explanation of fine arts. The main point of James is that "fiction should be based on

- Other people do not accept the notion of fiction as fine art. For example, professors,
- Consider art not to be connected to morality. Fiction should be didactic and amusing. If
- Fiction is artistic it should not be amusing. The artistic element in fiction obstructs the
- rule of having happy endings. Fiction should have virtuous and aspiring characters.
- 3rd group of people think that fiction should have movement and dialogue not description.
- If fiction contains artistic element it ruins the pleasure.
- James makes a comparison between a novelist and a middle-class doctor.
- The artistic elements are not widely accepted by people.
- James disagreed that the art of fiction should be defined strictly and he believed in the
- freedom of execution of the writer.
- James said that anyone can differentiate between a bad and good novel. Good novels
- cause affections, bad novels are disregarded by the readers.
- James says that the only object that the novelist should adhere to is that the novel
- should be interesting. But he does not say why?
- Definition of novel by James: The novel is a direct and personal impression of life (and
- that is something that constitutes its value). In order to write the novelist should have
- the freedom of execution. Different novelists choose different methods. The success
- and the subject depends on the novelist. Some novelists cannot execute freedom
- of execution.
- The peak of James's criticism towards Besant is: There is no recipe how fiction should
- be written. Besant gives the formula of fiction by the example of novelist and a
- painter. Besant The subordinates are subordinated by the novelist and precision as the
- subordinates of execution. James disproved the mathematic and especially
- Besant's exactness which is countering against exactness and precision.

We must remember that James does not criticize Besant 100% and only some rules are
- criticized whereas others are approved.

Besant's 9 rules

1. Experience is very important when a novelist wants to write something and the novelist
   must write from his own experience
2. Characters need to be real as ones can be met in real life
3. Class restriction rule: Besant says that a novelist from a lower-middle class should stick to
   his own class i.e. not to write about characters of other classes
4. Connected to the 1st. If the novelist comes from the countryside he should stick to his
   own surroundings and should not dare to write about for example the military service
   (very restrictive)
5. Novelists should take notes and those should be recorded in a common book and the novel
   should be based on these notes
6. The characters need to be clear in outline; need to be evoked clearly and the
   illustrations should not be based on their speech; through description is even worse.