

# important than knowledge (2022)

## OUTLINE

1

### Introduction

Thesis Statement: Knowledge confines one within realms of what that is already explored. While, imagination enables one to transcend beyond the conventional boundaries. Therefore, imagination should be encouraged, for it is lived rather than knowledge which is taught.

2

### How imagination evolved the world

3

### Imagination should be celebrated owing to its astounding implications

a - Helps to transcend beyond conventional means

b - Acts as an escapism from reality

c - Fuels one's creativity and productivity

d - Connects with the unknown realities

4

### Philosophical ideas that reinforce that one should prioritize imagination rather than to follow established norms

a - Concept of Transcendentalism by Ralph Waldo Emerson

b - 'God is Dead' by Nietzsche

c - Concept of Romanticism of the 16<sup>th</sup> century

5

Literary depictions reinforce that it is imagination that leads to the discovery of knowledge and inner-self

a. - Helps as an escapism and self-identification

(i) Anne of Green Gables by Lucy Montgomery

b. - Helps to make worth for oneself

(i) Little women by Louisa May Alcott

c. - Guides to travel on the lane of individualism

(i) The Portrait of an Artist by James Joyce

d. - Breaks the bound to think beyond reality

(i) Madame Bovary by Gustave Flaubert

e. - Makes a connection between God and nature

(i) Daffodils by William Wordsworth

6

Personalities who used imagination as a tool leading towards the discoveries of unthinkable notions

a. - Concept of Idealism - Plato

b. - Artistic mindset and pieces travelling through the modern times - Vincent Van Gogh

c. - Discovery of the cosmos - Albert Einstein

d. - Imagination to find God

in nature - Wordsworth  
 e - Masterpieces of beauty,  
 nature and imagination -  
 John Keats

7 Conclusion

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." (Martin Luther King Jr.) Similarly, darkness and hate in the quote can be referred to the glooming cloud of 'unknown' that has confined man's knowledge to the box. Whereas, the use of imagination - as similar as of light and love - can help to entangle the mysteries and enigmatic nature of the world. Knowledge confines one within realms of what that is already explored. while imagination enables one to transcend beyond the conventional boundaries. Therefore, imagination should be encouraged, for it is lived rather than knowledge that is taught. Imagination should be highly encouraged for it helps one to transcend beyond conventional means and fuels one's creativity and productivity. It acts as an escapism to pass through the harsh realities of life and it further connects one with unknown realities. Moreover, philosophical ideas such as Transcendentalism by Emerson, God is Dead by Nietzsche

and Romanticism further reinforce that imagination must be prioritized and realized with its true spirit. In addition to these, literary depictions of Lucy Montgomery, Louisa Alcott, James Joyce, Gustave Flaubert and William Wordsworth represent the notion that artistic imagination opens doors to limitless opportunities with its spectacular implications in one's life. In the last, the renowned personalities of Plato, Vincent Gogh, Einstein, Wordsworth and John Keats put the final word in the debate that imagination is, without doubt, more important than knowledge. Therefore, the art of imagination must be embraced, for it is key to the discoveries of both known and unknown.

Socrates was considered as a wise man. Upon inquiring, Socrates revealed his recipe of being a wise man is that he knows what he does not know. In interpretation, Socrates through his imagination knew what he did not have in his knowledge. Similarly, knowledge restricts one to know which is already discovered or known whereas imagination opens plenty of doors and enables one to dive into the sea of both known and unknown of both the worlds.

Among a number of astounding implications for celebrating imagination more than knowledge is that it helps to transcend beyond conventional means and boundaries. Knowledge restricts a person to what is already known whereas imagination gives chance to explore the unknown and unimaginable. It encourages to break the shackles of traditional, typical and conventional means and offers uncountable prospects. For example, Maulana Rumi's quote can be taken in this regard as he said, "When setting out on a journey do not seek advice from those who have never left home" (Maulana Rumi). Thus, imagination surpasses knowledge in many dimensions.

Second, imagination works as an antidote on the wounds given by reality and acts as an escapism. Imagination guides one to form a reality - much soft, beautiful and glorious - that contradicts with harsh and cold realities of lives. It acts as an ointment to soothen the pain of life and gives strength to gulp them graciously by providing solace. To illustrate, John Keats said, "Heard melodies are sweet, but those unheard are sweeter." (John Keats). Therefore, imagination is essential for playing the role of escapism.

In addition to these, imagination plays a fundamental role in boosting one's creativity and productivity. Imagination allows one to broaden their horizon and reinforces the ability to think out of the box. For instance, if someone is told to make a presentation on a particular topic from a particular website, one would be restricted to that only. On the other hand, if one is asked to explore the topic by oneself, one would make use of his critical faculties, thus enhancing and magnifying his aptitude to grasp concepts. To conclude, imagination fosters and nurtures creative ability in an individual.

Last but not the least, imagination connects an individual with unknown realities. There is a lot in world to examine and take a look at in the world. However, that would only be possible if one unclip the wings of an individual and let him fly to new heights. To illustrate, imagination transcends an individual to new heights of unknown realities. Jean Jacques Rousseau said, "The world of reality has its limits; the world of imagination is boundless." (Jean - Jacques Rousseau). To sum up, imagination connects and binds an individual with unknown

realities.

Among a number of philosophical ideas that reiterate that one should prioritize imagination over the following of established norms, the concept of Transcendentalism by Emerson is an essential one. It states that one should tread a path of reconciliation with inner self to change one's course of life. This would help them to nurture their individuality rather than following herd mentality. Imagination helps to transcend beyond established norms. To illustrate, Emerson said, "What lies behind us, and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us." Therefore, one must celebrate one's horizon of imagination, for it connects one to inner soul.

Moreover, Nietzsche's book famously quoted like 'God is Dead' further emphasizes the need to make imagination one's priority. Nietzsche's killing of God was not a negation of God, but it was rather a liberating force. He believed that God cannot be perceived objectively, but rather God is an objective reality. One must let those conventional thoughts to die so that it can lead to the establishment of something new by one's own creative faculty and imagination. Nietzsche said, "God is Dead. God remains dead and we

have killed Him" (Friedrich Nietzsche, The Gay Science, 1882). Thus, Nietzsche, the most misunderstood philosopher, says that one should break the boundaries of knowledge to develop art out of imaginative faculty.

Furthermore, Romantic Movement of the 18th century emphasizes that imagination can enable one to enjoy life and beauty. Romantic writers and poets made use of imagination to pen down their masterpieces. These pieces of art have stood the trial of time and reached us, for imagination created magic in those works. To illustrate, all the romantic writers from Wordsworth to John Keats made use of imagination to perceive the beauty of world. Therefore, Romantic movement of the England boosted the use of imagination to create magic in any form.

Literature is the reflection of life. It depicts social, political, economic, psychological and prevalent beliefs and norms belonging to that era. Similarly, literature has been used to paint the magic of imagination and its long-lasting impacts on an individual's life.



To begin with, literature has been used to illustrate that imagination helps to escape reality and build one's self-identification. Lucy Montgomery, in her masterpiece classic novel, *Anne of the Green Gables*, paints a character of a young girl named as Anne Shirley. Anne, an orphan, was brought up in a orphanage under harsh conditions, but she used her wits of imagination to escape the harsh reality and made imagination the part of her existence. She says, "It's delightful when your imagination comes true, isn't it?" (Lucy Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables*)

To conclude, Montgomery, through her admirable character of Anne reinforces that imagination is mighty than knowledge

Additionally, imagination helps one to make worth for oneself beyond the accepted and traditional norms of society. Louisa May Alcott, in her renowned novel, *Little Women*, sketches the character of Jo March, who is nothing like a traditional character to conform to typical gender roles. She is fiery, author and free independent girl who used her imagination to view a world where both man and woman are equal. To illustrate her views, she says, "I am happy as I am and love my liberty too well to be in a hurry to give it up for any mortal."

man." (Louisa May Alcott, Little Women)

Thus, imagination surpasses knowledge for it leads to the development of unthinkable.

Furthermore, imagination - as depicted by literature - helps an individual to nurture their individuality.

James Joyce, pioneer of the usage of stream of consciousness, draws the character of Stephen in his artistic novel named 'The Portrait of an Artist as a Young Man'. Stephen had artistic abilities, but he tried them to tread a path of knowledge only to get lost at the end of novel.

Stephen realizes that it was his imagination and art that gave his identification and individuality. He decides to walk on a path of art to find himself. To conclude, Joyce emphasizes the need of broadening one's imagination to get connected with intuition.

In addition to these, literature has also been used to explore the worlds that transcend the bounds of reality. Gustave Flaubert, renowned French novelist, wrote his novel Madame Bovary with a young and full of life character of Madame Bovary. She was highly imaginative and soothes herself with her beautiful fantasies to cope with the harsh realities of life. The line of the

novel says, "She was the amoureuse of all the novels, the heroine of all the plays, the vague 'she' of all the poetry books." (Gustave Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*)

Therefore, as per Flaubert, imagination is essential to evade the miseries of life and transcend to other world.

In the last, literature has been used to depict that imagination helps to make a connection between God and nature. William Wordsworth believed in the concept of 'Pantheism' which means to make nature related to God and vice versa. He made use the imaginative faculty of his mind to write his famous romantic poems about nature. For example, Wordsworth's poem 'Tintern Abbey' emphasizes that God can be found in nature and beauty of nature can be realized in true spirit with imagination. Therefore, imagination connects an individual, according to Wordsworth, to nature and God.

Among a number of renowned personalities who used imagination as a tool leading towards the discoveries of unthinkable notions, Plato precedes everyone. Plato, famously known as an idealist, through his imagination gave a spectacular concept that this world is not real. Rather this world is mimesis of

another world which we cannot see. Reality is not something that we see here, but reality exists in another world and that world needs to be discovered. Plato says, "Reality is created by the mind, we can change the reality by changing our minds." (Plato). To sum up, Plato proved that one can make unthinkable inferences of world by the help of imagination.

Apart from Plato, Vincent Van Gogh, renowned Dutch painter, remains one of the most influential figures of western art who used his creative skills to fascinate the world. Vincent Gogh, though did not get appreciation in his lifetime, he was celebrated for his artistic pieces characterized by expressive and emotive use of brilliant colour and energetic application of impastoed paint. Vincent Van Gogh said, "I dream of painting and then I paint my dream." (Vincent Van Gogh). In conclusion, Gogh created his splendid masterpieces by leaving his imagination free and wild.

Furthermore, the debate about scientific discoveries can never be completed without Albert Einstein who took the world with storm. Albert Einstein is considered to be the most important figures of scientific discoveries.

for his work was beyond the boundaries of knowledge. He used his imaginative and creative faculties to think above conventional means and his theories are still being proven, for the stood the havel of times. Einstein said, "Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world." Therefore, Einstein utilized the benefits of imagination and made his name in the history.

In addition to these, the renowned poet and father of Romanticism, William Wordsworth fully made use of imagination to write his poetic works. William Wordsworth followed his intuitive imaginative power to glorify the pieces of beautiful nature and made a daunting connection between God and nature. Wordsworth used the tool of vivid imagery in his works to make his readers feel the depth of his creation with the help of imagination. To conclude, Wordsworth in his works sprinkle his imagination to intensify the beauty of nature.

Last but not the least, John Keats, one of the youngest talented people to die, used his imaginative power to pen down his poetic works. John Keats vividly used his vivacious imagination to escape his brutal reality of life where he lost his love and was about to die. However, he used that to transform his ill-fated life and created poems which have stood the test of times. John Keats says, "I am certain of nothing but holiness of the heart's affections, and the truth of imagination." (John Keats). Thus, John Keats emphasized that imagination has no limits, and it atones for the limited boundaries of nature.

In the conclusion, Imagination must be celebrated, appreciated and encouraged, for it transcends one to reach the unreachable boundaries. Imagination breaks the glass of reality and leads to a place where truth of life becomes subjective. Imagination should be celebrated for playing the role of transcendentalism and escapism. It boosts one's creativity and productivity and connects an individual with dimensions of unknown. Furthermore, the philosophical

ideas that reiterate the need of broadening the imaginative ideas further reinforce its utmost implications. Among them, Transcendentalism of Emerson, God is Dead by Nietzsche and movement of Romanticism remains the crucial ones. Moreover, the literary masterpieces of Lucy Montgomery, Louisa Alcott, James Joyce, Gustave Flaubert and William Wordsworth intensify the need of realizing the true potential of imagination. They depict that imagination helps to strengthen one's identity, individuality and connects one with God and nature. In the last, the personalities of Plato, Vincent Van Gogh, Albert Einstein, William Wordsworth and John Keats serve as leading examples of those who used imagination as a tool leading towards the development of unthinkable and spectacular notions. Therefore, it can be rightly said that imagination is more important than knowledge, for it offers much more to discover and to seek pleasure from it. As Percy B. Shelley puts in, "If winter comes, can spring be far behind." (Percy Shelley)

Should I go with  
Abstract Essay?