

Diamond Mountain University

Soaring to the Top of the Sky

Answer Key Class 3: Planting the Seeds of Infinite Abundance

*1. What is the 5th Vow for a novice monk or nun? What is its literal translation?
(Tibetan Track: Name the vow in Tibetan)

Stealing: Taking what has not been given.

མ་བྱིན་ལེན།

ma jin len

*2. What are the six aspects of the object that you steal? (Tibetan Track: Give the Tibetan for power, authority.)

- a) **The thing that you steal belongs to a human other than yourself.**
- b) **It is not common property.**
- c) **It has value to both of you.**
- d) **The person considers it theirs: They own it. They have authority over it.**
- e) **It should not be food which has been cooked.**
- f) **It should not be an inferior substance, which means it should not be some kind of thing which was left in a burial ground and was picked up by some low caste person (e.g. a butcher).**

དབང་བ།

wangwa

3. Explain the idea of Cultural Context with regard to stealing. (Tibetan Track: Give the Tibetan for the relevant verse from the reading.)

Value is a relative term. With stealing, for example, the object must have value within your cultural context. In a land with no trees, wood is extremely valuable. In a stony land, the earth itself is a precious thing. The traditional unit of value is one hundredth of a tola of gold.

གང་བརྒྱ་བའི་དངོས་པོ་ནི། ཡུལ་དུས་དེར་སྐྱེར་བ་གཅིག་གིས། བརྒྱ་བྱ་རྒྱུ་བཞུགས་ཀྱིས་ཀ་ལ་
བལྟོས་པའི་རིན་ཐང་ཚང་བ།

*gang kuway ngo po ni, yul du der jorwa shik gi, kuja kuje nyi kala tupay rintang
tsangwa,*

4. What does “recognition” mean with regard to stealing? (Tibetan track: give the Tibetan for “general and specific”.)

You recognize this object in both general and specific terms: Generally, you recognize it for what it is and specifically, you recognize that it does not belong to you (i.e., it does belong to someone else.). And you recognize that it have value.

Or you could say, generally you recognize that it has value, and specifically, you recognize it as belonging to someone else.

You have an unmistakable recognition that this object is not yours.

མྱི་དང་བྱེ་བྲག་

chi dang jedrak

*5. Explain the elements of motivation, undertaking and completion for the act of stealing. (Tibetan Track: give the Tibetan for “owning the act” [completion].)

Motivation/intention: You want to take it and use it for your own upkeep. You have a sustained desire to remove it from someone else’s possession permanently.

Undertaking: You yourself, or someone that you appoint, set out to steal this object.

Completion: You are in possession of this object, and you think to yourself: “This is mine.” You own the act.

ཐོབ་སྐྱོ་སྐྱེས་པའི་ཚོ་ན།

tob lo kyepay tsena