

Gilding 1 : Culture

GILDING: the art of spreading gold,/ either by mechanical or by chemical means,/ over the surface of a body / for the purpose of **ornament**.// The art of gilding was known to the ancients.//

The Egyptians **were accustomed to** gild wood and metals;/ and gilding by means of gold plates / is **frequently** mentioned in the **Old Testament**.// The first gilding seen at Rome / was after the destruction of Carthage,/ when the Romans began to gild / the ceilings of their temples and palaces, / the Capitol being the first place / on which this **enrichment** was **bestowed**.// But luxury advanced on them so rapidly / that in a little time you might see/ all, even private and poor persons,/ gild the walls, **vaults**, and other parts of their **dwellings**.// Owing to the comparative thickness / of the gold-leaf used in ancient gilding, / the traces of it which yet remain are remarkably brilliant and solid.//

Gilding has in all times occupied an important place / in the ornamental arts of Oriental countries;/ and the native processes pursued in India at the present day / may be taken as typical of the arts / as practiced from the earliest periods.//

金めっき：金を薄く塗り広げる技術である / 機械的または化学的な方法によって/
ある物体の表面全体に / 装飾を目的として// 金メッキの技術は古代人にも知られていた。//

エジプト人は木材や金属に金メッキを施す習慣があった / そして金の板を用いた
金メッキは / 旧約聖書において頻繁に言及されている。// ローマで最初に金メッキが施されたのは / カルタゴの滅亡後であった / その時代、ローマ人は金メッキを施し始めた / 彼らの
神殿や宮殿の天井に / そして議事堂が最初に施された場所であった / このような豪華な装飾
が与えられたのは// しかし、そうしたものの贅沢が急速に進んだため、/ まもなくみられるようになった / 全員、それも民間人や貧しい人々までもが / 住居の壁や丸天井、その他の
部分にも金箔を貼るようになったのだ// 比較的厚みがあったために / 古代の金メッキに使われていた金箔には / 今でも残っているその痕跡は、驚くほど鮮やかでしっかりしている。//

金メッキは、いつの時代にも重要な位置を占めてきた / 東洋諸国の装飾芸術において / そして、現代においてインドで行われている土着の技法は、/ そうした技法の典型と言えるかもしれない / 最も古い時代から実際に行われてきた//

Vocabulary

189 words

ornament	飾り物
accustomed	慣れた
frequently	頻繁に
old Testament	旧約聖書
enrichment	豊かさ
bestow	与える

vault	丸天井
dwelling	住居

TIPS メッキについて！

メッキには、装飾以外にも金属の腐食を防ぐ役割があり、様々な場面で活用されています。
また、芯の金属と表面の金属の組み合わせで、役割も異なるのです。

代表的な芯の金属といえば「鉄」です。

「鉄」に「垂鉛メッキ」をしたものを「トタン」（「トタン屋根」のトタンです）、
「鉄」に「錫（スズ）メッキ」をしたものを「ブリキ」といいます。（続く）

GILDING, the art of _____ gold, either by mechanical or by chemical means, over the surface of a body for the purpose of _____. The art of gilding _____. The Egyptians were accustomed to gild wood and metals; and gilding by means of gold plates is frequently mentioned in the Old Testament. The first gilding seen at Rome was after the _____ of Carthage, when the Romans began to gild the ceilings of their _____, the Capitol being the first place on which this enrichment was bestowed. But luxury advanced on them so rapidly that in a little time you might see all, even _____ and poor persons, gild the walls, vaults, and other parts of their dwellings. Owing to the _____ thickness of the gold-leaf used in ancient gilding, the traces of it which yet remain are remarkably brilliant and _____. Gilding has in all times occupied an important place in the ornamental arts of Oriental countries; and the native processes _____ at the present day may be taken as typical of the arts as practiced from the earliest periods.

Question 1: What is gilding?

Question 2: Where did Romans decorate with gilding?

Question 3: What did Egyptians gild?

Summarize (50 ~ 80 words) :



*** Background knowledge:**

*** Summary Sample Answer**

(Very Short)

Gilding is fixing gold to a surface to decorate. The ancients used it frequently. Gilding is still practiced widely today.

*** Q&A Sample Answer**

(50 ~80 words)

Q1: Applying gold to a surface for decoration.

Q2: Walls and ceilings.

Q3: Wood and metal. They made coffins and jewelry and furniture.

Gilding is decoration by applied gold. Ancient Egyptians gilt wood and metal, as did the Hebrew people, and the Romans among others. Temples and palaces were first to be gilt, but private dwellings were also decorated with gold as luxury increased in the empire. Ancient gold leaf was relatively thick, and where it survives is remarkably brilliant. Gilding is important in the East, and practiced traditionally to this day.