hawkers and vendors. Various forms of art and antiques from Nepal were available at stores. Additionally, others were selling cosmetics, copper kitchenware, and film rolls.
 - Car horns were making a lot of noise, and stray cows were also meowing. The author also discusses the novels he has read, as well as the delectable Marzipan.
 - The author also details his trip back. He noticed a seller of flutes close to the hotel where he was staying. He had between fifty and sixty flutes with him. He was meditatively and gently playing his flute.
 - The author also thought discussing flutes might be fascinating. He talks about the many flutes used in various nations. However, to play each of them, a particular skill is needed.

Kathmandu Class 9 Question and Answers

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



Kathmandu Class 9

Ans: The author considered travelling by bus or train from Kathmandu to Patna, then stopping in Benares, Allahabad, and Agra before continuing on 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: The phrase “all this” in this context refers to a bar of marzipan, roasted corn on the cob that has been spiced with salt, chile, and lemon, as well as some romance comics and a reader’s digest.

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

Ans: Vikram Seth likens a flute vendor to a porcupine's quills. The flute vendor was holding a tall pole with about 50–60 flutes perched above it.

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 observes that the flute vendor frequently chose one of his flutes and played it slowly, meditatively, in contrast to other vendors who shouted to attract clients. He occasionally sold things as well. The author highlights this distinction between the flute vendor and the other hawkers.

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

Ans: A little shrine at Pashupatinath partially protrudes from the stone platform along the Bagmati River. The wicked kalyug period is thought to come to an end when it fully emerges and the goddess inside is revealed.

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

1. The atmosphere of 'febrile confusion outside the temple of Pashupatinath (for example some people trying to get the priest's attention are elbowed aside...)

2. The things he sees

3. The sounds he hears

Ans1 : The author depicts scenes of "febrile turmoil" outside the Pashupatinath temple, including two monkeys fighting, a royal Nepalese princess who demands that everyone move aside, and a group of westerners struggling to enter the temple because only Hindus were permitted inside.

Ans2: The author has captured what he sees in really beautiful and dramatic drawings. These include the hawkers selling flutes, fruits, postcards, and numerous stores selling chocolate, Nepalese antiques, copper kitchenware, and other items at the Boudhanath stupa and Pashupatinath temple.

Ans3: He hears a variety of hawkers and merchants yelling their wares, movie songs playing on the radio, the sound of car horns and bicycle bells, among other sounds.

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 environment at the Pashupatinath temple was raucous and incredibly chaotic, whereas the mood at the Baudhnath shrine was relatively serene. This is the fundamental contrast between the two locations.

There were numerous activities going on at once in the Pashupatinath temple, adding to the confusion. People were attempting to enter the shrine while, for instance, the monkeys were fighting. To obtain the priest's attention, the crowd was jostling one another to move to the front. While a body was being burnt, washerwomen were washing their clothing along the banks of the Bagmati River.

The Baudhnath shrine, on the other hand, was very peaceful. No one was in a crowd.

Although there were busy streets nearby, the author thought it was a tranquil heaven.

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

Ans: Based on what he observes and what he hears, the author explains Kathmandu's busiest streets. The author mentions that there were a number of tiny shrines and gods with floral decorations throughout Kathmandu's major streets. Additionally, there were numerous hawkers calling out their wares while peddling fruits, flutes, postcards, copper kitchenware, film rolls, chocolates, and some Nepalese antiques.

Additionally, he hears some sounds on these streets, like the sound of radios blasting movie music, the sound of cars honking, and the sound of bicycle bells.

The author also paints a lovely picture of the flute vendor, who instead of shouting, uses his flutes to create peaceful music that can be heard over the horns of passing cars and the cries 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: According to the author, the flute's music is "the most general and most particular" of all music. Every civilization makes use of the flute. The globe uses a variety of flutes, including the reed neh, recorder, Japanese shakuhachi, deep bansuri used in Hindustani classical music, clear or breathy South American flutes, and high-pitched Chinese flutes. Although the fingering and compass of these various flutes vary, the author is of the opinion that despite these variations, all flutes make music with the aid of the breath of a performer. As a result, according to the author, "to hear any flute is to be dragged into the commonality of all mankind," since all people share the same living breath regardless of their caste, culture, religion, area, etc. The author argues that all people are similar.

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)
v. Break up	e. To escape from someone's grip
vi. Break into	f. Stop working

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

Cremate _____	Act _____	Exhaust _____
Invent _____	Tempt _____	Immigrate _____
Direct _____	Meditate _____	Imagine _____
Dislocate _____	Associate _____	Dedicate _____

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: A haughty lion was prowling across the forest. Who is stronger than you, he once questioned the tiger? The tiger answered, "You, O lion. The lion questioned, "Who is more fierce than a leopard?" You sir," the leopard affirmed. He approached an elephant and posed the same inquiry. He was lifted by the elephant and thrown to the ground after being swinging in the air. There's no need to get angry just because you don't know the solution, the lion said.

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

Kathmandu Class 9 Conclusion

The chapter on Kathmandu teaches students that when visiting holy sites, we should keep calm and have a pure mind so that we can have serious thoughts and act properly. We have provided you with the Kathmandu Beehive Prose Summary for CBSE Class 9 English. We hope that this helped students understand the chapter completely.