

The Picture of Dorian Gray

Photocopiable

While reading

1 Read the Introduction. Then close the book and try to answer these questions.

- a When was Oscar Wilde born?
- b Who was Constance Lloyd?
- c Who was Lord Alfred Douglas?
- d How long did Wilde spend in prison?
- e Where did he spend the last years of his life?
- f 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)?

- a He is an artist.
- b He went to Oxford University.
- c He is going to exhibit the painting of Dorian Gray at the Grosvenor.
- d He met Dorian Gray at a party.
- e 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
- a 'What odd people you painters are!'
 - b 'You don't understand what friendship is, Harry.'
 - c 'I choose my friends for their beauty and my enemies for their intelligence.'
 - d 'He has certainly not been flattering to me. Perhaps that is why I don't believe anything he has told me.'
 - e 'It is one of the greatest paintings in modern art. I will pay anything you ask for it. I must have it.'
 - f 'I am jealous of everything whose beauty does not die.'
 - g 'Between you both you have made me hate the best piece of work I have ever done. I will destroy it.'
 - h 'I will stay with the real Dorian.'

5 Complete the following sentences.

- a Basil doesn't want Lord Henry to meet Dorian because
- b Dorian wants Lord Henry to stay with him while he poses because

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

6 Answer these questions.

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

7 Who says these words?

- Lord Henry Basil Dorian
- a 'I hope this girl is good.'
 - b 'Oh, she is better than good – she is beautiful.'
 - c 'But how can Dorian marry an actress ...? It is absurd.'
 - d 'I have never been so happy.'
 - e 'You have annoyed Dorian. He is not like other men.'
 - f 'Pleasure is the only thing worth having ideas about.'
 - g '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.

- a What did Dorian say in his letter to Sibyl?
- b What did Dorian say to Lord Henry before he knew Sibyl was dead?
- c What did Lord Henry tell Dorian about Sibyl?
- d How did Sibyl kill herself?
- e What did Lord Henry say about Dorian being heartless?
- f Where did Dorian and Basil go after talking about Sibyl's death?
- g 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 everyday.
 - 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 |
|---|
- 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 |
|-----------------------------|

- 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

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Book key

- 1 a charming, fascinating
b corrupt, failure, rumour, tragedy
c two weeks
- 2 Open answers
- 3 a Lord Henry Wotton (also called Harry)
b Basil Hallward
c Lady Brandon
d Lord Henry
e Basil
- 4 a ✓ b ✓ c ✓ f ✓
- 5–8 Open answers
- 9 a F b T c T d T e F
- 10 a absurd
b worship
c cruel
d portrait
e soul
- 11–13 Open answers
- 14 1 h 2 c 3 e 4 f 5 a 6 d 7 g 8 b
- 15 a 5 b 4 c 3 d 1 e 2
- 16–19 Open answers
- 20 a 2 b 3 c 1 d 1 e 2
- 21 a Yes
b No
c Yes
d Yes
e No
f No
- 22–25 Open answers
- 26 a secrets
b blood
c scientist
d scandals
e art
f worship
g gold
h life
- 27–39 Open answers

Discussion activities key

- 1–21 Open answers

Activity worksheets key

- 1 a 1854
b his wife
c his lover
d two years
e in Paris
f November 1900
- 2 Open answers
- 3 a T b T c F d T e F
- 4 a 3 b 2 c 3 d 1 e 3 f 1 g 2 h 2
- 5 Possible answers:
a He will spoil him, be a bad influence, take him away.
b He will get bored, Basil won't talk to him.
c The picture will stay young while Dorian ages.
d Lord Henry seems to be influencing/changing him.
- 6 a It's Basil's best work.
b His own beauty.
c Because he would age and the picture would stay young.
d Lord Henry told Dorian he would age.
e It belonged to Dorian.
f That the picture would age and Dorian would stay young.
- 7 a Basil
b Lord Henry
c Basil
d Dorian
e Basil
f Lord Henry
g Dorian
- 8 Open answers
- 9 a 3 b 6 c 7 d 2 e 8 f 1 g 5 h 4
- 10 a The old schoolroom
b Keep him at a distance
c Terrible memories
d Shame
e Death
f Pure
- 11 a 5 b 4 c 2 d 1 e 6 f 3
- 12 a 4
b Sibyl, Adrian Singleton, a soldier and Basil

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13 a F b F c F d T e F f T g T h T
i T

- 14 a a scientist
b the body
c a letter
d the servant
e the picture
f blood
g horrible
h Lord Henry

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

Progress test key

1 a 5 b 4 c 2 d 1 e 3

2 a T b F c F d F e F

3 a 4 b 5 c 1 d 2 e 3

4 a Lord Henry

b Paris

c Dorian's grandfather

d diary

5 a curtain

b corruption

c knife

d chocolate

e body

6 a with Dorian

b fear

c right

d had not been

e Dorian

f Campbell

g Dorian and Campbell

7 a Dorian

b Lord Henry

c Basil

d Dorian

e Basil

8 a NO b NO c NO