

Natural sight

Literature



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Natural Sight Nature Explain how Annie Dillard uses nature in this essay.

How does this help her understand reading, writing, and seeing? How does it help you?

For Dillard, nature is an essential part of her being and her craft. Nature allows her to see things for what they are and also allows her to see things for what they could be. It gives her ideas, notions and creative input which let her become a better reader, a better writer and more able to see the world around her through her inner eyes rather than seeing with her physical self.

While sight allows her to appreciate color, light and the glory of nature, when she sees nature around her after she has let go of the search for meaning, her personal shutter allows her to view the world in a new light. She sees the world around her as being magnificent and finds all shades of emotion and sensation in nature which range from nature being powerful and overpowering to nature being gentle and kind.

These emotions and feelings can then be translated by her to the written word where she can pour out what she feels and what she sees through the eye of her mind which has been focused by natural inputs. In this manner, Dillard uses nature as an aid for seeing and that aid comes in the shape of new perspectives and new ideas. What she sees can then be shared using new ideas with her readers and these descriptions become reflections of what she experienced while she was observing nature.

These ideas become the dropped pennies which a person may find walking around and the words become surprising because they have been used in a new way which was previously absent. In essence, seeing through nature and using nature gives her creativity the required boost which helps her

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become a better listener, a better reader and a better writer. As other writers who have used natural elements to focus their creativity had found out in the past, being one with nature means letting nature overpower the senses and then recollect the same ideas to use as creative impetus.

This notion points to the idea that another person may be able to use nature in some ways which are similar to the ones employed by Dillard. Of course, a person may not be able to produce the quality of work as done by Dillard simply by taking a stroll through a garden but being close to nature and being in a natural environment can help the creative juices in flowing.

Perhaps a walk in the garden might be seen as a viable cure for writers block. It is something that is certainly worth trying if the principles and methods used by Dillard are seen to be acceptable for other writers who wish to experience nature as she has and if they wish to be a part of the natural elements which surround them.

Works Cited

Gillard, A. Seeing.