

Exercise Sheet for Lesson 19 (Written Test)

Please complete the following multiple-choice test ticking only one answer for each question. There may be more than one correct (or somewhat correct) answer for each question - tick the one you think is best. Do not tick more than one.

1. Clothes worn on sankirtana

- ☐ (a) Should demonstrate our renunciation of the world
- ☐ (b) Should be modest and respectable, remembering that we represent Srila Prabhupada
- ☐ (c) Should be the best since Srila Prabhupada's movement is the best and we wish to attract high-class, intelligent people
- ☐ (d) Don't really matter since our consciousness is what's really important.

2. Which of the following is the best opening question?

- ☐ (a) Are you from here?
- ☐ (b) Do you believe in God?
- ☐ (c) Which do you like better, philosophy or history?
- ☐ (d) Do you want to buy a book?

3. What do you consider the most important quality for a sankirtan devotee?

- ☐ (a) courage and compassion
- ☐ (b) determination to avoid thinking of anything but book distribution
- ☐ (c) to feel anxious when not distributing
- ☐ (d) enthusiasm and a sense of humour

4. What is the best way to deal with the opposite sex on sankirtana?

- ☐ (a) utilise the natural attraction that exists to sell a book
- ☐ (b) develop an equal vision but retain caution
- ☐ (c) approach them but avoid looking them directly in the eye
- ☐ (d) strictly avoid them, otherwise fall down into the grihasta ashram is inevitable

5. Character development. . .

- ☐ (a) has little to do with self-realisation, but is useful to sell more books
- ☐ (b) develops automatically through the practice of devotional service, and yet the devotee should be thoughtful and reflect on his progress
- ☐ (c) is an automatic bi-product of sincere book distribution
- ☐ (d) is essential to the development of book distribution and should be systematically developed and monitored

6. It is important to be honest....

- ☐ (a) for our own spiritual advancement and for the benefit of the movement as a whole
- ☐ (b) because non-devotees place great importance on mundane morality
- ☐ (c) to protect ISKCON's reputation
- ☐ (d) by acting on the platform of spirit soul and endeavouring, by hook or by crook, to engage others in devotional service before they die

7. Customer care.....

- ☐ (a) Is born of compassion and a genuine desire to help others understand their true identity
- ☐ (b) is fulfilled when we are only concerned for the order of the spiritual master
- ☐ (c) is essential, mainly for the purpose of good public relations
- ☐ (d) is demonstrated by taking non-devotees laksmi and offering it back to Krishna

8. Devotee welfare means....

- ☐ (a) constantly reminding a devotee that he's not the body and that this world is a place of suffering
- ☐ (b) providing devotees with their material necessities
- ☐ (c) allowing devotees to choose their own service according to their inclination and propensities
- ☐ (d) caring for the Vaishnavas and providing all necessary resources for their progressive advancement in spiritual life

9. Services other than book distribution....

- ☐ (a) Other services are less important, though they have their relative values
- ☐ (b) We must constantly emphasise that book distributors are special so not as to lose sight of Srila Prabhupada's desires
- ☐ (c) Other services should be acknowledged since they help push on book distribution
- ☐ (d) Although book distribution was stressed by Srila Prabhupada, all services are essential in co-operatively and harmoniously pushing forward the sankirtana movement.

10. Long term vision....

- ☐ (a) is achieved through being fixed in the present and depending on Krishna
- ☐ (b) should be programmed into a sankirtana devotee from the very beginning
- ☐ (c) is developed through a devotee being determined to die on the street
- ☐ (d) is important both theologically (with regard for sreyas and preyas) and in practically preparing devotees for the reality of future changes, in terms of ashram and service

11. ISKCON's reputation

- ☐ (a) Krishna is ultimately responsible, so it's in very good hands - besides depending on Him, no extraneous effort is required from our side.
- ☐ (b) A good reputation is dependant on appropriate attitudes and behaviour
- ☐ (c) It is a very important responsibility of the communications department
- ☐ (d) Every devotee in ISKCON, especially those dealing with the public, has a responsibility to create and maintain a respectable reputation on behalf of Srila Prabhupada

12. You notice that a junior devotee isn't maintaining all the standards What do you do?

- ☐ (a) Mention it with discretion to your sankirtana leader
- ☐ (b) Choose an appropriate time and place to mention the issue to the devotee, without condemning him
- ☐ (c) Pull him up there and then, knowing that it's for his benefit.
- ☐ (d) Be extremely sensitive and avoid any bad feelings by ignoring it.

13. The most expedient way to deal with persons of other faiths is to:

- ☐ (a) Defeat them on the basis of sastra, logic or their own scriptures.
- ☐ (b) Bend the truth slightly so that they somehow or other take a book
- ☐ (c) As far as possible agree with them by seeing what we have in common and on this basis try to sell them a book
- ☐ (d) assess each individually, but avoid being distracted

14. The material body

- ☐ (a) Aware of our temporary and illusory identification with matter, we should sacrifice the body into the fire of the sankirtana-yajna, and totally ignore what happens to it
- ☐ (b) The body is actually our vehicle for self-realisation, so it is essential to keep it in good shape.
- ☐ (c) Our body belongs to the spiritual master. We should look after it properly so that we can engage it effectively in his service
- ☐ (d) According to our destiny, we are born into a particular body. Trying to look after it is futile, since all happiness and distress is already determined.

15. Doubts . . .

- ☐ (a) are a function of the intelligence. When revealed and defeated, they become stepping-stones for spiritual advancement
- ☐ (b) are compared to demons and should not be tolerated by advanced devotees .
- ☐ (c) are natural, so we should be tolerant and learn to live with them
- ☐ (d) if they become serious, should immediately be revealed to a senior devotee

16. If somebody thinks the book is for free, or wants to give an insufficient donation, you should:

- ☐ (a) Just let him have the book
- ☐ (b) Take his small donation, take the book back, firmly but as politely as possible, and move on.
- ☐ (c) Take his small donation then exchange his book for a less expensive one or a brochure.
- ☐ (d) Try to convince him in a respectful manner that the books are very valuable and that he should give more, but settle for other options if he doesn't willingly agree.

17. Accurate Representation entails....

- ☐ (a) repeating only what you've heard from authority
- ☐ (b) understanding that Srila Prabhupada's books do all the preaching. Our business is simply to sell them
- ☐ (c) being of ideal character, both in terms of what we preach and how we behave
- ☐ (d) fulfilling the order of the spiritual master without considering the result.

18. Being well-organised

- ☐ (a) is not as important as remembering Krishna
- ☐ (b) is an integral part of our service to the Lord and should not be neglected
- ☐ (c) is very important for sankirtana devotees, unless we are on the platform of pure devotion, in which case we can be completely spontaneous
- ☐ (d) is a manifestation of the desire to control

19. Regular Study

- ☐ (a) specially the literature of the Goswamis describing the pastimes of the gopis is relevant to sankirtana devotees who are acting on a platform similar to the gopis, bringing others closer to Krishna's rasa-lila.
- ☐ (b) is important so that sankirtana devotees can become learned representatives of Srila Prabhupada and able to present the books on their own merit.
- ☐ (c) is optional for sankirtana devotees, because even if they don't read, Krishna gives them intelligence from within, as confirmed in the Bhagavad Gita.
- ☐ (d) is best done on our days off from sankirtana.

20. Sadhana for sankirtana devotees

- ☐ (a) should be exactly the same as in the temple for other devotees
- ☐ (b) can be minimised to get more time on the street, since Lord Chaitanya's mission is so urgent and He protects such confidential devotees engaged in the highest service.
- ☐ (c) should, as far as possible, be on the same standard as that in the temple.
- ☐ (d) is essential for maintaining strength and enthusiasm, and should not be neglected.