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Class 12 English (Flamingo) Notes

A THING OF BEAUTY



Key Notes and Important Questions with Answers

A Thing of Beauty

A thing of beauty is a source of everlasting happiness in human life Tough situations of life can never fade the beauty of lovely nature and great people. There is need to feel the impact of natural & man made beautiful things

– John Keats

Points to Remember

- A beautiful thing is eternal, never loses its charm and has a lasting impression on our minds. The poet equates beauty to happiness.
- By 'Beauty' keats means the sun, moon, old and young trees that give shade, clear rills, musk rose all have the power to uplift man's spirit by providing sense of peace and serenity.
- Life is full of trials and tribulations, lays of faith, sadness, disappointments, death of noble values among people. Man's life becomes worth living because of beautiful things which flash upon mind's screen to lift the veil of gloom.
- Grand legacies of the mighty dead and the lovely tales have sublimating effect on man.

1. A thing of beauty is a joy forever

   Its loveliness increases, it will never

   Pass into nothingness, but will keep

   A bower quiet for us, and a sleep.

   full of sweet dreams, and health and quiet breathing.

Questions

(a) How is a thing of beauty a joy for ever?

Ans. A thing of beauty is eternal . Its beauty increases with time and it always gives pleasure to the beholder. It gives everlasting joy.

(b) How does its loveliness increase with joy?

Ans. Beauty can create joy in the soul that will last forever. Its power to heal and give happiness and will keep increasing,

(c) How does nature affect us?

Ans. The beauty of nature exerts power over the gloomy side of life. The sweetness of the beauty of nature gets sweeter with the passing of time.

(d) Explain : 'Quiet breathing'.

Ans. Quiet breathing means relaxed mood and mental peace.

Questions for Practice

2. Yes, in spite of all,
Some shape of beauty moves away the pall
from our dark spirits. Such the sun, the moon.
Trees old and young, sprouting a shady boon
For simple sheep; and such are daffodils.
With the green world they live in; and clear rills
That for themselves a cooling covert make
'Gainst' the hot season.

Questions

(a) What moves away the pain and suffering from human life?

(b) Mention some of the things from nature that move away the pall from our dark spirits.

(c) What do the clear streams do?

(d) What do you mean by 'Cooling covert'?

Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each :

(a) Why does the poet call a thing of beauty a joy forever?

(b) How does beauty enrich the human beings?

(c) How does nature help us?

(d) How does the poet explain that the beauty that we see is not shortlived?

(e) How does the reading about the heroes affect us?

(f) Why does man suffer from pain and sufferings on Earth.

(g) How can death be grand and mighty ?

(h) Can human life be without sufferings ? Why/Why not ?