The Picture of Dorian Gray

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 did Lord Henry say about Dorian being heartless?
   h 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. (F)
b Dorian had his servants carry the picture upstairs. (T)

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

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 hides coat in ……………
e about tells Francis visit. Dorian Basil's ……………
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. T
   b. When Dorian is with Sibyl he forgets Lord Henry’s terrible ideas. T
   c. The theatre was filled with quiet, polite people. T
   d. Sibyl doesn’t want to marry Dorian. F
   e. Dorian reads Lord Henry’s letter as soon as he gets it. T

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

**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

**Discussion activities key**

1–21  
   Open answers
### The Picture of Dorian Gray

**Progress test key**

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| 1 | Dorian takes Basil into the room and shows him the portrait.
|   | Basil says that Dorian must be even worse than people say.
|   | Dorian takes the knife and sticks it into Basil's neck.
|   | Dorian hides Basil's bag and coat in a cupboard.
|   | Francis tells Dorian about Basil's visit.
|   | Dorian (a) Basil says that Dorian must be even worse than people say.