

English Assignment -4 Study Material

1. What is your definition of Art? Explain your definition?

The author of the beautiful essay “Art and Literature” is Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam (1931-2015). He was India’s 11th president and the chief architect of the country’s missile technology. He was instrumental in three great missile projects, including Trishul, Agni, and Prithvi, for which he was recognised with the Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan, and India’s highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna, in 1981, 1990, and 1997, respectively. Kalam was widely regarded not just as a popular president but also as a humble and learned man.

The civilizations that were able to predict the future and adapt to the dynamics of change were able to endure. Our Indian civilizations adapted to the shifting dynamics, and we observed how tradition produced epics to ensure its survival and spread throughout the nations.

The lesson recaptures the importance of the classic literature and art of our nation. Music, dancing, painting, and drama are all forms of art. Each one is significant in its own way and made a unique contribution to the growth of the nation. Literature and sculpture make use of the true resources of our nation. They are highly important to us, thus we should work towards their improvement. Literature and the arts have a significant influence on how one lives. All forms of art represent nature’s inherent beauty. It has the ability to infuse our brains and hearts with delight.

2. Discuss the importance of books and art?

Importance of Books and art

A good book becomes a constant companion, guiding us throughout our entire lives and doing so for many generations. Dr. Kalam was an avid reader. He mentions the three great books that greatly inspired him and claims that they challenged him in many areas of life and assisted him in finding emotional balance. Lillian Eichler Watson’s “Light from Many Lamps”, Thiruvalluvar’s “Thirukkural” and Dr. Alexis Cartel’s “Man the Unknown” are the three books that shaped his character and helped him discover his own potential and provided him with a clear direction for life. These three and all the other great books that he read taught him to think critically and creatively, elevating his mind in the process.

For many generations, a great author’s book remains as a source of knowledge and wealth. A nation’s natural resources contribute to its prosperity, but its thinkers, who can help our youth develop into enlightened leaders, are the nation’s rising splendour.

Art and literature are interconnected forms of human expression that reflect and shape culture. Art encompasses a wide range of creative activities, including visual arts, music, and performance, while literature primarily involves written works like prose, poetry, and drama. Both mediums can be used to express emotions, tell stories, explore ideas, and comment on society.

3. Give a note on SQ3R reading method.

THE SQ3R METHOD SQ3R

SQ3R is a Reading/Study formula designed to help process and increase retention of written information.

It consists of the following five steps.

S = SURVEY

Scan the piece of writing to establish its purpose and get the main ideas. Look for: Titles and Headings – Indicate the main topics and concepts being developed.

Pictures, questions, bold or italicized print – emphasize important information

Introduction and conclusion –May give the topics being covered as well as the purpose. First and last sentences in paragraphs

Q = QUESTION

Write questions to give purpose and improve concentration. This aids comprehension. Turn main headings and pictures into questions.

R = READ

Search for answers to your questions.

Make notes and highlight main ideas that support the concept.

R = RECITE

Reciting helps to put the information into your long-term memory. Put what you have learned into your own words.

R = REVIEW

It is important to review the material to understand and remember it. Did you answer all of the questions and understand the information?

Reviewing each time you study will eliminate the need to “cram” for a test.

4. What is the view of APJ Abdul Kalam’s on Art and Literature?

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam viewed art and literature as powerful tools for personal and societal transformation. He believed they could elevate the mind, inspire individuals, and drive positive change. Kalam highlighted the role of authors in shaping young minds and fostering a vision for a better future. He also emphasized the connection between art, literature, and the development of a knowledge society.

Elevating the Mind:

Kalam saw literature as a means to elevate the mind, broaden perspectives, and inspire individuals to overcome darkness and despair.

Creating Leaders:

He believed that authors, through their works, could create leaders among the younger generation and instill in them an "indomitable spirit" to achieve success.

Driving Societal Transformation:

Kalam emphasized that literature could play a crucial role in transforming society into a knowledge society by encouraging reading and critical thinking.

Connecting with the Inner Self:

In his book "The Luminous Sparks," Kalam revealed his thoughts and reasons behind his poems, showcasing how literature can connect individuals with their inner selves and reveal deeper truths.

Promoting Unity and Harmony:

Kalam's poem "Harmony" in "The Luminous Sparks" illustrates his belief in the power of art to break down barriers and promote unity, even in the face of societal conditioning that promotes division.

Inspiring Action:

Kalam's writings, including his autobiography "Wings of Fire" and "Ignited Minds," aimed to inspire individuals to realize their potential and contribute to India's development.

5. What is the role of art in the prosperity of a Nation?

The art industry significantly contributes to the economy through various channels. Art galleries, museums, and cultural events attract tourism, generating revenue and creating jobs. The commercial art market, including sales of artworks and art-related merchandise, is another substantial economic driver.

Moreover, art investments have become a popular means of wealth preservation and growth. High-net-worth individuals often include art in their portfolios, recognizing its potential for long-term appreciation. This economic aspect of art underscores its value beyond aesthetics, highlighting its role in financial ecosystems.

All these different art forms support, promote, and advance our long-standing cultural traditions. One of the key tools for promoting pleasure and peace and putting an end to terrorism is music and dance. Drama has been a fantastic medium for spreading information, creating awareness and providing amusement to the public. Many great actors have the power of connecting emotionally with the audience and moving them to tears or laughter leaving a lasting and everlasting impression. Such is a movie's influence on society.

M.F.Hussain said painting is the creative output of the society of its times. It implies that mediocre paintings are the results of a mediocre society and vice versa. The known should unite with the artists so that the unknown might express itself.

6. Write a narrative essay on 'The proudest moment of your life'.

One of the proudest moments in my life was receiving my undergraduate degree in the presence of my grandmother and mother. This meant a lot to myself and my family because I am the first of my family to graduate from a university. My grandmother never received a formal education and my mother was unable to pursue higher education. As I sat in the auditorium I reflected on the past five years of my life pursuing my undergraduate degree. I had a moment of clarity and calm and came to appreciate what I had accomplished and the obstacles I overcame. I am the oldest of six girls, from a single parent home. From a very young age, I had no choice but to become independent and take responsibility for myself.

The situation was dire and it was a very difficult time for my family. It became almost impossible to attend classes, take care of my mother and sisters and work. Unfortunately, my studies suffered and I was forced to take a leave of absence from the university. It was a difficult choice to make but I did what was necessary for my family at that time. A year later, I returned to the university with more drive and determination than ever before. I had to finish what I started. My new-found sense of purpose meant I had to achieve my goal, not only for myself but also, for my family. My five sisters looked up to me, I was their role model and I had to make a difference in our lives if we were to have a better future.

7. How do the different arts influence human civilisation?

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam viewed the arts, including literature, music, dance, and drama, as crucial components of a thriving civilization, capable of fostering global peace and inspiring positive change. He believed that these art forms, alongside scientific and technological advancements, could help a civilization adapt to change and survive over time.

1. Promoting Peace and Happiness:

Kalam highlighted the power of music and dance to spread happiness and potentially be used as tools to combat terrorism.

He recognized that art, in general, can be a powerful force for promoting understanding and connection between people, thus contributing to a more peaceful world.

2. Shaping Values and Inspiring Action:

Literature, poetry, and other art forms can convey powerful messages, share stories, and develop themes that shape values and inspire action.

Kalam believed that the arts could play a vital role in shaping the aspirations of future generations.

3. Fostering Creativity and Innovation:

Artistic expression, whether through literature, music, or visual arts, encourages creativity and imagination, which are essential for innovation and progress in all fields, including science and technology.

Kalam himself was known for his ability to blend scientific knowledge with a vision for national development, demonstrating the interconnectedness of different forms of human creativity.

4. Preserving Cultural Heritage:

The arts are fundamental to preserving and transmitting cultural heritage across generations.

India's rich artistic traditions, including music, dance, and literature, are testaments to its long and diverse history, and Kalam recognized their importance in maintaining cultural identity.

In essence, Kalam viewed the arts not just as forms of entertainment or aesthetic expression, but as vital forces that contribute to the overall well-being, progress, and survival of human civilization. He believed that a society that embraces and integrates the arts alongside science and other fields is more likely to thrive and adapt to the challenges of the future.

8. Kalam believed that 'Students of Art and Literature are important contributors in transforming India into a developed nation.' Do you agree with the statement? Elaborate on your answer.

Yes, students of art and literature are crucial in India's transformation into a developed nation. Their contributions encompass various aspects, including cultural understanding, social awareness, and the development of communication skills, which are all vital for progress.

Cultural Understanding and Identity:

Art and literature help preserve and promote India's rich cultural heritage, fostering a sense of national identity and pride, which is essential for nation-building. They can also help in understanding and appreciating diverse cultural perspectives within India and globally.

Social Awareness and Change:

Authors and artists often address social issues through their work, raising awareness and prompting dialogue about critical challenges like poverty, inequality, and social injustice. This can lead to social reforms and improvements in the quality of life.

Communication and Critical Thinking:

Students of literature develop strong communication skills, while artists enhance their ability to express ideas creatively. These skills are essential for effective leadership, problem-solving, and contributing to a knowledge-based society.

Inspiration and Motivation:

Art and literature can inspire individuals to pursue their goals, overcome challenges, and contribute to the nation's progress. They can also motivate citizens to participate actively in nation-building activities.

Economic Growth:

The creative industries, fueled by artists and writers, can contribute to economic growth through tourism, entertainment, and the production of unique cultural products.

Global Recognition:

Indian art and literature can play a significant role in enhancing India's global image and promoting cultural exchange.

Therefore, investing in and supporting students of art and literature is not just an investment in culture and the arts, but also in India's overall development and progress.

9. Write the summary of the art and literature?

Introduction

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The Enduring Power of Art

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Importance of Books and Authors

A good book becomes a constant companion, guiding us throughout our entire lives and doing so for many generations. Dr. Kalam was an avid reader. He mentions the three great books that greatly inspired him and claims that they challenged him in many areas of life and assisted him in finding emotional balance. Lillian Eichler Watson’s “Light from Many Lamps”, Thiruvalluvar’s “Thirukkural” and Dr. Alexis Cartel’s “Man the Unknown” are the three books that shaped his character and helped him discover his own potential and provided him with a clear direction for life. These three and all the other great books that he read taught him to think critically and creatively, elevating his mind in the process.

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The Universal Language of Music, Dance and Drama

All these different art forms support, promote, and advance our long-standing cultural traditions. One of the key tools for promoting pleasure and peace and putting an end to terrorism is music and dance. Drama has been a fantastic medium for spreading information, creating awareness and providing amusement to the public. Many great actors have the power of connecting emotionally with the audience and moving them to tears or laughter leaving a lasting and everlasting impression. Such is a movie’s influence on society.

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The inherent beauty of nature is expressed in art in a pleasant way. The wonderful spirit of life is elevated by art so that everyone can see it and silently appreciate it. However, effectively communicates the message of love, humour, etc. The most virtuous aspects of life are made more beautiful by art.

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10. What are the four main types of essays?

Types of Essays

The type of an essay will depend on what the writer wants to convey to his reader. There are broadly four types of essays. Let us see.

1. Narrative Essays: This is when the writer is narrating an incident or story through the essay. So these are in the first person. The aim when writing narrative essays is to involve the reader in them as if they were right there when it was happening. SO make them as vivid and real as possible. One way to make this possible is to follow the principle of 'show, don't tell'. So you must involve the reader in the story.

2. Descriptive Essays: Here the writer will describe a place, an object, an event or maybe even a memory. But it is not just plainly describing things. The writer must paint a picture through his words. One clever way to do that is to evoke the senses of the reader. Do not only rely on sight but also involve the other senses of smell, touch, sound etc. A descriptive essay when done well will make the reader feel the emotions the writer was feeling at the moment.

3. Expository Essays: In such an essay a writer presents a balanced study of a topic. To write such an essay, the writer must have real and extensive knowledge about the subject. There is no scope for the writer's feelings or emotions in an expository essay. It is completely based on facts, statistics, examples etc. There are sub-types here like contrast essays, cause and effect essays etc.

4. Persuasive Essays: Here the purpose of the essay is to get the reader to your side of the argument. A persuasive essay is not just a presentation of facts but an attempt to convince the reader of the writer's point of view. Both sides of the argument have to present in these essays. But the ultimate aim is to persuade the readers that the writer's argument carries more weight.