

Diamond Mountain University
Soaring to the Top of the Sky

Answer Key Class 7: Planting the Seeds for Harmony

*1. What is the 8th Vow for a novice monk or nun? Describe the way in which you break this vow. (Tibetan Track: Name the vow in Tibetan)

Slandering someone without a foundation.

Foundation: Transgressor: same as before. **Object:** Traditionally a full monk or nun, but in practice could also be a novice.

State of Mind: Recognition: You know that there is no basis for your statement. **Intention:** You want that person to lose face. You want others to think less of them.

Undertaking: At the same time that you know that there is no basis, you frame the opposite thought in your mind, and then you want to say or say that this monk has committed some deed such as sexual misconduct.

Completion. You slander them. You speak this slander to a third party. (You don't commit this misdeed if you slander the person to their face.)

གཞི་མིང་ཅེས་པ།

shi me chepa

*2. What does it mean to have no basis? (Tibetan track give the Tibetan for these three.)

It means that you know or you strongly suspect that no one saw anything, heard anything, or even suspected anything that would support your claim.

མཐོང་ཐོས་དོགས།

tong tu dok

3. Name and describe the 9th vow for a novice monk or nun. (Tibetan track: give the Tibetan for this vow.)

Slandering someone by hinting.

བག་ཙམ།

baktsam

This is similar to the 8th vow. The foundation, and state of mind are the same. The undertaking is that you want to, or begin to speak. You state the person's name and you state an action, but you do not relate the two. You complete this when you speak the slander and a third party hears you.

*4. What is the difference between vows 8 and 9?

In the 9th vow, you state the person's name whom you want to slander and you state a wrongdoing, but you do not connect the two. For example, you saw I saw Venerable John. I saw a monk commit sexual misconduct. You do not say directly that you saw Venerable John commit sexual misconduct. In the 8th vow you make the connection between the person and the deed directly.

*5. Name and describe the 10th vow for a novice monk or nun. (Tibetan Track: Name the vow in Tibetan)

Splitting the community.

Foundation: Transgressor is the same as before. The object is a spiritual community with at least 8 fully ordained monks, who have not yet seen emptiness directly.

State of Mind: Recognition: You recognize them as fully ordained monks.

Intention: You desire to split them. You want to break them off and have them follow another teacher, or something other than the three trainings and related teachings. You are willing to engage in divisive talk in order to do so.

Undertaking: You knowingly frame the opposite thought, and you either want to split them or you do split them.

Completion: You succeed in splitting the community. They become two separate groups.

དག་འདུན་དབྱེན།

gendun yen

6. Describe the difference between the 10th and 11th vows. (Tibetan Track: Name the 11th vow in Tibetan)

In vow #10, splitting the community, you are the person initiating the split. In vow #11, assisting in the split, you help someone who is intent on splitting the community, split the community.

དེ་ཇེ་སྐྱོག་སྐྱོག་པ།

deje chok