

2017 International Essay Contest for Young People

[Youth Category – Honorable Mention]

Nature Speaks, Listen!

(Original)

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Surfing high speed Internet, opening tabs after tabs, I was going through wellwritten stuff and great quotes for my essay. I gathered quite rich content but while reading I found something missing. 'What was it?' After sometime I realized 'Its too artificial and my way of thinking and writing is missing; my nature is missing'. My mind clicked that superficial things can never give an impact that a natural and realistic thing can give. So are our modern superficial lifestyles that are missing nature in it; perfect from outside, hollow from inside. So the word 'Nature' itself is a lesson: Don't pretend; be yourself, be natural. Better to be realistic rather than wearing a crown of 'fake perfectionist'.

The modern world tries to control nature's resources. In a way we separate nature from ourselves like it's just an object. But nature lies within us and we crave for it. While sleeping on a luxurious bed in an air-conditioned room, there is a part of me that wants to go to the rooftop and sleep under the open sky. Watching the twinkling stars and the bright moon makes me realize that no matter how bad my day was, my existence and problems are too small as compared to this infinite space. No matter how many fans are facing towards me, the soothing feeling of natural breeze and raindrops is irreplaceable.

We take nature for granted that's why we don't learn from it. But what if things were different? Imagine you get up in the morning and find the sky clear. There are no clouds yet it's dark outside. You wait for sunlight to go to work. Then suddenly, the sun appears saying, "Oh sorry I am little late today". It never happens right? It's never even a minute late. That's how organized and disciplined nature is. While having lunch at noon, you hear the moon uttering, "The sun shines so bright that nobody can see me. I am worthless, I am leaving!" But no, moon stays there. And when the night comes, it shines and owns the sky like a king. Our time to shine will always come, so remain persistent. In the night, while your way back towards home, you notice the stars. You realize that they glow more as the sky becomes darker. They show that dark times are for making us brighter. After every long night, the sun brightens up the world, which is a metaphor for ease after difficult time.

Imagine the clouds lazily showering water like a running tap at just one place saying, "Whoever wants water, take it. I can't move here and there for you; I am tired'. But clouds evenly distribute water at every place from the rich's palace to the poor's slum. They are just and generous. Look at the birds; ever seen any sparrow working late at night thinking 'Street lights are enlightening the place enough, I should also collect tomorrow's food and will sleep peacefully during the daytime'? Probably no. But why do we work till late night and wake up in the afternoon? This depicts our poor time management and work-life imbalance.

Every flower is unique in color and shape. They depict us: different diverse people, individually beautiful and collectively make this earth a beautiful garden. Similarly we can learn teamwork from honeybees, strategizing for hard times from ants, humility from grass, kindness from trees, survival of fittest from jungle and so on. The more we observe, the more we realize that lessons are endless.

Scientists are planning to get humans live on Mars but we have forgotten to save life on Earth. Talking specifically about the future, instead of exploiting Earth's resources, we desperately need to get closer to nature. Nowadays, children spend entire day with electronic gadgets instead of playing outdoor. Keeping them away from nature is making them physically unhealthy and socially isolated. Researches have found that nature not only gives psychological relief but also it provides visual relaxation and improves creativity. I hope we realize the significance of nature's tangible worth and its intangible wisdom for our survival and growth. Being a nature-lover would make us more productive, healthy and successful.