

**CBSE TEST PAPER - 03**  
**Class – 12 English Core (A Thing of Beauty)**

**General Instructions:**

- All questions are compulsory
  - Question No.1 to 3 carries 4 marks each.
  - Question No. 4 to 10 carries 3 marks each.
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1. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow-

Spite of despondence, of the inhuman dearth  
Of noble natures, of the gloomy days,  
Of all the unhealthy and o'er-darkened ways  
Made for our searching: yes in spite of all,  
Some shape of beauty moves away the pall  
From our dark spirits.

- a. Why are we despondent?
- b. What removes “the pall from our dark spirits”?
- c. Explain, “the inhuman dearth of noble natures.”
- d. What are we doing everyday?

2. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow-

“Some shape of beauty moves away the pall  
From our dark spirits”.

- a. How does beauty help us when we are burdened with grief?
- b. Explain; “Some shape of beauty.”
- c. Identify the figure of speech in the above lines.
- d. What makes the mid-forest brake rich?

3. And such too is the grandeur of the dooms

We have imagined for the mighty dead;

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An endless fountain of immortal drink,  
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink

- a. Name the poem and the poet.

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- b. Explain: 'the grandeur of the dooms'
  - c. What is the thing of beauty mentioned in these lines?
  - d. What image does the poet use in these lines?
4. What spreads the 'pall of despondence' over our dark spirits? How is it removed?
  5. Why is 'grandeur' associated with the 'mighty dead'?
  6. What is the message of the poem, 'A thing of beauty'?
  7. What is the 'endless fountain' and what is its effect?
  8. What images does the poet use to describe the beautiful bounty of the earth?
  9. What are the circumstances that contribute towards making humans unhappy and disillusioned with life?
  10. How is a thing of beauty is a joy forever?

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**Answers**

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1.
  - a. Whenever we look at a beautiful object, we are filled with comfort and joy. When we are burdened with grief, a thing of beauty comes as a ray of hope, and makes us forget our sorrow and suffering at least for some time.
  - b. Beauty is an abstract idea and has no specific shape. The poet here means beauty in some form or some beautiful object which pleases us.
  - c. The above lines present an example of metaphor. Our souls are steeped in sadness and disappointment which are compared to a pall or shroud covering the dead.
  - d. We are weaving a flowery wreath everyday to bind us to the beauty of earth.
2.
  - a. Human life is full of trials and tribulations. We add to our troubles and make our lives more difficult by following evil ways. We hurt others as well as ourselves. This makes us despondent.
  - b. The various objects of beauty around us remove the pall from our dark spirits. Beautiful things have the power to make us happy.
  - c. The poet here means that the world lacks in men of noble nature or qualities. There are few people who are noble in character; most of the people are self-centered and pursue evil ways.
  - d. The blooming of beautiful musk roses makes the mid-forest brake rich.
3.
  - a. The poem is 'A thing of beauty' written by John Keats.
  - b. The magnificence that we imagine for our mighty dead forefathers on the doomsday.
  - c. The lovely tales of mighty men are mentioned in these lines.
  - d. The poet uses the image of 'an endless of fountain of immortal drink' to describe the beautiful bounty of the earth. The earth has bestowed us with Nature's bounty - sun, moon, flowers, greenery, etc.
4. John Keats says that pain and suffering are a part of life. These bring us sadness and despondence. But still, we can find hope. The hope and motivation come from the Nature and it removes the pall of despondence from our spirits. The beautiful sights give us inspiration to continue the journey of life.
5. The 'mighty dead' are those who have laid down their lives for a great or noble cause. Their death is replete with intellectual and spiritual beauty. Birth, growth and decay, all

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- are inseparable. Each has its own beauty. Their death is grand or beautiful because it makes them immortal through the grand tombs and memorials erected in their honour.
6. The message of the poem 'A thing of beauty' is that beautiful things are a source of constant joy and inspiration. They give us eternal pleasure and leave an indelible image on our minds and, therefore, every beautiful thing and aspect is worth being treasured.
  7. Here beauty has been referred to as an 'endless fountain', which is an eternal source of motivation, an elixir of life and a precious bounty from heaven. It gives us infinite pleasure and delight, and motivates us to continue our journey of life.
  8. The poet uses the image of an 'endless fountain', which showers bounties on earth. He calls this an 'immortal drink' from heaven. The sun, the moon, the trees, the daffodils, the lush green forests and streams, all reflect the beautiful bounties which God has given us.
  9. Hopelessness, sadness and lack of noble ways are a part of human life. We harm ourselves by following unhealthy and wicked paths. These circumstances contribute towards making humans unhappy and disillusioned with life.
  10. Romantic poet John Keats, a great admirer of nature, says that a thing that is beautiful is ultimate source of everlasting joy. Through this poem he has tried to portray how nature provides us rare beauty which becomes a constant source of happiness and pleasure. Its grace increases with passage of time, it never passes into nothingness. Time cannot devour it rather a thing of beauty can never be devalued.