

Francis Bacon

Bacon's

ESSAYS

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CONTENTS

1. Francis Bacon—A Short Biographical Sketch	1
2. The Temperament, Character and Personality of Bacon	7
3. The Works of Bacon	11
4. Bacon's Philosophy	18
5. Bacon's Essays	29
6. Bacon's Literary Style	45
7. The Development of English Prose (Up to Bacon's Time)	51
8. TEXT OF BACON'S ESSAYS	
I. <i>Of Truth</i>	65
II. <i>Of Marriage and Single Life</i>	67
III. <i>Of Great Place</i>	68
IV. <i>Of Friendship</i>	71
V. <i>Of Suitors</i>	77
VI. <i>Of Studies</i>	78
VII. <i>Of Revenge</i>	80
VIII. <i>Of Simulation and Dissimulation</i>	81
IX. <i>Of Parents and Children</i>	83
X. <i>Of Love</i>	85
XI. <i>Of Goodness, and Goodness of Nature</i>	86
XII. <i>Of Seditious and Troubles</i>	88
XIII. <i>Of Travel</i>	94
XIV. <i>Of Empire</i>	96
XV. <i>Of the True Greatness of Kingdoms and Estates</i>	100
XVI. <i>Of Riches</i>	107
XVII. <i>Of Ambition</i>	110
XVIII. <i>Of Masques and Triumphs</i>	112
XIX. <i>Of Gardens</i>	113
XX. <i>Of Nature in Men</i>	119
XXI. <i>Of Unity in Religion</i>	120

XXII. <i>Of Discourse</i>	
XXIII. <i>Of Plantations</i>	124
XXIV. <i>Of Youth and Age</i>	125
XXV. <i>Of Followers and Friends</i>	128
XXVI. <i>Of Faction</i>	130
XXVII. <i>Of Death</i>	131
XXVIII. <i>Of Adversity</i>	132
XXIX. <i>Of Envy</i>	134
XXX. <i>Of Expense</i>	135
XXXI. <i>Of Regiment of Health</i>	139
XXXII. <i>Of Suspicion</i>	140
9. Critical Notes and Explanations	
I. <i>Of Truth</i>	141
II. <i>Of Marriage and Single Life</i>	149
III. <i>Of Great Place</i>	156
IV. <i>Of Friendship</i>	165
V. <i>Of Suitors</i>	173
VI. <i>Of Studies</i>	180
VII. <i>Of Revenge</i>	185
VIII. <i>Of Simulation and Dissimulation</i>	190
IX. <i>Of Parents and Children</i>	198
X. <i>Of Love</i>	205
XI. <i>Of Goodness, and Goodness of Nature</i>	212
XII. <i>Of Seditions and Troubles</i>	219
XIII. <i>Of Travel</i>	228
XIV. <i>Of Empire</i>	232
XV. <i>Of the True Greatness of Kingdoms and Estates</i>	241
XVI. <i>Of Riches</i>	254
XVII. <i>Of Ambition</i>	261
XVIII. <i>Of Masques and Triumphs</i>	268

XIX. <i>Of Gardens</i>	272
XX. <i>Of Nature in Men</i>	278
XXI. <i>Of Unity in Religion</i>	281
XXII. <i>Of Discourse</i>	289
XXIII. <i>Of Plantations</i>	292
XXIV. <i>Of Youth and Age</i>	296
XXV. <i>Of Followers and Friends</i>	300
XXVI. <i>Of Faction</i>	304
XXVII. <i>Of Death</i>	309
XXVIII. <i>Of Adversity</i>	314
XXIX. <i>Of Envy</i>	317
XXX. <i>Of Expense</i>	325
XXXI. <i>Of Regiment of Health</i>	328
XXXII. <i>Of Suspicion</i>	332

10. Important Questions with Answers

Q. 1. "They come home to men's business and bosoms." How far is this an apt description of the essays of Bacon? Illustrate your answer.

Or

Account for the great appeal of Bacon's essays.

Or

Write a general note on Bacon as a writer of essays. 335

Q. 2. Comment on the aphoristic style of Bacon, illustrating your answer from the essays you have read. 338

Q. 3. Show that the essays of Bacon are a blend of philosophising, moralising and worldly wisdom.

Or

"Bacon is more a man of the world than a philosopher in his essays." Do you agree? Illustrate your answer.

Or

What did Bacon have in mind when he described his essays as "Counsels, civil and moral"?

Or

(x)

"It is the art of success among men which is the subject of Bacon's essays." Discuss.

Or

"Bacon is not so much concerned with moral values as with the art of getting on in life." Discuss.

Or

"The essays of Bacon constitute a handbook of practical wisdom." Discuss.

Or

"Bacon's essays are concerned only with worldly wisdom and the art of success." Discuss and illustrate from the essays you have read.

Or

Do you agree with the view that in his essays Bacon is often guided by considerations of utility and progress, rather than by high moral principles ?

Or

Illustrate from some of the essays of Bacon that they constitute a compendium of knowledge and reveal his wide experience of the world.

Q. 4. Bacon spoke of his essays as "dispersed meditations". How far is this an apt description of his essays ?

Q. 5. To what extent is Bacon a moralist in his essays ?

Or

Write a note on Bacon the moralist with special reference to the essays that you have read.

Q. 6. Write a note on Bacon's contribution to the development of English prose and indicate, with suitable illustrations, the principal ingredients of Bacon's style.

Or

Illustrate from Bacon's essays the chief qualities of his style. What contribution did he make to the development of English prose ?

Q. 7. Comment on the following:

"If parts allure thee think how Bacon shin'd,
The wisest, brightest and meanest of mankind."

Q. 8. "Bacon in his essays is an impressive though hardly an endearing character." Discuss.

(xi)

- Q. 9. Bacon's essays are unequalled for their conciseness, their pertinence, their practical suggestiveness, and their vivacity. Elucidate. 358
- Q. 10. Discuss the historical and literary importance of the Essays of Bacon. 360
- Q. 11. With the help of his essays can you prove the truth of the statement that "no more keen observer of life and affairs than Bacon ever lived" ?
- Or*
- "The essays (of Bacon) contain abundant proofs that no nice feature of character, no peculiarity in the ordering of a house, a garden, or a court-masque, would escape the notice of one whose mind was capable of taking in the whole world of knowledge." Amplify and illustrate from the essays you have read.
- Or*
- Bacon's essays are the expression of a life-time of experience in the world of men and affairs. Elucidate.
- Or*
- Illustrate from Bacon's essays how they reveal his wide experience and knowledge of the world. 365
- Q. 12. Analyse any two essays of Bacon, so as to bring out (i) his views on political questions and, (ii) the salient features of his style. 369
- Q. 13 (a) "Bacon's essays are merely intellectual exercises; his heart is not in them." Do you agree with such a criticism ?
(b) How far is Bacon's influence due to the charm of his style ? 373
- Q. 14. It is said that Bacon's essays group themselves round three great principles: (a) Man in relation to the world and society, (b) Man in relation to himself, and (c) Man in relation to his Maker. Choose one of these principles and illustrate from the essays prescribed for your reading. 376
- Q. 15. "Brief notes set down rather significantly than curiously." How far is this an apt description of the essays of Bacon ? Illustrate from the essays you have read. 379
- Q. 16. What do you understand by the term Renaissance ? Bring out the influence of the Renaissance on Bacon, with special reference to his essays. 384

Q. 17. "Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested." To which of these three classes of books would you assign Bacon's essays, and why?

Q. 18. Examine Blake's verdict on Bacon's essays as "Good advice for Satan's Kingdom."

Or

Do you agree with the remark that the wisdom of Bacon's essays is of a somewhat cynical kind? Discuss fully.

Q. 19. Attempt a critical examination of the ideas in Bacon's essay, *On Unity in Religion*, and add a note on its style.

Or

What views about the unity of religion does Bacon express in his essay on the subject and how far do you agree with him? What characteristics of Bacon's style does the essay illustrate?

Q. 20. Bacon's essays are the expression of a life-time of experience in the world of men and experience. Illustrate with reference to the following essays: *Of Followers and Friends*; *Of Faction*; *Of Discourse*; *Of Expense*; *Of Death*; *Of Envy*; *Of Adversity*; and *Of Regiment of Health*.

Or

Show from some of his essays that "no more keen observer of life and affairs than Bacon ever lived".

Or

How far would you agree with Bacon's claim that his essays come home to men's business and bosoms?

Or

Bacon's essays are concerned only with worldly wisdom and the art of success. Discuss with illustrations from the essays you have read.

Or

"The wisest, brightest, meanest of mankind." Consider this estimate of Bacon with reference to some of his essays.

Or

The essays of Bacon constitute a handbook of practical wisdom. Discuss with the help of illustrations from the essays prescribed for you.

Q. 21. Illustrate from the following essays the principal qualities of Bacon's prose style: *Of Death*; *Of Adversity*; *Of Envy*; *Of Discourse*; *Of Youth and Age*; *Of Faction*; *Of Expense*.

Or

Write a note on Bacon's contribution to the development of English prose and indicate, with suitable illustrations from some of his essays, the principal ingredients of his style.

Or

Write an essay on Bacon's prose style, giving suitable illustrations.

406

Q. 22. Analyze the following essays of Bacon to bring out the salient characteristics of Bacon as an essayist: *Of Regiment Of Health*; *Of Followers and Friends*; *Of Adversity*.

Or

Write a note, with illustrations from any three of Bacon's essays, bringing out Bacon's contribution to the essay-form and to English prose style.

Or

Discuss any three of Bacon's essays with reference to their conciseness, their pertinence, their practical suggestiveness, and their vivacity.

410

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416