

The Picture of Dorian Gray

Photocopiable

While reading

- 1 Read the Introduction. Then close the book and try to answer these questions.
- When was Oscar Wilde born?
 - Who was Constance Lloyd?
 - Who was Lord Alfred Douglas?
 - How long did Wilde spend in prison?
 - Where did he spend the last years of his life?
 - When did he die?

Chapters 1–5

- 2 Write a paragraph or discuss with another student: Do you think Lord Henry will be a good or a bad influence on Dorian?
- 3 Are these statements about Basil Hallward true (T) or false (F)?
- He is an artist. ☐
 - He went to Oxford University. ☐
 - He is going to exhibit the painting of Dorian Gray at the Grosvenor. ☐
 - He met Dorian Gray at a party. ☐
 - He wants Lord Henry to meet Dorian. ☐
- 4 Match the sentences (a–h) to the people who say them (1–3).
- 1 Dorian 2 Basil 3 Lord Henry
- 'What odd people you painters are!'
 - 'You don't understand what friendship is, Harry.'
 - 'I choose my friends for their beauty and my enemies for their intelligence.'
 - 'He has certainly not been flattering to me. Perhaps that is why I don't believe anything he has told me.'
 - 'It is one of the greatest paintings in modern art. I will pay anything you ask for it. I must have it.'
 - 'I am jealous of everything whose beauty does not die.'
 - 'Between you both you have made me hate the best piece of work I have ever done. I will destroy it.'
 - 'I will stay with the real Dorian.'
- 5 Complete the following sentences.
- Basil doesn't want Lord Henry to meet Dorian because
 - Dorian wants Lord Henry to stay with him while he poses because

- Dorian is jealous of his own picture because
- Dorian was a little afraid of Lord Henry because

6 Answer these questions.

- What did Lord Henry say about the picture?
- What did Dorian recognise when he first saw the picture?
- Why was Dorian jealous of the picture?
- How did Lord Henry's influence affect the way Dorian felt about the picture?
- Why did Basil say he wouldn't sell the picture to Lord Henry?
- What wish did Dorian make about himself and the picture?

7 Who says these words?

- Lord Henry Basil Dorian
- 'I hope this girl is good.'
 - 'Oh, she is better than good – she is beautiful.'
 - 'But how can Dorian marry an actress ...? It is absurd.'
 - 'I have never been so happy.'
 - 'You have annoyed Dorian. He is not like other men.'
 - 'Pleasure is the only thing worth having ideas about.'
 - 'I know what pleasure is. It is to worship someone.'

8 Do you agree with Activity 7g above? If you don't agree, what do YOU think pleasure is?

Chapters 6–7

9 Match questions a–h with the answers 1–8.

- What did Dorian say in his letter to Sibyl?
- What did Dorian say to Lord Henry before he knew Sibyl was dead?
- What did Lord Henry tell Dorian about Sibyl?
- How did Sibyl kill herself?
- What did Lord Henry say about Dorian being heartless?
- Where did Dorian and Basil go after talking about Sibyl's death?
- What had Sibyl told her family about Dorian?

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- h What did Basil put too much of into the picture?
- 1) The theatre.
 - 2) She took poison.
 - 3) He loved her and wanted her to forgive him.
 - 4) His self and his feelings.
 - 5) That he was Prince Charming.
 - 6) He wanted to marry her.
 - 7) She was dead.
 - 8) That he had done too many foolish things to be heartless.

10 Choose the right answer in *italics*.

- a Dorian decides to hide the picture in *the cupboard / the old schoolroom / the closet*.
- b The room was built by his grandfather to *help him study / use as a school / keep him at a distance*.
- c The room was full of *terrible memories / picture books / photographs*.
- d Only Dorian would ever see his *grandfather / beauty / shame*.
- e Lord Henry sent a newspaper report about Sibyl's *parents / death / disappearance*.
- f After many years, Dorian still has the look of someone *pure / sad / brave*.

Chapters 8–13

11 Number these events in the correct order.

- a ☐ Dorian told Basil he will show him his soul.
- b ☐ Basil told Dorian that people were saying terrible things about him.
- c ☐ Dorian saw Basil in the street, but walked off quickly.
- d ☐ Basil waited for Dorian in Dorian's library.
- e ☐ Dorian said he will answer Basil's questions when they go upstairs.
- f ☐ Dorian invited Basil into his house.

12 Answer these questions.

- a How many deaths has Dorian caused so far?
- b Who are they?

13 Are these statements true (T) or false (F)?

- a Dorian asked Mrs. Leaf to clean the old schoolroom. ☐
- b Dorian had his servants carry the picture upstairs. ☐

- c Dorian left the door to the old schoolroom unlocked. ☐
- d Dorian thought he had nothing to do with Sibyl's death. ☐
- e Basil did not want to go to Dorian's house with him. ☐
- f Dorian told Basil he wasn't interested in scandals about himself. ☐
- g Basil wanted to be able to see Dorian's soul. ☐
- h Basil thinks Dorian has lost all belief in goodness and honesty. ☐
- i Dorian felt delight that Basil would see the portrait and share his shame. ☐

14 Answer the question with words from box.

a letter the servant blood Lord Henry
the body horrible a scientist the picture

- a What was Alan Campbell?
- b What did Dorian ask Campbell to help him with?
- c What did Dorian say he would send if Campbell didn't help him?
- d Who went to get the things Campbell needed for working on the body?
- e What had Dorian forgotten to cover the night before?
- f What was on the hands of the portrait?
- g How did the room smell after Campbell left?
- h Who told Dorian that people were still discussing Basil's disappearance?

15 Put the words in the right order to make sentences.

- a Dorian Basil room portrait him the shows the portrait. into takes and
.....
- b people Dorian say. that be must worse Basil than says even
.....
- c the neck. takes Basil's into Dorian sticks knife it and
.....
- d cupboard. a bag Dorian and Basil's hides coat in
.....
- e about tells Francis visit. Dorian Basil's
.....

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Chapters 1–6

1 Match a–e with 1–5 to make sentences.

- a In the centre of the room stood a portrait of
- b When our eyes met,
- c I couldn't be happy if
- d This painting
- e Sibyl Vane
 - 1) will always stay young.
 - 2) I didn't see him every day.
 - 3) was shy and gentle.
 - 4) I felt the blood leaving my face.
 - 5) an extraordinarily beautiful young man.

2 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- a Lord Henry doesn't want Dorian to marry Sibyl Vane. ☐
- b When Dorian is with Sibyl he forgets Lord Henry's terrible ideas. ☐
- c The theatre was filled with quiet, polite people. ☐
- d Sibyl doesn't want to marry Dorian. ☐
- e Dorian reads Lord Henry's letter as soon as he gets it. ☐

3 Choose the correct ending to these sentences.

- a But it would be absurd for him to marry
- b The reason we like to think so well of others is because we are
- c When you see her as Juliet
- d He looked at his real face and saw
- e My letter was to tell you
 - 1) you will forget everything.
 - 2) no sign of cruelty.
 - 3) Sibyl Vane is dead.
 - 4) someone like that.
 - 5) afraid for ourselves.

4 Circle the right answer in *italics*.

- a Basil / Lord Henry / Sibyl went to the theatre with Dorian.
- b Basil wanted to exhibit the picture in *London* / *Madrid* / *Paris*.
- c Basil's grandfather / Dorian's father / Dorian's grandfather built the old schoolroom.
- d Dorian took Basil upstairs to show him his *diary* / *books* / *letters*.

Chapters 7–13

5 Complete the sentences with words from the box.

chocolate	corruption	knife	curtain	body
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- a The portrait was covered with an old purple
- b The face in the portrait showed signs of
- c On the top of a cupboard Dorian saw a
- d In the morning Dorian drank a cup of
- e Campbell helped Dorian with the

6 Find the mistakes in the sentences and write the correct words.

- a Basil went upstairs alone to see the picture.
- b When Basil saw the picture, a cry of joy came to his lips.
- c After Basil saw the picture he thought the things people were saying about Dorian were wrong.
- d The room with the portrait had been cleaned.
- e Campbell took Basil's bag and coat downstairs to hide them.
- f One of the letters Dorian wrote was to Lord Henry.
- g Dorian's servants carried the box of things Campbell needed upstairs.

7 Match the name in the box with the sentences.

Dorian	Lord Henry	Basil
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- a 'I am very sorry for you, Alan.'
- b 'Don't tell me that you are going to be good.'
- c 'The train doesn't go until twelve fifteen and it is only just eleven.'
- d 'I love scandals about other people, but scandals about myself don't interest me.'
- e 'You have a wonderful influence. Let it be for good.'

8 Answer the questions. Circle YES or NO.

- a Is Alan Campbell a friend of Dorian? Yes / NO
- b Was Campbell happy to help Dorian with the body? YES / NO
- c Did Dorian go into the room with Campbell to help him? YES / NO