

Question-Answer Book - Beginner level (Set 1)

Read the passage and answer questions 1-22. (40 marks)

1. What are *sak yant* (line 1)?

2. Which of the following can replace ‘reluctant’ in line 7?

- A. unwilling
- B. ignorant
- C. delighted
- D. embarrassed

3. Why is there little information about *sak yant* in Cambodia? (3 marks)

i) _____

ii) _____

iii) _____

4. What is the role of a ‘sacred tattooist’ (line 8)?

5. According to paragraph 2, which of the following cannot be inferred?

- A. Phnom Penh is in Cambodia.
- B. Chan Tra's shop is small but well-decorated.
- C. Following holy precepts is necessary in order to be a pure conduit for magical powers.
- D. Chan Tra misses his grandfather.

6. Who would have likely been an influence for Chan Tra to become a tattooist?

7. What does the writer likely mean when describing Teven Say's tattoos as tangled ‘like wires in a fuse box’ (line 15)?

8. i) According to paragraphs 2 and 4, how did the writer feel about getting a tattoo? (1 mark)

ii) Cite TWO pieces of evidence to justify his feelings. (2 marks)

9. Compare the chants by Cambodian tattoo artists like Teven Say and aboriginal tribes from south China and Southeast Asia. Give one similarity and one difference. (2 marks)

Similarity: _____

Difference: _____

10. How do we know the word *sak* comes from an older language?

11. Find words from paragraphs 4 to 6 that can be replaced by the following. (3 marks)

i) physical feeling _____

ii) precise _____

iii) increase in size _____

12. According to paragraphs 4 and 5, which of the following statements is false?

- A. The magical power is carried through the traditional needle and tattoo gun.
- B. The Chinese is an animistic culture.
- C. The chants have changed little since the first millennium.
- D. Tattoos existed in Han Dynasty.

13. Fashionistas (line 39) are people who

14. Why have traditional Cambodian tattoos been coveted by fashionistas especially after 2004?

15. What concerns do traditionalists have about Westerners getting traditional tattoos?

16. The commitments required when getting a tattoo in Cambodia include...

- (i) respecting the rules..
- (ii) Being trained on how to live a good life.
- (iii) learning and mentoring from the tattoo master.
- (iv) Following five Buddhist principles.

- A. all (i) to (iv)
- B. (i), (iii), and (iv)
- C. (iii) and (iv)
- D. (iv) only

17. According to paragraphs 7 to 9, which of the following statements can be implied? Put a tick (✓) next to the TWO that apply. (2 marks)

- i) Only Cambodians can receive sak yant
- ii) Sak yant have become increasingly popular with Westerners.
- iii) Those receiving sak yant should abide and respect the traditional rules.
- iv) In Thailand, sacred tattoos are often about tough jungle vines.

18. Paragraph 9 is about ...

- A. the process of getting a traditional tattoo.
- B. The importance of traditions in the eyes of Cambodians.
- C. Teven Say and Arjar Tar's collaboration
- D. Consequences of disobeying the rules.

19. What does 'Ajar Tar ..., whose ripped torso is a sketchbook of traditional designs' (lines 50-51) suggest?

20. What is the main idea of paragraph 10?

21. Which person from the article is most likely to say each quote below? Write the name of the person next to the quote. Do not mention any person more than once. The first one has been done for you. (4 marks)

	Quotes	Person
e.g.	'At first, I didn't feel very easy while getting the tattoo but Teven Say's mantras helped calm me down.'	<i>Nathan Thompson (writer)</i>
i)	'The tattoos are beautiful but people must understand the beliefs too.'	
ii)	'My grandfather was killed as a tattooist; I think it is my mission to give people tattoos for power and good luck, like what my grandfather did.'	
iii)	'Foreigners getting <i>sak yant</i> can help spread our tradition.'	
iv)	'The tattoos have a magical power. I must meditate and recite a mantra to practise tattooing.'	

22. Complete the summary of paragraphs 7 to 11 by choosing ONE word from the ten options given below. Write the correct word in the space provided. Each word can be used once only. Two of the options will not be used. (8 marks)

important traditions	regards respect	powerful task	mentored relevance	chanted spread
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Receivers of *sak yant* tattoos in Cambodia must commit to and (i) _____ five important Buddhist precepts. In addition, they must also be (ii) _____ by a tattoo master on how to live a good life prior to receiving the tattoo. It is (iii) _____ to respect these rules because such tattoos are believed to hold a (iv) _____ energy. They can protect the wearer and bring them good luck. Traditional tattoo artists want Westerners to help (v) _____ these traditions around the world, but at the same time also want their (vi) _____ to be respected. Since artists are highly difficult to locate in Thailand and Cambodia, this important (vii) _____ of spreading the tradition is left to artists like Teven Say and Chan Tra. By continuing to tattoo, pray, and bless their work, they can nourish this art form to worldwide (viii) _____.

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