

## 2026-2027 11<sup>th</sup> Grade IB English A Literature Summer Reading Assignment

Please note that all work must be your **ORIGINAL** work. AI created work or work copied from any person or from the internet will result in a **ZERO** for this assignment.

**Summer Reading Assignment:** Read and analyze "The Picture of Dorian Gray" by Oscar Wilde.

- ISBN-10: 0141439572
- ISBN-13: 978-0141439570
- You will engage deeply with the text through annotation, a dialectical journal, a theme chart, a symbolism chart, and a written analysis.
- We will use the text extensively in class during Quarter 1. I suggest purchasing your own copy to use during the 9-week period.

### Scored Assignment Components:

#### 1. Reading and Annotating the Text

- Read "The Picture of Dorian Gray" by Oscar Wilde thoroughly.
- **Annotate the text, focusing on the information below. You must write notes in the margins of the selected text. If you mark it, there must be a reason. Jotted information will suffice, but a simple underline or highlight without a note will not earn credit. Use Post-it notes if you are unable to write in the book.**
- **Underline Important Details:** Underline or circle specific details, facts, or data that support the main ideas.
- **Write Summaries:** In the margins, write brief summaries of paragraphs or sections to capture the main points.
- **Ask Questions:** Jot down any questions that come to mind as you read. This can help you think critically about the text.
- **Make Connections:** Note any connections to other texts, personal experiences, or relevant topics.
- **Define Unknown Words:** Look up and write down definitions for any unfamiliar words or terms.
- **Note Reactions:** Record your personal reactions, thoughts, and feelings about the text.
- **Identify Themes:** Highlight recurring themes, motifs, or symbols throughout the text.
- **Mark Confusing Sections:** Identify and mark any parts of the text that are confusing or unclear, so you can revisit them later.
- **Analyze Diction:** Pay attention to the author's word choice. Note any particularly striking or unusual words and consider why the author might have chosen them.
- **Identify Literary Elements:** Look for literary devices such as metaphors, similes, personification, and imagery. Annotate these elements and consider their effect on the text.
- **Note Symbols:** Identify and annotate elements that have symbolic significance. Consider how these motifs and symbols contribute to the overall themes of the text.
- **Examine Character Development:** Note how characters evolve throughout the text. Pay attention to changes in their behavior, thoughts, and relationships. Annotate key moments that highlight their development.
- **Note techniques and Ideas:** Note narrative techniques and philosophical ideas.

## 2. Dialectical Journal

- Maintain a dialectical journal as you read. For each chapter, select at least three significant passages.
- For each passage, provide the following:
  - **Quotation:** Copy the passage verbatim, cite correctly.
  - **Context:** Briefly describe the context of the passage.
  - **Analysis:** Analyze the passage, focusing on literary devices, themes, character development, or a significant literary topic.
  - **Personal Response:** Reflect on your personal reaction to the passage and its significance.

### Example Entry (do not use my example):

Quotation:	Context:	Analysis:	Personal Response:
"The only way to get rid of a temptation is to yield to it" (Wilde 21).	Lord Henry Wotton shares his hedonistic philosophy with Dorian Gray upon their initial meeting.	This passage highlights Lord Henry's influence on Dorian and introduces the theme of hedonism. The paradoxical statement challenges conventional morality and foreshadows Dorian's descent into a life of indulgence and moral corruption.	This thought-provoking and unsettling quote makes me question the consequences of giving in to every desire and the impact of such a philosophy on one's character and life. The suggestion that we should entertain our every whim can lead to destruction.

## 3. Theme Chart

- Create a chart that analyzes FIVE of the major thematic concepts in *The Picture of Dorian Gray* listed below.
- Thematic Concepts
  - The Corruption of Innocence
  - The Superficiality of Beauty and Youth
  - Gender Roles
  - Art as a Mirror
  - The Duality of Human Nature
  - Influence and Manipulation
  - The Consequences of Hedonism
  - Art and Aesthetics
  - Morality and Conscience
  - Class Structure
  - The Superficiality of Society
  - Aestheticism
  - The Passage of Time
  - Identity and Self-destruction
- For each thematic concept, provide the following:
  - **Thematic:** State the thematic concept.
  - **Description:** Describe the thematic concept and its significance in the novel.

- **Examples:** Provide three specific examples (cited correctly) from the text that illustrate the thematic concept.
- **Analysis:** Analyze how Wilde develops the thematic concept through characters, plot, and narrative techniques.

#### 4. Symbolism Chart

- Create a chart (organize the ideas on paper in a way that is easily understood) that identifies and analyzes at least FIVE of the major symbols in *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.
- For each symbol, provide the following:
  - **Symbol:** State the symbol.
  - **Description:** Describe the symbol and its significance in the novel.
  - **Examples:** Provide two specific examples (cited correctly) from the text that illustrate the symbol.
  - **Analysis:** Analyze how Wilde uses the symbol to convey deeper meanings and themes.

#### 5. Written response

- Answer the question below by writing a well-developed response including at least 3 pieces of correctly cited textual evidence and commentary (elaboration) to fully and completely address all aspects of the question.
  - Analyze the character of Lord Henry Wotton and his role as a catalyst for Dorian Gray's transformation. How does his philosophy influence Dorian's actions?

#### Scoring:

1. Reading and Annotating the Text: 20 points
  2. Dialectical Journal: 20 points
  3. Theme Chart: 20 points
  4. Symbolism Chart: 20 points
  5. Written response: 20 points
- 100 points total – formative assessment grade

#### Submission Guidelines:

- Create your dialectical journal, theme chart, and symbolism chart in a single document.
- Create your written response as a separate file.
- Save all documents on the One Drive, so you have access to them on the first day of school using the school's laptop.
- Email the documents to your school email address just to be on the safe side.
- Check, double check, triple check that you have access to your documents!
- If you cannot access your document in class on the first day of school, it will be late (half credit).
- You will be instructed to send them by email or through Canvas on the first day of school.
- Be prepared to discuss your analysis in class at the beginning of the school year.

**Due Date:** All components are due on the first day of your scheduled class.

**Late Penalty:** Work is considered late if it is not ready to be submitted when you walk into class. Late work will be assigned half credit and then scored accordingly. The last day to submit the assignment for HALF CREDIT is Friday of the first week of school for all classes.

This assignment is designed to help you engage deeply with *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and develop your analysis skills. Enjoy your reading and have a great summer!