

The Picture of Dorian Gray

Oscar Wilde

What does Dorian's wish reveal about what he has learned to value in only a few minutes?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	Dorian wishes the portrait would age
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FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Chapter II
START	When he saw it he drew back, and his cheeks flushed for a moment with pleasure.
END	I would give my soul for that!
PASSAGE ID	sec-dg-01

THE MOVE

Track how a wish turns value into a bargain

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Dorian hears Lord Henry’s ideas about youth and beauty and almost immediately turns them into a desperate bargain: the portrait should age while he remains young. The speed of the change reveals how quickly a new value system has taken hold.

MARK

Underline the ideas Lord Henry expresses about youth, beauty, and loss. Circle the words in Dorian’s response that show fear of aging. Star the line where preference becomes a willingness to trade anything for permanent youth.

NOTICE

- What did Dorian seem to value before Lord Henry's speech intensified his attention to beauty?
- Which idea creates urgency rather than simple admiration?
- Why does the wish sound like a bargain rather than an ordinary desire?

THINK

Answer provisionally: What does Dorian's wish reveal about what he has learned to value in only a few minutes? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: What does Dorian's wish reveal about what he has learned to value in only a few minutes? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	Dorian has learned to treat youth and beauty as values so absolute that aging feels like catastrophe. His wish turns admiration into a bargain because he becomes willing to exchange almost anything to preserve appearance.
EVIDENCE	Use Lord Henry's influence on Dorian's thinking, Dorian's fear of aging, and the wording of the wish that transfers aging to the portrait.
WATCH FOR	Do not answer only that Dorian becomes vain. Explain how quickly a new value system becomes strong enough to justify a bargain.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

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START ANCHOR	When he saw it he drew back, and his cheeks flushed for a moment with pleasure.
END ANCHOR	I would give my soul for that!

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OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Underline the ideas Lord Henry expresses about youth, beauty, and loss. Circle the words in Dorian's response that show fear of aging. Star the line where preference becomes a willingness to trade anything for permanent youth.
2. NOTICE - What did Dorian seem to value before Lord Henry's speech intensified his attention to beauty? Which idea creates urgency rather than simple admiration? Why does the wish sound like a bargain rather than an ordinary desire?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: What does Dorian's wish reveal about what he has learned to value in only a few minutes?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.