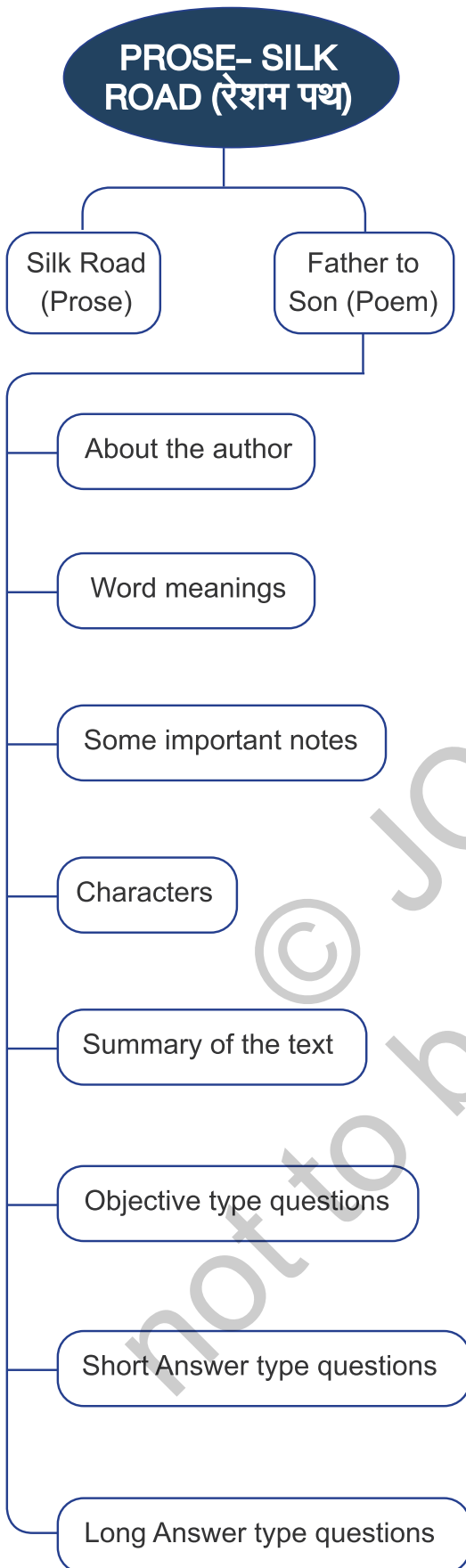


Silk Road and Father to Son

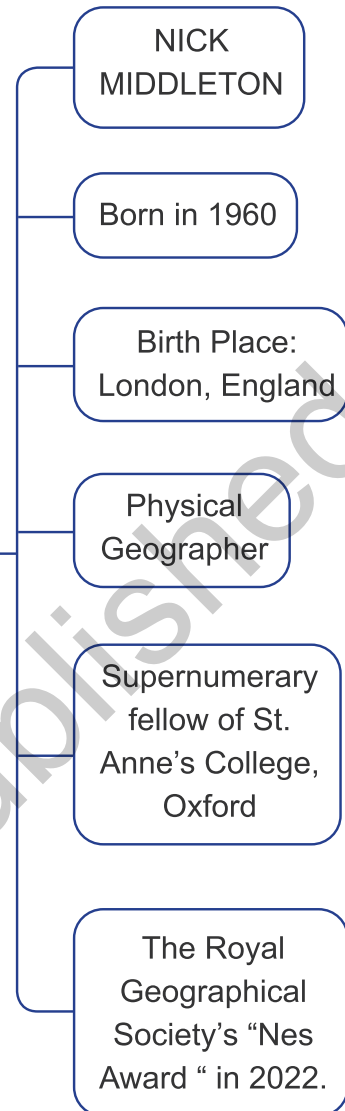


Nick Middleton



I. ABOUT THE AUTHOS

About the Author



II. WORD MEANINGS

1. Kora — meditation performed by Buddhist believers (बौद्ध विश्वासियों द्वारा किया गया ध्यान)
2. Ducking Back — going inside and then coming out (अंदर जा रहा है और फिर बाहर आ रहा है)
3. Size me up- to look at someone attentively (बारीकी से निरीक्षण करना)

4. Clambered- move or climb in an awkward way(कठिनाई से चढ़ना)
5. Drokba- Shepherd(चरवाहा)
6. Nibbling - take a small bite (कुतरना)
7. Arid- having little or no rain (बंजर, सूखा)
8. Pastures-land covered with grass (भूमि घास से आच्छादित)
9. Bounding- jump; hop; bounce (छलांग)
10. Herd- a large group of animal (पशु समूह)
11. Galloping -progressing in an uncontrollable manner (तेजी से चलना)
12. En masse- in a group (सामूहिक रूप से)
13. Manoeuvres- military exercises (युद्धाभ्यास)
14. Plumes- Trails (पदचिह्न)
15. To rise or roll in waves or surges (तंरिगत होना)
16. Evasive- slippery (कपटपूर्ण)
17. Veering- to change direction suddenly (मुड़ना)
18. Shaggy- bushy or hairy (झबरा)
19. Ferocious- cruel or violent (क्रूर)
20. Glinting- sparkle or twinkle (चमकता हुआ)
21. Meanders- to follow a winding course of a river or road (घुमावदार मार्ग से हो कर आगे बढ़ना)
22. Daubed- spread a thick sticky substance on a surface carelessly (बेतरतीब तरीके से रंगना)
23. Lichen- a slow-growing plant which grows on walls, trees or rocks (धीमी गति से बढ़ने वाला पौधा)
24. Swathe- a long strip of land (जमीन की पट्टी)
25. Encrusted- decorated with a hard surface layer (पपड़ीदार)
26. Slither- to move smoothly over a surface (लुढ़कना)
27. Cairn of rocks -the pile of stone on the top of the mountain, especially where someone is buried.
28. Festooned- decorated(बंदनवार से सजाना)
29. Salt flats- thatched roof covered with snow (बर्फ से ढकी छत)
30. Pockmarked- disfigured with a scar (छाला)
31. Brackish- slightly salty water (खारा)

32. Vestiges- (अवशेष)

33. Laden- (लदा हुआ)

34. Grim (-भयंकर)

35. Accumulated- जमा हुआ

36. Venerated- सम्मानित करना

37. Cosmology- science about the origin and development of the universe (ब्रह्मांड विज्ञान)

38. Dirty- गंदा

39. Detention- captivity (कारावास)

40. Sanctity- pure (शुद्धि, पवित्र)

41. Nocturnal- night time (रात का)

42. Gasping- breathlessness

43. Pellets- (गोला, गोली)

44. Derelict- ruined (नष्टप्राय)

45. Envisaged- predicted (परिकल्पित)

46. Brook--a small stream (छोटी सी धारा)

47. Tiresome -थकाने वाला

48. Twisted- घुमाया हुआ

III. SOME IMPORTANT NOTES

Word Notes

SILK ROAD

RAVU

MOUNT KAILASH

KORA

PROKBA

CHANGTANG

GAZELLES

KIANG

TIBETAN MASTIFF

PLATEAU

TETHYS OCEAN

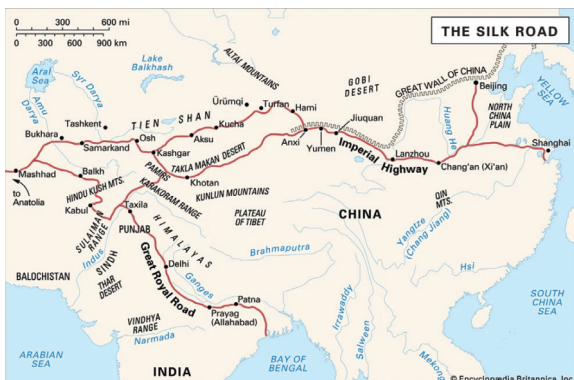
LHASA

GUALA MONDHATA

DARCHEN

TREK

1. SILK ROAD- The Silk Road was a network of ancient trade routes, established in 130 BCE, which linked the regions of the ancient world for business. Here Nick Middleton uses this name to describe his journey to Mount Kailash for Kora.



2. RAVU- Name of a place from where Nick Middleton started his journey for Mount Kailash in SILK ROAD.

3. MOUNT KAILASH- Mount Kailash is a mountain in Tibet. It is located close to Lake Manasarovar and Lake Rakshastal. The sources of four major Asian rivers lie close to this mountain. Mount Kailash is considered sacred in four religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Bon.



4. KORA- Kora is both a type of pilgrimage and a type of meditative practice in the Tibetan Buddhist or Bon traditions.

5. DROKBA- This refers to the people who wander as nomads in the region of Tibet.

6. CHANGTANG- The Changtang is a part of the high altitude Tibetan Plateau with vast highlands and giant lakes. Changtang is home to the Changpa, a nomadic Tibetan people. The two largest settlements within the Tibetan Changtang are Rutog Town and Domar Township

7. GAZELLES- A gazelle is a kind of antelope. They are found mostly in the deserts, grasslands, and savannas of Africa and also in Asia.



8. KIANG- The kiang is the largest of the wild asses.

9. TIBETAN MASTIFF- It is a large size Tibetan dog breed. This dog can run up to a speed of 20 mph over short distances (32kph). In SILK ROAD as the author passed the nomad's dark tents, he saw some Tibetan mastiffs who would bark ferociously and fearlessly as his car came close to the

shepherds' tents. These dogs were very popular in China's Imperial courts as hunting dogs and brought along the silk road as tribute from Tibet.



10. PLATEAU- a large high area of flat land

11. TETHYS OCEAN- The Tethys was an ancient ocean that existed before the evolution of the Indian Ocean. Tethys was orientated east-west and separated the large continents of Gondwana and Laurasia.

12. LHASA- It is the urban center and the administrative capital of Tibet Autonomous Region in China.

13. GURLA MANDHATA- Gurla Mandhata is the highest peak of the Nalakankar Himal, a small subrange of the Himalaya. It is named after king Mandhata.

14. DARCHEN- At the foot of Mt. Kailash, there is a lonely village, Darchen, which is just situated right in front of the Sacred Mount Kailash.

15. TREK- A long hard work, lasting several days or weeks, usually in the mountains.

IV. CHARACTERS

Characters

NICK MIDDLETON

LHAMO

DANIEL

TSETAN

A CHINESE YOUTH

EKAI KAWAGUCHI

SVEN HEDIN

A TIBETAN DOCTOR

NORBU

1. NICK MIDDLETON- Narrator of the text who describes the journey and the hardships faced on the Silk Road.

2. LHAMO- Lhamo was a female friend of the author who gave him a long-sleeved sheepskin coat that men in Tibet usually wear.

3. DANIEL- Author's friend who accompanied him to the small town of Hor on his journey to Mount Kailash.

4. TSETAN- Tsetan was a local Tibetan. Nick Middleton hired his cab to travel up to Darchen from Ravu. At Drachen when the author fell ill, Tsetan took him to Darchen medical college. He was also a devout Buddhist and believed in life after death. So he did not mind if the author would die in Darchen.

5. A CHINESE YOUTH- The author was served tea by him in Hor's only cafe.

6. EKAI KAWAGUCHI- Ekai Kawaguchi was a Japanese Buddhist monk who was famed for his journeys to Nepal and to Tibet. He was so moved by the sanctity of the lake that he burst into tears.

7. SVEN HEDIN- was a Swedish geographer, explorer and travel writer. In his book From Pole to Pole, Hedin describes a journey through Asia and Europe between the late 1880s and the early 1900s.

8. A TIBETAN DOCTOR- He told the author that he was sick because of the cold and the altitude. He also gave him some traditional medicines.

9. NORBU- The author met him at Darchen. He was a Tibetan who worked in Beijing at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. He had also come to do the Kora.

V. SUMMARY OF THE TEXT



SUMMARY IN ENGLISH

“Silk Road” by Nick Middleton is an adventure story where the author describes his travel along the ancient trade route namely Silk Road.

At the beginning, the author left Ravu along with Daniel and Tsetan, their tourist guide. Before leaving, Lhamo gave him a long-sleeved sheepskin coat as they were heading towards Mount Kailash, a very cold region, to complete Kara. Their guide, Tsetan, took a short cut and assured them that the journey would be smooth if there was no snow.

As they continue their Journey, they encounter a few gazelles, a great herd of wild asses which formed a ‘Kyang’ before them. Then they passed some solitary drokpas tending their flocks. They would stop and stare, sometimes waving hands to them.

As they passed the nomad’s dark tents, they saw some Tibetan mastiffs who would bark ferociously and fearlessly as their car came close to the shepherds’ tents. These dogs were very popular in China’s Imperial courts as hunting dogs and brought along the silk road as tribute from Tibet. After some time, they entered a valley which was mostly clogged with ice and glinting in the sunlight.

As they continued to climb, the turns became sharper and the ride bumpier through steeper slopes which were covered with snow. At this point the

writer began to feel uncomfortable due to coldness. Suddenly they found their road was blocked by snow and there was risk of disbalancing the car. Setan gave the idea of flinging dirt across the frozen surface and finally they crossed the snow. But after ten minutes, they got another blockage and drove from the other side of the ice.

Thus they went on and finally reached the small town of Hor. Here they bade farewell to Daniel and also repaired the car. According to the author, Hor was a miserable place with dust and rocks though it sat on the shore of Lake Manasarovar, a holy place for both the Hindus and the Buddhists. In Hor the author drank some tea in its only cafe and the tea was served by a Chinese youth in military uniform. Then they began journey again and reached Darchen after 10.30 p.m. and took shelter in a guesthouse.

The author had a very troubled night in Darchen. His nostrils were blocked, and he was not able to get enough oxygen into his lungs. Most of the night he sat up, as he was unable to sleep. The next day he went to the Darchen Medical College with Setan. The Tibetan doctor told him that he was sick because of the cold and the altitude. He gave him some traditional medicine and then the author was able to sleep well that night.

Tsetan left the author in Darchen and returned to Lhasa. He did not mind if the author would die in Darchen because he was a devout Buddhist and believed in life after death. However,

he was worried that the author's death could affect his business. As the author became alone, he looked for a companion and met Norbu.

Like Hor, Darchen was dusty with a lot of rubbish scattered here and there. The town appeared to be sparsely populated and there were no pilgrims there, as the pilgrimage season had not yet started. The author had reached there very early as his main purpose was to reach Mount Kailash to complete the 'kora' and get a feel of what a pilgrimage was like. But he didn't want to do it alone. He was looking for someone who could speak or understand English.

When he was sitting in the only cafe at Darchen, he met Norbu who was also there to do 'kora', though he was not a religious person. So, both of them decided to do the 'kora' together.

पाठ का सारांश

“सिल्क रोड” एक एडवेंचर कहानी है जहाँ लेखक प्राचीन व्यापार मार्ग अर्थात् सिल्क रोड के साथ अपनी यात्रा का वर्णन करता है।

शुरुआत में, लेखक उनके पर्यटक गाइड सेतन और दोस्त डेनियल के साथ रावू छोड़ रहे थे। जाने से पहले, ल्हामो ने उन्हें एक लंबी बाजू का चर्मपत्र कोट दिया, क्योंकि वह कोरा पूरा करने के लिए कैलाश पर्वत, एक बहुत ठंडे क्षेत्र की ओर जा रहे थे। उनके गाइड, सेतन ने एक छोटा रास्ता निकाला और उन्हें आश्वासन दिया कि यात्रा आसान होगी यदि वहाँ बर्फ नहीं होती है तो।

जैसे वे अपनी यात्रा जारी रखते हैं, उन्हें कुछ गज़ेल्स और जंगली गधों का एक बड़ा झुंड मिलता है, जो उनके सामने एक 'क्यांग' का गठन करता है। फिर वे कुछ चरवाहा के पास से गुज़रे जो उनके भेड़-बकरियों को चरा रहे थे। वे उनके कार देखकर कभी रुकते हैं तो कभी उन्हें घूर घूर कर देखते हैं। यहाँ तक कभी-कभी हाथ भी हिलाते हैं।

जैसे ही वे खानाबदोशों के अंधेरे तंबू से गुज़रे, उन्होंने कुछ तिब्बती मास्टिफ को देखा जो उनकी कार चरवाहों के तंबू के करीब आते ही क्रूरता और निडर होकर भौंकते हैं। ये कुत्ते चीन के शाही दरबार में शिकार करने वाले कुत्तों के रूप में बहुत लोकप्रिय थे और तिब्बत से टैक्स के रूप में रेशम की सड़कों पर लाए गए थे। कुछ समय बाद, वे एक घाटी में प्रवेश कर गए जो ज्यादातर बर्फ से ढकी हुई थी और सूरज की रोशनी में चमक रही थी।

जैसे-जैसे वे चढ़ना जारी रखते हैं, मोड़ तीखे होते गए और बर्फ से ढकी खड़ी ढलानों के वजह से सवारी झटकेदार हो गई। इस बिंदु पर लेखक को ठंडक के कारण असहजता महसूस होने लगी। अचानक उन्होंने पाया कि उनकी सड़क बर्फ से अवरुद्ध है और कार के असंतुलित होने का भी खतरा है। सेतन ने जमी हुई बर्फ पर धूल फैलाने का विचार दिया और अंत में वे बर्फ को पार कर गए। लेकिन दस मिनट के बाद, उन्हें एक और रुकावट मिली और वे बर्फ के दूसरी तरफ से पार हुए।

इस प्रकार वे आगे बढ़े और अंत में होर नाम के छोटे शहर में पहुँचे। यहाँ उन्होंने डेनियल को विदाई दिए और कार की मरम्मत भी किए। लेखक के अनुसार, होर धूल और चट्टानों के साथ एक दयनीय स्थान था, हालांकि यह मानसरोवर झील के किनारे पर स्थित था, जो हिंदुओं और बौद्धों दोनों के लिए एक पवित्र स्थान था। होर में लेखक इसके एकमात्र कैफे में चाय पिए जो एक चीनी युवक ने सैन्य वर्दी में परोसा। इसके बाद लेखक फिर से यात्रा

शुरू किए और 10.30 बजे के बाद डार्चेन पहुंचे जहां दोनों एक गेस्ट हाउस में शरण लिए।

दारचेन में लेखक की रात बहुत परेशान करने वाली थी। उनका नाक बंद हो गया था, और वह अपने फेफड़ों में पर्याप्त ऑक्सीजन नहीं ले पा रहे थे। इस कारण से वह रात भर सो नहीं पाए।

अगले दिन वह सेतन के साथ दारचेन मेडिकल कॉलेज गया। जहां एक तिब्बती डॉक्टर ने उन्हें बताया कि ठंड के वजह से उनको परेशानी हो रही है। उस डॉक्टर ने उन्हें कुछ पारंपरिक दवाएँ भी दिए और लेखक उस रात अच्छी तरह सो सका।

सेतन ने लेखक को डार्चेन में छोड़ दिया और ल्हासा की ओर प्रस्थान किया। उन्हें इस बात से कोई ऐतराज नहीं था कि लेखक की मृत्यु हो जाएगी क्योंकि वह एक धर्मनिष्ठ बौद्ध थे और मृत्यु के बाद के जीवन में विश्वास करते थे। हालाँकि, वह चिंतित था कि लेखक की मृत्यु उसके व्यवसाय को प्रभावित कर सकती है। जैसे ही लेखक अकेले हो गए, वह एक साथी की तलाश करते हैं और एक कैफे में नोरबू से मिलते हैं।

होर की तरह, डार्चेन धूल से भरा हुआ था और इधर-उधर ढेर सारा कचरा बिखरा हुआ था। शहर में आबादी भी बहुत कम थी और वहां कोई तीर्थयात्री नहीं थे, क्योंकि तीर्थयात्रा का मौसम अभी शुरू नहीं हुआ था। लेखक वहाँ बहुत पहले पहुंच गए थे। क्योंकि उनका मुख्य उद्देश्य 'कोरा' को पूरा करने के लिए कैलाश पर्वत पर पहुंचना था। लेकिन वह इसे अकेले नहीं करना चाहते थे। वह किसी ऐसे व्यक्ति की तलाश में थे जो अंग्रेजी बोल या समझ सके।

जब वह दारचेन के एकमात्र कैफे में बैठे थे, तो उनकी मुलाकात नोरबू से हुई, जो वहाँ 'कोरा' करने के लिए आए थे, हालांकि वह

एक धार्मिक व्यक्ति नहीं थे। इसलिए, दोनों ने साथ में 'कोरा' करने का फैसला किया।

VI. OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTIONS

1. What is Kora?

- A. Dance
- B. name of a small town
- C. meditation performed by Buddhist believers
- D. None

Ans. C

2. Where was the protagonist heading towards in the beginning of the chapter?

- A. kolkata
- B. Mount Kailash
- C. Simla
- D. Uttarakhand

Ans. B

3. Who gave the protagonist a farewell gift?

- A. Norbu B. Tsetan
- C. Lhamo D. None of them

Ans. C

4. Where did the protagonist encounter the great herd of wild ass?

- A. at Mount Kailash
- B. at Changtang

- C. at a small town
- D. where the plains became more stony

Ans. D

5. Who are Drokbas?
- A. Hill Tribe
 - B. Local Shepherds
 - C. Tibetan doctors
 - D. cuisine

Ans. B

6. What did the protagonist notice in front of the nomads tent?
- A. Tibetan Mastiff
 - B. Cats
 - C. Rats
 - D. Asses

Ans. A

7. What did the big Tibetan dogs do after they saw the approaching car?
- A. They ran behind it as a bullet fired from a gun
 - B. They ignored it
 - C. They danced around it
 - D. They never saw it

Ans. A

8. When did the protagonist feel pressure on his ears?
- A. when they reached Mount Kailash
 - B. when he was feeling sick in the car
 - C. when they entered a valley along icy river

- D. when they were passing nomads tents

Ans.C

9. What was the name of the author's guide?
- A. Daniel
 - B. Lhamo
 - C. Norbu
 - D. Tsetan

Ans. D

10. Why was Hor an ugly and miserable place?
- A. it had no modern markets
 - B. it had no vegetation
 - C. it didn't have any proper medical facilities
 - D. it had no place to live

Ans.B

11. At which place of Hor did the protagonist wait for Tsetan ?
- A. at roadside near lake
 - B. at car tyre's shop
 - C. inside the car
 - D. Hor's cafe

Ans.D

12. How were the Tibetan Mastiffs famous in China's royal court?
- A. As hunting dogs
 - B. As big animal
 - C. As wild animals
 - D. None of the above

Ans.A

13. What are the names of four rivers that Lake Manasarovar consists of?

- A. The Ganges, the Yamuna and the Sutlej
- B. The Yamuna, the Ganga and the Indus
- C. The Indus, the Ganges, the Sutlej, and the Brahmaputra
- D. The Indus, the Ganges and the Yamuna

Ans.C

14. Where did Tsetan take the protagonist to seek medical help?

- A. Darchen Medical College
- B. Tibetan Ayurvedic Doctor
- C. To Lhasa
- D. To Ravu again

Ans. A

15. What did the Tibetan doctor give him?

- A. a five day course medicine in a brown envelope
- B. Ayurvedic medicine
- C. Indian medicine
- D. Food

Ans.A

16. Why was the protagonist facing communication problems in Darchen?

- A. as he never wanted to talk to locals
- B. as he was always busy in his meditation
- C. as no one knew English
- D. all of the above

Ans.C

17. Where did the protagonist meet Norbu?

- A. at New York
- B. at cafe
- C. in Delhi
- D. at Hor

Ans.B

18. Where did Norbu work?

- A. in India
- B. at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
- C. in UK
- D. in USA

Ans.B

19. Why did Norbu want to do Kora?

- A. because he wanted to become a monk
- B. because he wanted peace
- C. as he was practicing meditation from so long
- D. because he was writing an academic paper on Kailash Kora

Ans.D

VII.SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Why has the article been titled 'Silk Road'?

Ans. The article has been titled 'Silk Road' because the narrator travelled along the old Silk Route in the Himalayas that touches Tibet to reach Manasarovar.

2. Where was the narrator going? Through what kind of terrain would he have to pass?

Ans. The narrator was journeying towards Mount Kailash and the Manasarovar Lake where he had to pass through several high mountain passes. He had to journey through a lot of snow and vast open plains.

3. How did the author and his companions cross the first snow blockage on their journey?

Ans. The snow in the first blockage was very steep and there was a chance that their car could slip. So Tsetan came up with the idea of flinging handfuls of dirt and covering the snow completely with soil. The narrator and Daniel got off the vehicle to lighten the load and Tsetan drove the vehicle over the snow.

4. Comment on the behaviour of the Drokbass towards the author and his group.

Ans. In the story 'Silk road', the drokbass (local shepherds)

were very simple, naive and unsophisticated. They were polite and courteous towards all tourists. So when they saw their car, they would pause and stare at the car. Occasionally they would wave as they passed.

5. Describe the Tibetan mastiffs.

Ans. The Tibetan mastiffs are very violent and ferocious with big heads. They are black in colour with their red collars. They attack like bullets fired from guns. They possess massive jaws. Their bark is furious. These mastiffs are so fearless that they can also attack cars and jeeps.

6. Where is the town of Hor situated? Describe the town.

Ans. The town of Hor is located on the east west highway when one travels from Lhasa to Kashmir. It is a grim desolate place littered with accumulated refuse. There is no vegetation in this town. It is located on the shore of Lake Mansarovar. On the whole, it has badly painted concrete buildings.

7. What is the importance of Lake Manasarovar?

Ans. Lake Manasarovar has sacred importance for both the Hindus and the Buddhists. It is a source of four great Indian rivers i.e., the Indus, the Brahmaputra, the Ganges and the Sutlej. It is an extremely beautiful lake. Its first site often moves the tourists into tears.

8. How was the author's experience at Hor a stark contrast to earlier accounts of the place?

Ans. The author was disappointed and rather depressed on arrival at Hor. Previous visitors had been overwhelmed by the beauty of Manasarovar Lake, but the author found Hor shabby and dirty.

9. How did the author suffer at Darchen?

Ans. Due to extreme cold winds at Hor, on reaching Darchen the author suffered from cold and a blocked nose. He gasped for oxygen, and could breathe through one nostril only. He could not sleep at night. He sat up and felt better.

10. Who was Norbu? How was he different from the local people?

Ans. Norbu is a Tibetan working in Beijing at the Chinese Academy. He was different from other Tibetans as he was wearing a windcheater and metal rimmed spectacles of a Western style and he spoke English fluently.

VIII. LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. What was the purpose of the narrator's journey? What route did he take to reach his destination?

Ans. The author wanted to complete Kora, a religious pilgrimage in Buddhism. So, he planned a journey to Mount Kailash and the Manasarovar

Lake. He travelled through the old Silk Route in the Himalayas. One has to pass through several high mountain passes covered with snow and vast open plains in order to reach this destination. On his journey, the narrator also crossed Hor and Darchen. The weather at Hor was extremely chilly. The narrator found Hor to be depressing and miserable. Darchen also proved to be not an ideal place for the narrator. He suffered a very troubled and miserable night due to changes in weather and altitude.

2. Describe in detail the narrator's miserable night in Darchen.

Ans. The author spent a very troubled night at Darchen. One of his nostrils was blocked again and he was tired and hungry. He started breathing through his mouth. After a while, he woke up abruptly. His chest felt strangely heavy but when he sat up, his nasal passages cleared almost instantly and relieved the feeling in his chest. He lay down again. Just as he was about to doze something told him not to. He was not gasping for breath, but could not go to sleep. He sat up but as soon as he lay down, his sinuses filled and his chest felt strange. He tried supporting himself against the wall, but could not manage to relax enough to sleep. He did not know what was wrong but had a feeling that if he slept he would not wake up again. So he stayed awake all night.

POEM: FATHER TO SON

About the Poet (Picture B)

ELIZABETH JENNINGS

Born on 18 July 1926

Died: 26 October 2001

educated at Oxford High School and St. Anne's College, Oxford

Recoveries (1964)

The Mind Has Mountains (1966)

The Animals' Arrival (1969)

Lucidities (1970)

Relationships (1972)

Extending the Territory (1985)

Arts Council of Great Britain Prize

Somerset Maugham Prize

2001: Honorary Doctorate of Divinity from Durham University



II. WORD MEANINGS

1. Sown-do something which will bring a result (create, produce)
2. Prodigal- spending money freely
3. mourning- condolence, lament
4. Despite -in spite of
5. Build-up- develop
6. Acknowledge- concede,agree
7. Forgive- accept someone's sorry

III. IMPORTANT NOTES

PRODIGAL SON: A story from the Bible which was told by Jesus himself. The story begins with a man who has two sons. The younger son asks his father to divide his property. After receiving his portion, the son promptly sets off on a long journey and begins to waste his fortune on wild living.

When the money runs out, he takes a job of feeding pigs but fails to succeed. The young man finally comes to his senses, returns to his father and asks for forgiveness. The father who has been waiting, is overjoyed by the return of his lost son.

V. SUMMARY OF THE POEM



(Picture C)

FIRST STANZA-

Father's failure to understand his son, his regret for not building a relationship when he was a child

SECOND STANZA-

Father and son are built in some design but their choices are different

THIRD STANZA-

Father wishes his son to stay in his house forever

FOURTH STANZA-

Every father and son should stay in the same world together and forget their past mistakes

SUMMARY IN ENGLISH

‘**Father to son**’ is about the complex relationship between a father and a son. The poem highlights the generation gap between the father and son duo and expresses the pain and helplessness that the father feels due to his failure in understanding his

child. In the first stanza, the father wants to build the same kind of bond with his son as he had in his son’s childhood. But, perhaps he has missed the opportunity. Though his son is built in his design and they share the same house for years, they behave as strangers. Neither they talk to each other, nor they understand each other.

The father wishes his son could be the Prodigal son of the Bible, and wants him to return to the home he has always known, so that they can rebuild the relationship to have a new start. He is willing to forgive his son for running away. He does not want his child to move to his own world.

In the fourth stanza the poet wishes that both fathers and their sons all over the world must learn to live together in spite of their misunderstandings and differences. Here the son admits that he is unable to understand why he becomes angry when he is in grief. As there is still love between both of them, they try to find a way to resolve their differences but that seems useless. According to the poet, all fathers and sons in the world should learn to live on the same globe and same land.

सारांश

यह कविता एक पिता और पुत्र के बीच के जटिल संबंधों के बारे में है। कविता में पिता अपना असहायता को व्यक्त करते हैं जो वह अपने बच्चे को समझने में विफलता के कारण महसूस करते हैं। पहला श्लोक में पिता अपने पुत्र के साथ वैसा ही बंधन बनाना चाहता है जैसा कि उसके पुत्र के साथ बचपन में था। लेकिन, शायद वह समय बीत गया। हालांकि उनके बेटे को उनके डिजाइन में बनाया गया है और वे सालों तक एक ही घर में रहते हैं। फिर भी वे अजनबी की तरह व्यवहार करते हैं। न वे आपस में बात करते हैं और न ही एक दूसरे को समझते हैं।

पिता चाहता है कि उसका बेटा बाइबल का प्रॉडिगल पुत्र हो, और वह उस घर में लौट आए जिसे वह हमेशा से जानता है, ताकि वे एक नई शुरुआत करके अपने रिश्ते का पुनर्निर्माण कर सकें। वह भागने के लिए अपने बेटे को माफ करने को तैयार है। वह नहीं चाहता कि उसका बच्चा अपनी दुनिया में चले जाए।

चौथे श्लोक में कवि चाहते हैं कि दुनिया भर में सारे पिता और उनके पुत्र अपने गलतफहमी और मतभेदों के बावजूद एक साथ रहना सीखें। यहाँ बेटा स्वीकार करता है कि वह यह नहीं समझ पा रहा है कि जब वह दुःख में होता है तो वह क्रोधित क्यों हो जाता है। चूंकि दोनों के बीच अभी भी प्यार है, वे अपने मतभेदों को सुलझाने का एक तरीका खोजने की कोशिश करते हैं लेकिन यह सफल नहीं हो पाता है। कवि के अनुसार, दुनिया के सभी पिता और पुत्रों को एक ही ग्लोब और एक ही भूमि पर रहना सीखना चाहिए।

VI. OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Who is the poet of the poem 'Father to Son'?

- A. Shirley Toulson
- B. Elizabeth Jennings
- C. William Shakespeare
- D. John Milton

Ans. B

2. The father regrets that-

- A. he knows nothing about his son

- B. he knows a few bad things about his son
- C. his son does not take care of him
- D. his son is a drunkard

Ans. A

3. Father tells him that although they have lived in the same house for years, he _____
- A. hate him
 - B. doesn't understand his son
 - C. dislike him
 - D. finds him cruel

Ans. B

4. Does the father know about his son's likes and dislikes?
- A. No B. Yes
 - C. Maybe C. None

Ans. A

5. Despite all his efforts to fix the communication gap, was the son able to understand him?
- A. Maybe B. Yes
 - C. Can't say D. No

Ans. D

6. "Built to my design" means
- A. that his son does not look like him
 - B. that his son wears the same brand of clothes that he does
 - C. that his son looks like him as far as physical features are concerned
 - D. None of these

Ans. C

7. "What is the meaning of 'This child is built to my design Yet what he loves I cannot share'?"
- A. his son looks like him and they share everything with each other
 - B. neither does his son looks like him nor he understand him
 - C. His son looks like him yet they don't have anything to share
 - D. None of these

Ans. C

8. What is the meaning of the word 'Prodigal'?
- A. spending money freely
 - B. someone who is smart

C. understanding son

D. None of these

Ans. A

9. Is there a silence between the father and the son?

A. Yes B. No

C. Can't say D. None

Ans. A

10. Does the father want his son to move around in his own world?

A. Yes, absolutely

B. Maybe

C. Not at all

D. None of the above

Ans. C

11. What does 'empty hand' signify?

A. the poverty of the father

B. the failure of the father and the son to understand each other

C. the poverty of the son

D. the bad behaviour of the son

Ans. B

12. From where does the son's anger arise ?

A. out of his love

B. out of his grief

C. out of his lack of patience

D. None of these

Ans. B

VII. SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. The father has lived with his son in the same house, yet he doesn't know anything about him. Why?

Ans. There is a huge communication gap between the father and the son. The father doesn't understand the aspirations and longings of the son. They are sharing the same house but behave like strangers. Therefore, the father doesn't know anything about his son.

2. What are the reasons behind the distance between father and son?

Ans. The lack of understanding and generation gap between the father and the son are the main reasons for the problem. The father wants his son to stay in his world forever. The son, now a young man, has his own aspirations and longings, therefore lives in a world of his own. The father finds it hard to adjust to the growing changes.

3. How does the father feel when his

relationship with his son comes under strain?

Ans. The Father feels very helpless and regretful as he fails to understand his own son. He regrets that he has never tried to understand his son's perspectives. As a result his son has distanced himself from him and moves to his own world.

4. What does the father wish for in the third stanza?

Ans. The father wishes to improve his relationship with his son. The father wants his son to return to the home that he has left. He is willing to forgive his son and

restart their relationship.

5. What is the meaning of the phrase 'prodigal son' in the poem?

Ans. A person who spends money recklessly is called prodigal. Here the reference is from the story of the Bible in which a father gives his inheritance to his sons. The younger son leaves, wastes his fortune and returns to his father's home. Still the father is ready to take him back and forgive him. In the poem, the father also wants to forgive his son so that they live peacefully together again.