

SAMPLE MODEL ESSAY

Expository Essay: Is attractiveness a necessary part of success?

When we compare a sunflower to a lily, we immediately notice that one is in a conspicuously psychedelic shade of neon yellow while the other dons a coat of plain milky white. Some may find the sunflower to be the flower bearing vibrant petals that brighten the day and that the lily is sombre and soulless. Yet, there will still be some who believe that the attractiveness of the former is not the sole determinant as to which flower is the ultimately better one. Attractiveness is the pleasant quality that an object, place or person possesses which appeals to the senses of others while success refers to accomplishments and positive outcomes. While attractiveness is a significant contributing factor to success due to its initial appeal and its generation of positive first impressions, it is far too abrupt and myopic to hastily conclude that it is always a necessary part of success. Instead, less superficial qualities such as ideal personalities and genuine goodness are highly pivotal in bringing about successes.

Being the charming quality that positively captivates others' attention and appeals to their senses, attractiveness is usually the first and foremost characteristic being observed by others and welcomed as a pleasing trait. The most intuitive example is the external appearance that can be easily judged by visual sight. What is commonly perceived to be attractive of a lady is a pair of doe eyes and silky voluminous hair while an attractive male is usually one with a handsome visage and a toned physique. Attractive people are likely to gain an advantage in the dating game and perhaps job applications. For instance, online dating applications involve the swift process of swiping through an almost endless series of profile pictures while job applications usually require applicants to attach a recent photograph of themselves. External appearance becomes the likely criterion in determining the successes of these competitions in the romantic and career arenas. The same principle can be used to explain typical consumer behaviour. Prospective pet owners who are more likely than not to pick the cutest looking Toy Poodle as compared to an irregularly shaven Silky Terrier from the pet store. Retail investors are more likely drawn to a company prospectus promising attractive potential investment returns as compared to a scheme that only mentions marginal earnings. The vital role that attractiveness plays in bringing about success can be testified by the prevalence of the marketing field where attractive marketing campaigns and initiatives are what drive positive consumption. Thus, it is an undisputed fact that attractiveness is a key factor for things and individuals to gain a great edge over their counterparts, attesting to the importance of attractiveness in achieving success.

Attractiveness is also necessarily a part of success when it comes to gaining international recognition and endorsement. The successful state of art works, architectural wonders and tourism sites is largely owed to their conventionally accepted attractiveness. Without their features of attractiveness, they would not have been as admired or appreciated and reputed for their aesthetic beauty. Since time immemorial, the idea of orderliness, symmetry and repeated patterns have been key guidelines to what is deemed as attractive. A Greek philosopher once quipped about how order, symmetry and vast networks of neat designs objectively appeal to human's visual senses, giving them a sense of perfection as they view such considerably picture-perfect objects. The visual appeal provides the viewers with a sense of charm and an ideal perspective. The famous paintings of Mona

Lisa by Leonard da Vinci and The Lady of Shalott by John William Waterhouse Famous have always fascinated art aficionados for their meticulous artistic precision and timeless beauty. The pre-eminent tourist sites that have mesmerised multitudes include the seemingly symmetrical Eiffel Tower coupled with its stunning grandeur, as well as the world-famous floral paradise, the Gardens of Versailles in France. The far-reaching success of these tourist sites can be evidenced by the abundant postcards and photography wallpapers capturing the scenic beauty of these places, and the undying popularity of these destinations. These renowned places of interest have attained their esteemed reputation and been the subject of extensive adoration for reasons of their attractiveness. Therefore, attractiveness is a necessary part of success, especially in the areas of visual arts, landscape designing and architecture that directly involve the appreciation of aesthetic beauty.

However, it may be argued that it is too parochial a view to conclude that attractiveness is almost always a necessary part of success. Although attractiveness enables objects and people to gain an advantage, it is not the alpha and omega. Ideal personalities and requisite skills are important factors when it comes to success in the social world and corporate realm. For instance, in the context of social interactions, true friendships usually form when personalities of the parties are mutually compatible. For matters of lasting relationships, while physical attractiveness may catch the eyes of a person initially, it is the deeper qualities such as their innate kindness and family-oriented nature which take greater precedence over mere attractiveness at first sight. As for the context of job application, applicants are likely to succeed only if they possess requisite technical skills or expertise suitable for the job position. Hiring a computer engineer or a genetics research professional would warrant employers looking into their resumes for relevant prior working experience and qualifications rather than how the candidates present themselves during the interview. Being superficially attractive may generate a positive first impression, hence giving an applicant the opportunity to present themselves in front of the interview panel. However, there are still many other aspects that recruiters will consider first to assess their suitability for the job before the applicant can anticipate any true success. Therefore, attractiveness should be understood as a critical part of success but not the defining factor of success.

It is undoubtedly a fact that attractiveness plays a pivotal role in determining success. The aforementioned propositions elucidate how appearances and aesthetic beauty do capture the attention of others. The position on personalities and skills-based qualities can be slightly more controversial. These include academic qualifications, work accomplishments, charismatic eloquence and personal values which all contribute to achieving successes in various aspects of life. At first blush, they appear to be a set of characteristics that diverge far from the typical notions of attractive charm. However, upon closer introspection, these characteristics can actually be regarded as forms of attractiveness as well. Many aspects of success, or at least the many hurdles before finally reaching success, involve others' assessment of our image and capabilities, and this very assessment significantly observes our attractiveness through their lens. Indeed, the concept of attractiveness remains a quintessential part of a person's and an object's success.