

Date: _____

Précis 2009

Art and Human Nature

Philosophers accuse art to excite one's emotions and remove coherence in moral life. Plato considers it as a source of giving life to deadly sins while Tolstol terms it an infection - the more infectious it is, the more excellent it would be. But Tolstol ignores the way art is portrayed. Looking at something thoughtfully is a different state of mind. This experience involves a different meaning and nature of passion. Wordsworth terms poetry as emotions recollected in peace. But these emotions are not from dark past but are present, strengthened and transparent. Also, Shakespeare does not speculate about art. However, Shakespeare's notion of plays about self-reflection is questionable. People are not affected by his character's emotions - rather they understand the basic idea behind. If Shakespeare had a theory of dramatic art, that would coincide with the creation of fine arts by great artists.

Required: 142

Written: 143