

The Picture of Dorian Gray Group Research Project

Information: To fully appreciate the story, it is necessary to understand the time period in which it was written. This document is available on the Jinshan Project page of my old class website at www.GarrisonsWorld.weebly.com

Directions: Each group will be given a different topic to research. Groups will gather information and become experts on their topic. Afterwards, they will create a poster about their topic and give an oral presentation to the class. You can take notes on paper, a Word document, or online at the Padlet I created:

Class 2: https://padlet.com/david_garrison/rlhonrtrxcb5

Class 3: https://padlet.com/david_garrison/h3og3wtp1hl8

Group A: The Aesthetic Movement in Europe (with a focus on literature and art)

What is the definition of aesthetic? What was the Aesthetic Movement in Europe? How did it come about? Who were the people that were a part of it? What's a Dandy? How do Oscar Wilde's works exemplify the Aesthetic Movement?

Group B: Oscar Wilde's London: Living and Working in Victorian London

When was the Victorian period in England? What was the Victorian period? What was London like (architecture, transportation, food, pollution, wealth, poverty, crime, education, etc.?)

Group C: Social Classes and Women (Rights, duties, and values of Victorian Britain society)

What were the various social classes in Victorian England? What were the expectations of the upper class? What were the expectations of the lower class? What were the societal differences between men and women? What were upper class women expected to do? What were lower class women expected to do? How did women live, dress, get an education, get a job, etc.?

Group D: Faust (Similarities between Faust and Dorian)

Compare and contrast the literary character Faust with Dorian. Discuss Dorian's double life (this is more difficult because Wilde wasn't allowed to actually say what Dorian was doing wrong due to the time period in which he wrote it.) Discuss Oscar Wilde's double life (his public life and his secret life.)

Group E: Vice and Virtue (Sex and Drugs in Victorian England)

How were people supposed to behave in Victorian England? What were they absolutely not supposed to do? What was the upper class supposed to do for fun? What were some people in the upper class secretly doing? Why do you think they were hypocrites?