

Q. 9. “For he on honey dew hath-fed and drunk the milk of Paradise.”—About whom the poet is speaking here ?

Ans. In these lines extracted from ‘Kubla-Khan’, Coleridge says that if he can revive within himself the song of the Abyssinian maid, he could write splendid poetry, the reading of which would make his readers think that the poet had fed on honey-dew and nectar, a sort of magical drink.

light of a waning moon.

**Q. 5. "And mid this tumult Kubla heard from afar,
Ancestral voices prophesying war."**

— How could Kubla hear the 'ancestral voices prophesying war'?

Ans. Kubla-Khan ordered a magnificent pleasure-palace to be built for him in Xanadu on the bank of the river Alph. River Alph followed a long winding course through woods and valleys. Then it entered the immeasurably deep caves and finally sank into the dead sea, making a loud noise. Amidst this noise Kubla heard the ancestral voices prophesying war.

Q. 6. "It was a miracle of rare device

A sunny pleasure—dome with caves of ice."

—What was a 'miracle of rare device'?

Ans. The pleasure-dome of Kubla-Khan of which Coleridge gives a description in the poem 'Kubla-Khan' was 'a miracle of device.' It was erected in an ice-bound region somewhere midway between the fountain and the immeasurably deep caves. The palace had a marvellous architectural skill and stood bathed in sunlight.

Q. 7. "A damsel with a dulcimer

In a vision once I saw."

—Who saw the "vision"? Describe the "vision".

Ans. In the poem "Kubla-Khan", Coleridge speaks a vision that he had seen once. He had a strange vision of an Abyssinian girl playing on her dulcimer, a kind of musical instrument and singing of the wild splendour of Mount Abora.

Q. 8. "I would build that dome in air."

—Who "would build that dome in air" and how?

Ans. In the poem 'Kubla-Khan,' Coleridge gives description of his vision of an Abyssinian maid playing a dulcimer and singing on Mount Abora. He says that if he could recapture the song, the sound would fill in him with such a divine inspiration that he would write a powerful poetry to give a vivid and splendid description of Kubla-Khan's pleasure-dome. Those who would listen to his poetry would be able to see the dome in imagination.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

Q. 1. What is 'Kubla-Khan' about ?

Ans. 'Kubla-Khan' is about poetry and poetic inspiration. The first thirty six lines of the poem deal with the naturalness, popularity and matter of factness of poetry. The second part of the poem purports to mean that the speaker could build a propitious palace with music if he could revive in himself the deep delight that he felt at visions he once beheld.

Q. 2. Describe the pleasure-palace that Kubla-Khan ordered to build.

Ans. Kubla-Khan ordered to build a magnificent pleasure-palace in Xanadu on the bank of river Alph. For that purpose, ten square miles area in diameter was encircled with walls and towers. Within its circumference this place had bright gardens, winding streams, aromatic trees and forest as old as hills.

**Q. 3. "But oh ! that deep romantic chasm which slanted
Down the green hill athwart a cedarn cover !
A savage place !"**

—What makes the setting 'a savage place ?'

Ans. In these lines, Coleridge speaks of the place where Kubla-Khan ordered a magnificent pleasure-palace to be built for him. A deep, awe—inspiring and mysterious gorge ran down the slope of the green hill across a wood of cedar trees making the place, wild, fearful, primitive or savage.

Q. 4. "As holy and enchanted

As e'er beneath a waning moon was haunted."

What seems to be "holy and enchanted ?" By whom "a waning moon" was haunted ?

Ans. Here, the poet speaks of the place where Kubla-Khan had ordered a magnificent pleasure-palace to be built for him. The place seems to be 'holy and enchanted' and as sacred as the one visited by a woman wandering about in quest of her demon lover in the dim