

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

1. In six months, road users in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal, have learned to cringe at using the car horn unnecessarily. "I feel embarrassed now when I occasionally blow the horn," said Rajaram Dangal, a hotel manager. "I feel like people are staring at me from all around." Clearly, the traffic police's slogan of "Let's be civilised, let's not use the horn" is working.

2. Making Dangal give up his instinctive action at the wheel has not been easy. Like in most old South Asian cities, horns seem a matter of life and death in Kathmandu, with its narrow, congested, pot holed roads. Pedestrians-and animals-cross the roads at will. There are no traffic lights and road dividers. And yet today, you only hear a few stray beeps on the street. Even these sound tentative and have none of the aggressive, let-me-through tone that you find in, say, Delhi.

3 The induction of a no-nonsense officer to head the traffic police, a ban on horns, strict vigilance, a fine of Rs 500 and threat of public ignominy have brought a degree of silence on the noisy streets. Noise pollution had reached unhealthy highs in the Nepalese capital.

4. After clamping down on honking, 15,500 people have been hauled up. Sarbendra Khanal, traffic police chief, said this was achieved despite the cops having no mechanical device to pinpoint the horn sound.

5. And yet, the quietude of sorts is holding out. "It's early days still, but I feel mindsets are changing," Khanal was optimistic. The government's intent to change the street ambience was enunciated in no less than Khanal's selection to head the traffic police soon after the announcement of the ban. What did DIG Khanal bring to the table? He has little traffic experience. Rather, the officer has a reputation as an "encounter specialist", having crushed 109 criminal outfits in the Terai.

6. It isn't difficult to extrapolate Khanal's renown as a tough cop to the willingness of the people to fall in line. Roads are dense with motorcycles since car prices are prohibitive there.

7. Reining in these weaving, wailing two wheelers was the biggest challenge for Khanal and his team. However, it isn't all baton and threats. There is a continuing awareness drive, which to date has included 9,400 roadside gatherings, 1,230 sessions with bus and truck drivers and 1,680 visits to schools and colleges. The results are there to see or rather hear. The success has proved that tough measures can be implemented.

I. Answer the questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

- 1. The traffic police in Kathmandu
- a) has linked not blowing car horns to being civilized.
- b) made strict rules against blowing horn
- c) has used multi-pronged strategy for controlling horn blowing by car drivers.
- d) All of the above

2 Not blowing horns on the streets of Kathmandu is a matter of life and death because a) it could lead to accidents. b) the roads are narrow. c) there are no road dividers. d) None of these. 3 That the people of Kathmandu are not blowing car horns shows that a) they are law abiding. b) the strategy of strictness combined with educating the public has been successful. c) the police chief's reputation as an encounter specialist is justified. d) All of the above. 4 Sarbendra Khanal was chosen to be the chief of traffic police in Kathmandu because a) he had experience in controlling traffic. b) he was an encounter specialist. c) he was popular among people. d) he was a police officer 5 'Extrapolate' in para 6 means a) estimate b) make known c) cringe at the car horn d) alert the pedestrians 6 'Reining' in para 7 means a) a lot of traffic b) controlling c) tough measures d) intent to change 7 What did Khanal bring to the table? a) control on noise pollution c) criminal outfits b) encounter specialists d) None of the above The roads of Kathmandu are: 8 a) wide and well-connected b) narrow c) full of pot holes d) Both "b" and "c"

9 Pedestrians-and animals-cross the roads freely in Kathmandu. True/ False

II Based on the poem "A Photograph" answer the following questions :

1. What does the photograph show?

- A) The poet with her friends
- B) The poet's mother with her cousins at the beach
- C) A family wedding D) A landscape of the sea

2. What does the phrase "terribly transient feet" refer to?

A) The children's dirty feet B) The marks left by the feet on the sand

C) The temporary nature of human life D) The fear of walking on sand

3. How does the poet describe her mother's laughter?

A) Artificial B) Sad C) Carefree and nostalgic D) Loud and annoying

4. What emotion does the poet express in the final stanza?

A) Joy B) Nostalgia C) Anger D) Silence and grief

9. The poem contrasts:

A) Childhood and adulthood B) Change and permanence

C) Happiness and sorrow D) All of the above

10. What is the main theme of the poem?

- A) Nature's beauty B) Travel and exploration
- C) Memory, loss, and passage of time D) School memories