

i. What has been lamented in the text?

The loss of aesthetic appreciation for beauty that lies in everything has been lamented in the text. The fact that life gives everyone a chance to get endowed with the skill of seeing beauty as an inherent part of everything existent and praising it, is availed by only a select few, the rest prefer sticking to their ordinariness is what the text mourns.

ii. What is the difference between an ordinary man and an artist?

The difference between an ordinary man and an artist lies in their sense of appreciation for art and beauty; the former doesn't have any, the latter is enriched with it. Ordinary lives are devoid of the sense of art, but an artist's thrives on it. The ordinary man has lost sight for the beauty that makes up everything, and considers it an extra luxury that must be added to seek pleasure.

The ordinary workman's work lacks the element of beauty, rather it is the artist that so desires to have sense of art and applies all his faculties in his work by exercising his aesthetic sensibility.

iii. How can we make our lives beautiful and charming?

We can make our lives beautiful and charming by regaining our lost sense of aesthetics and this can be done by recognizing the beauty in our surroundings and in the things we create. We demand that everything be beautified, that beauty should be added as an extra luxury without actually seeing the real beauty that already is an inherent part of everything that exists. Thus, by accepting that everything is beautiful the way it is we can add hints of beauty and charm to our lives.

What does the writer actually mean when he says 'Beauty is not an ornament to life'?

The writer points out the omnipresence of beauty when he calls it not just a mere ornament to life.

He highlights that all things natural or man made are composed of beauty as an essential part. It shouldn't be mistaken for an afterthought or a way to seek pleasure but valued as a fundamental part of our existence.

v. Do art and beauty affect our practical life and morals? Justify whether you agree or disagree.

I agree that art and beauty can affect our practical life and morals, since an absence of the ability to acknowledge art and praise beauty is like to perform actions without any sense of morality. An appreciation for beauty would cultivate in us a deeper connection to our surroundings and to each other, and enhance the sense of morality in us too. Thus, both art and beauty impact our lives positively.