

▪ Sample 4

I take it that the whole object of education is, in the first place, to train the faculties of the young in such a manner as to give their possessor the best chance of being happy and useful in their generation; and, in the second place, to furnish them with the most important portions of that immense capitalized experience of the human race which we call knowledge of various kinds. I am using the term knowledge in its widest possible sense: and the question is, what subjects to select.

I must call attention further to this fact, that all the subjects of our thoughts- all feelings and propositions (leaving aside our sensations as the feeling), all our mental furniture- may be classified under one of two heads- as either within the province of the intellect, something that can be put into propositions and affirmed or denied; or as within the province of feeling, or that which, before the name was defined, was called the aesthetic side of our nature, and which can neither be proved nor disproved, but only felt and known.

According to the classification which I have put before you, then the subject of all knowledge are divisible into two groups, matters of science and matters of art; for all things with which the reasoning faculty alone is occupied, come under the province of science: and in the broadest sense, and not in the narrow and technical sense in which we are now accustomed to use the word art, all things which stir our emotions, come under the term of art, in the sense of the subject-matter of the aesthetic faculty. So that we are shut up to this- that the business of education is, in the first place, to provide the young with the means and the habit of observation: and, secondly to supply the subject-matter of knowledge either in the shape of science or of art, or both combined.

(Precis)

"The object of education is to be happy, useful and knowledgeable. The knowledge can be divided into two fields; the one that deals with logics and reasoning; science, and other that deals with emotions and sensations is art. And the purpose of knowledge is to combine both."

Title:

Purpose of Education