

UNIQUE
PUBLISHERS

Francis Bacon

SELECTED ESSAYS



Dr. S. Sen

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5. **Bacon's 'Essays' : A Reflection of the Renaissance Spirit**

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University Questions

1. "The philosophy of Bacon is as worldly and Renaissance as the style". Discuss.
2. Show how Bacon's essays reflect the Renaissance spirit.
3. In what respects does Bacon represent the spirit, temper and methods of his time? Illustrate your answer.
4. "Bacon is the most complete representative of the Renaissance in England : learned, worldly, ambitious and intriguing" Discuss.
5. Bring out the influence of the Renaissance on Bacon, with special reference to his essays.

6. **Bacon's 'Essays' : A Blend of Philosophising, and Worldly Wisdom**

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Or

Bacon's 'Essays' : A Hand Book of Practical Wisdom

Or

Bacon's 'Essays' : More Concerned with Utility than Moral Principles

University Questions

1. "Bacon is more a man of the world than a philosopher in his essays" Do you agree? Illustrate your answer.
2. "It is the art of success among men which is the subject of Bacon's essays". Discuss.
3. "Bacon is not so much concerned with moral values as with the art of getting on in life." Discuss.
4. "The essays of Bacon constitute a handbook of practical wisdom." Discuss.
5. 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 ?

6. To what extent is Bacon a moralist in his essays ?
7. Blake's verdict on Bacon's essays was, "Good advice for Satan's kingdom." Examine the essays in the light of this comment.
8. Do you think that Bacon's wisdom is of a cynical kind ?

7. Bacon's Political 'Essays'

8. Bacon : The Wisest, Brightest and Meanest of Mankind in his 'Essays'

9. Bacon's 'Essays' : 'Dispersed Meditations'

Or

Bacon's 'Essays' : 'Brief Notes Set Down Rather Significantly than Curiously

Or

Bacon's 'Essays' : Grains of Salt

University Questions

1. "Jottings of a busy man". Is this an apt description of Bacon's essays ?
 2. Bacon spoke of his essays as "dispersed meditations". Discuss his essays in the light of this comment.
 3. "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.
 4. Consider Bacon's essays as "grains of salt that would rather give an appetite than offend with satiety".
- 10. The Encyclopaedic Range of Knowledge in Bacon's Essays'**

Or

Bacon's 'Essays' : Not to be Merely Swallowed but to be Chewed and Digested

Or

Bacon's 'Essays' : The Expression of a Life Time's Experience

University Questions

1. Illustrate from Bacon's essays how they reveal his wide experience and knowledge of the world.
2. "I have taken all knowledge for my province" (Bacon) What evidence of their encyclopaedic knowledge do you find in the 'Essays' ?
3. "Bacon's 'Essays' are in the expression of a lifetime of experience in the world of men and affairs". Elucidate.
4. "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 of knowledge." Elucidate and illustrate from the essays you have read.
5. "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 ?

11. Bacon's 'Essays' : A Dichotomy of Values

Or

Bacon's 'Essays' : Good Advice for Satan's Kingdom

Or

Bacon's 'Essays' : More Utilitarian than Moralistic

University Questions

1. "Bacon is not an idealist ; he believed in worldly wisdom." Comment.
2. "On the whole Bacon gives the impression of singular aloofness from moral considerations." Discuss with reference to Bacon's 'Essays'.
3. Do you agree with Blake's verdict on the 'Essays' of Bacon, that they were 'good advice for Satan's kingdom' ?
4. To what extent is Bacon a moralist in the 'Essays' ?
5. Write a note on Bacon as a moralist with special reference to his 'Essays'.

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Or

Bacon is Impressive, not Endearing

Or

Bacon's 'Essays' are not True 'Essays'

University Questions

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2. "Bacon's *Essays* are merely intellectual exercises ; his heart is not in them." Do you agree with this comment ? Give reasons.
3. "The English essay took a wrong turning in the hands of Bacon". What do you think is the basis for such a statement.
4. "Bacon is most emphatically not an essayist." Comment.

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University Questions

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2. Comment on the aphoristic style of Bacon illustrating your answer from the essays you have read.
3. 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.
4. Is there any justification in the comment that Bacon has two styles in his 'Essays' ?
5. Make a comparative study of Bacon's earlier and later styles.

Or

Analyse some essays of Bacon to show that he advocates a utilitarian attitude towards life. ...

Or

"Good advice for Satan's Kingdom". Is that an apt description of Bacon's "morality" in his *Essays*? ...

Or

Would it be correct to say that in Bacon's *Essays* morality is sacrificed for expediency? ...

Or

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Or

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Or

"In Bacon's essays we have a reflection of the spirit and outlook of the Renaissance". Discuss. ... 112

19. Pope has described Bacon as "the wisest, brightest, and meanest of mankind". How far is his judgement borne out by the essays you have read? ...

Or

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- Or*
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