

CSS-2004

We look before and after, wrote Shelley, and pine for what is not. It is said that this is what distinguishes us from the animals and that they, unlike us, live always for and in the movement and have neither hopes nor regrets. Whether it is so or not I do not know yet it is undoubtedly one of our distinguishing mental attributes; we are actually conscious of our life in time and not merely of our life at the moment of experiencing it. And as a result we find many grounds for melancholy and foreboding. Some of us prostrate ourselves on the road way in Trafalgar Square or in front of the American Embassy because we are fearful that our lives, or more disinterestedly those of our descendants will be cut short by nuclear war. If only as "squirrels or butterflies are supposed to do, we could let the future look after itself and be content to enjoy the pleasures of the morning breakfast, the brisk walk to the office through autumnal mist or winter fog, the mid-day sunshine that sometimes floods through windows, the warm, peaceful winter evenings by the fireside at home. Yet all occasions for contentment are so often spoiled for us, to a greater or lesser degree by our individual temperaments, by this strange human capacity for foreboding and regret - regret for things which we cannot undo and foreboding for things which may never happen at all. Indeed were it not for the fact that over breaking through our human obsessions with the tragedy of time, so enabling us to enjoy at any rate some fleeting moments untroubled by vain yearning or apprehension, our life would not be intolerable at all. As it is, we contrive, everyone of us, to spoil it to a remarkable degree.

Questions

1. What is the difference between our life and the life of an animal? (3)

The difference between our and animal life is thinking capacity. We have capacity to think about present, past time and time to come in future. While animals have no such capacity.

2. What is the result of human anxiety? (3)

Human anxiety has very deep effect on human beings. Humans develop fear and sadness when they think of future.

They are fearful that their lives and their descendents lives will cut short by a nuclear war.

3. How does the writer compare man to the butterflies and squirrels? (3)

In writer's opinion butterflies and squirrels enjoy their lives. They are pleased and content with life as compared to humans who are afraid of future.

4. How does anxiety about future disturb our daily life? (3)

Anxiety about future disturbs our life. Because we are not living in the moment. We are not enjoying occasions around. All these aspects are spoiled by anxiety.

5. How can we make our life tolerable? (3)

We can make our life tolerable by breaking through obsessions with future thinking. And by enjoying short moment in life without fear or vain yearning.



6. Explain the underlined words/phrases in the passage. (5)

- ① Pine for what is not → Desire to do which is not present
- ② distinguishing mental attributes → Excellent qualities of mind
- ③ grounds for melancholy & foreboding ⇒ Reason for pensive sadness and fear of future
- ④ occasions for contentment ⇒ Reasons for satisfaction
- ⑤ Human obsession ⇒ showing excessive concern

Marks Obtained

	YES	NO
1. Idea was picked?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Language structure is appropriate?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Quality of organization and cohesion?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Grammatical structure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Length as per requirement?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Response is Correct?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Overall quality of response?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Spelling(s) quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments
