

Name: _____

Miss Skirtich

14 May 2019

English 12: British Literature

Final Brainstorm on *The Picture of Dorian Gray*

Consider the following ideas and jot some ideas and citations down to prepare for your final writing prompt tomorrow, Wednesday, May 15, 2019. Many of these topics are ones that we discussed together in class, so those would benefit you to look at them closely and review them in preparation for tomorrow.

- Dorian's innocence vs. Lord Henry's worldliness
- Basil as a positive influence vs. Lord Henry as a negative influence
- Dorian and Sibyl's pure love vs. Dorian's adulterated love after the theater performance
- The aestheticism of Sibyl Vane when Dorian explains her to his friends
- Dorian's evil vs. Basil's innocence in the schoolhouse at the time of the murder
- What do you think Basil means when he says these things to Lord Henry?
 - "When I like people enormously I never tell their names to anyone."
 - "I knew that this boy would become my while soul and, my whole art itself."
 - "Then I feel, Harry, that I have given my whole soul to someone who uses it like a flower to put in his coat on a summer's day."
- When Lord Henry first sees the portrait, Basil Hallward tell him, "It is better not to be different from other people. The stupid and ugly have the best of this world." Do you agree or disagree? Explain.
- When Dorian realizes that the painting will always stay young, he wishes to stay young forever. "I would give my soul for that!" he says. Explain how the portrait changes Dorian's life and soul.
- Would you like Dorian Gray for a friend? Make a list of your reasons for liking or not liking him.
- How does the inner conflict at the heart of *The Picture of Dorian Gray* mirror the inner conflict in the heart of its author?
- What do Dorian Gray and Macbeth have in common? What about their circumstances and the way that it manifests itself in each character is similar to one another? Explain.
- When Dorian realizes the supernatural essence of his portrait, there are two roads he can take. One is good, the other is evil. What are the choices, and which does he ultimately choose?