

Part 3

Questions 19 to 26 are based on the following passage.

Read the passage carefully and choose the best answer A, B, C or D. For each question mark your answer on the answer sheet.

One morning, Lha-mo was far from home, having come to search for some strayed animals. The snow had already begun to fall and she pulled her cloak closely around her. Her husband and brothers-in-law were out, too, and there was no one left behind in the yak-hair tents except her little son and his grandmother. Lha-mo smiled, thinking of him, her jewel. How he had yelled when he realised that she was going out, burying his face in her clothing and drawing the cloth over his ears.

Suddenly she stopped, startled. There in the snow were the tracks of a snowman! Her heart began to pound. There was no time to fetch anyone else and she was far from camp. If the trail was to be followed, to discover the cave where the creature lived, it must be now, at once, as the snow was covering the tracks fast. When she had pinpointed the area, she could return with the others to kill the beast or capture it. And so, she overcame her fear. **She made up her mind to follow them, alone.**

She immediately decided to rely on her life-long knowledge of tracks, and set out, leaning into the driving snow. It was automatic for her to notice landmarks as she went, and thus remember the way back, so she had no fear of losing herself. Snowflakes whirled in the darkening sky. Although the tracks were disappearing, it was still possible to follow them.

After a while, Lha-mo stopped to see if the wind could tell her anything. Scent of any kind means life but up here, no smell altered the thin air. Each lungful was the purest in the world. Although she did see the above life now. But look! Here the creature had stopped and the snow was still melted where it had sat down. Lha-mo knelt and sniffed. There was no scent, nothing she recognised: an unknown animal.

The tracks went forward into a narrow ravine and Lha-mo halted. Ahead of her, a pebble rattled. It would be mad to enter such a place. Instead, she climbed swiftly and silently onto the ridge alongside to look down into the depths below. For a moment, there was nothing. Then movement showed that something was alive. There. Almost directly below her, and unaware of her presence, was an animal she had never seen before. Was it a bear or an ape? She had no idea. She could only see that it was large and had white, shaggy fur.

A weapon? Beside her lay a boulder. She got her shoulder against it and pushed it over the edge. The yeti leapt for safety but it was too late. The rock struck it on its head and both rock and animal rolled together to the bottom of the ravine. The yeti lay motionless. Echoes went ringing everywhere, setting off falls of rocks and snow. Lha-mo, excited by her success, waited for the commotion to die down. Then, she drew her knife and scrambled down to make sure that it was dead. As she got nearer, she saw that it was still breathing. She was determined to finish it off before it regained consciousness. But it was not a snowman. It was a snow-woman with a baby.

The baby was unhurt. He was about the size of a human baby and as she crouched up to them, he gave a cry and buried his face against his mother, drawing her long fur over his ears.

Lha-mo recoiled as if shot.

She gasped, horrified. Then she backed away slowly out of the ravine, turned and ran. Before she was out of sight, she looked back. The yeti was rising and shaking her head. She picked up her child and stumbled away. Lha-mo made for home as fast as she could. She went up the hill and down by the fire, and began to shake. She was late, of course and her husband was angry.

"Where have you been?" he demanded. Lha-mo told him

- 19 In paragraph 1, what was Lha-mo doing far away from home that morning?
- A She was gathering food for the family.
 - B She was looking for her husband and her brothers-in-law.
 - C Lha-mo had accidentally strayed away from her campsite.
 - D Lha-mo was looking for some of their animals which had strayed from the flock.
- 20 In paragraph 2, 'She made up her mind to follow them, alone.' Why did Lha-mo decide to do so?
- A She refused to give up on an adventure of a lifetime.
 - B She was short of time and far from home at that point in time.
 - C She was very familiar with the landscape and the location of the creature.
 - D She would be able to return with her family members to deal with the animal.
- 21 In paragraph 3, what can be said of Lha-mo from her actions?
- A She is very slow in observing her surroundings.
 - B She is resourceful and brave.
 - C She is weak and afraid.
 - D She is a lost woman.
- 22 In paragraph 4, why could Lha-mo not identify the animal?
- A It was an animal without smell.
 - B The snow had masked the smell.
 - C It was an animal not known to her.
 - D The air at the high altitude altered the smell.
- 23 Upon nearing the ravine, Lha-mo stopped. Why did she do so?
- A She was afraid of entering the ravine.
 - B Pebbles and rocks were raining on her.
 - C The snowman was guarding the ravine.
 - D The path ahead was narrow and dangerous.
- 24 Why did Lha-mo draw her knife?
- A She wanted to defend herself.
 - B She wanted to kill the animal if it were still alive.
 - C She wanted to ensure the creature was not breathing.
 - D She wanted to seek revenge by killing the animal's baby.
- 25 From paragraph 7, why did the baby bury its face against its mother?
- A It was afraid.
 - B It was feeling very cold.
 - C It was protecting its mother.
 - D It was seeking solace from fear.
- 26 'Lha-mo recoiled as if shot'. Why did she react in such a manner?
- A She was afraid that the creature was going to attack her.
 - B The scene reminded her of her son and herself that very morning.
 - C She had tripped on a rock while stepping away from the animals.
 - D She was shocked because she could have killed a mother and her child.