

Emerson's "Self-Reliance"

Circle the statement that Emerson does **NOT** make in "Self-Reliance"

1. Originality

- a. "To believe your own thought, to believe that what is true for you in your private heart is true for all men,--that is genius."
- b. "Originality is the art of concealing your sources."
- c. ". . . imitation is suicide. . ."

2. Conformity

- a. "Society everywhere is in conspiracy against the manhood of everyone of its members."
- b. "Whoso would be a man must be a nonconformist."
- c. "We are half ruined by conformity; but we should be wholly ruined without it."

3. Consistency

- a. "A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds..."
- b. "Who ever has no fixed opinions has no constant feelings."
- c. "The voyage of the best ship is a zigzag line of a hundred tacks. See the line from a sufficient distance, and it straightens itself to the average tendency. "

4. Charity

- a. "The life of a man consists not in seeing visions and in dreaming dreams, but in active charity and in willing service"
- b. "Then, again, do not tell me, as a good man did to-day, of my obligation to put all poor men in good situations. Are they *my* poor?"
- c. "I tell thee, thou foolish philanthropist, that I grudge the dollar, the dime, the cent, I give to such men as do not belong to me and to whom I do not belong."

5. Religion

- a. "There was never law, or sect, or opinion did so much to magnify goodness, as the Christian religion doth."
- b. "The relations of the soul to the divine spirit are so pure, that it is profane to seek to interpose helps."
- c. "Prayer as a means to effect a private end is meanness and theft. It supposes dualism and not unit in nature and consciousness. As soon as the man is at one with God, he will not beg."

6. Travel

- a. "The soul is no traveler; the wise man stays at home."
- b. "The World is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page."
- c. "Traveling is a fool's paradise."

7. Progress

- a. "Society never advances. It recedes as fast on one side as it gains on the other."
- b. "The civilized man has built a coach, but has lost the use of his feet."
- c. "Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning."

8. Wealth, Property

- a. "Get place and wealth, if possible, with grace;
If not, by any means get wealth and place."
- b. "[Men] measure their esteem of each other by what each has, and not by what each is. But a cultivated man becomes ashamed of his property, out of new respect for his nature."
- c. "And so the reliance on Property, including the reliance on governments which protect it, is the want of self-reliance."