

Theme - A thing of beauty is a source of perennial joy and happiness. Beauty is something that has the ability to transform lives. It can be any object, nature, tales or even noble deeds of our ancestors. It leaves an indelible mark on people's mind and provide one with eternal happiness whenever one thinks about it.

1. List the things of beauty mentioned in the poem.

■ The poet John Keats begins the poem by saying that a thing of beauty is a source of everlasting pleasure. The things of beauty that provide happiness to the soul are the sun, the moon, trees young and old, daffodils and clear streams. He also talks about musk-roses that flower in the forest. The magnificence of the heroic tales also inspires us.

2. List the things that cause suffering and pain.

■ The poet John Keats has listed the things that cause suffering and pain to human soul. They are the scarcity of noble people, overcast days, hopelessness, unhealthy and wicked style of living etc.

3. What does the line, 'Therefore are we wreathing a flowery band to bind us to earth,' suggest to you?

■ Man has always shared a special bond with nature. Though the world is a beautiful place to live in, there is a lot of pain and suffering too. The things of beauty are like wreaths of beautiful flowers. We weave a flowery band everyday to keep us attached to the beauties of this earth.

4. What makes human beings love life in spite of troubles and suffering?

■ There are troubles and sufferings in human life. People often suffer from hopelessness and sadness. We may at times suffer due to the

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self-centred and wicked nature of others. In spite of all our troubles and sufferings, we are able to derive pleasure from beautiful objects and experiences and this helps us dispel our misery and make us love life amidst all troubles.

5. Why is 'grandeur' associated with the 'mighty dead'?

■ The 'mighty dead' are those who have laid down their lives for a great or noble cause. Grandeur is associated with the mighty dead because the splendour of such deeds is inspirational. The legends and stories of martyrs inspire people. Their death is grand because it makes them immortal. Their deeds enhance the quality of one's life, like an eternal fountain, showers its grace on earthly existence.

6. Do we experience things of beauty only for short moments or do they make a lasting impression on us?

■ According to the poet John Keats, beautiful things always have a lasting impression on the human minds. All the beautiful objects are sources of joy for ever and erase the misery in our soul. They do not pass into nothingness but increase with time.

7. What image does the poet use to describe the beautiful bounty of the earth?

■ The poet uses the expression 'an endless fountain of immortal drink, pouring unto us from the heaven's brink' to describe the beautiful bounty of the earth. The sun, the moon, the daffodils, the clear streams, the forests etc are a few beautiful images that make a deep impact on us.