Class : 11th

Subject : English

Chapter : 2(Essays)

Chapter Name : My Three Passions

Q1 Why does Russell call the three passions ‘simple’?

Answer. The essay is real preface to Russell’s autobiography. In order to live well, humans need a driving force. His passions kept him alive and drove ahead in life. Russell for simple things like an ordinary person. He did not wish for money and fame, but he wishes for simple things. He wished for love and received it too. He believed love was the only thing and he married four times to tell. The second is hunger for knowledge, he was a mathematician always looking for new things to learn. The third is an unbearable pity for mankind. He was kind towards human suffering and took a stand on world war 1.

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Q2 Why has he compared the three passions to great winds?

Answer. Like wind is driving force in nature, in the same way, passion is. They gave his life real meaning. The three passion that is important in his life is love, knowledge, pity for the suffering of human life. The first two qualities raise him to heaven and the third quality brings him back to the land. His passions hold great value in his life and they are what moves him.

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Q3 What, according to Russell, is the importance of love in life?

Answer. Russell believes that love brings ecstasy in his life. Love can make heaven on earth it has great power to change the world around you in an instance. The happiness that love brings

is the greatest of all nothing can match that happiness. Love relieves one of loneliness and puts a new spiritual dimension to life. Great saints look forward to this kind of feeling.

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Q4 How does Russell's definition of knowledge differ from what is commonly understood by the term?

Answer. He constantly seeks knowledge to widen his area of interest. He was the one who gave the world the Pythagorean theorem, it is one of the most important formulae. He felt he believed less than what he had targeted for.

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Q5 Why is the quality of pity earth-bound while the other two passions are elevating?

Answer. Russell's life was governed by his passions. The two passion that is love and to seek knowledge raised him to heaven. But the third passion pity of earthbound brought him back to land. All the sadness and cry for help, famine forced him to return back to the earth. He was against the world war as it only brought destruction and helplessness. He always yearned for a utopian world, a perfect world where humans live in perfect harmony without any pain and diseases.

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Q6 How have the three passions contributed to the quality of Russell's life?

Answer. The three passions were virtues which he looked for. He believed that these passions gave him the real reason to live. Each passion had different essence. While two passion raised him to heavenly level but the third brought him to ground reality. These passions were the guiding force in his life that made him seek higher truth and values. These three are vital virtues in his life that shaped his personality.