**Pre-reading: (Beauty vs. goodness)**

Are we programmed to respond to beauty?

Can you tell a person by their face?

Does life write into our faces?

Can one age beautifully?

**Reading and sculpting**

*In groups of 3s, the following passages are read and sculpted according to the descriptions. Each face needs to be photographed. Time limit for sculpting is important!*

1

Lord Henry looked at him. Yes, he was certainly wonderfully handsome, with his finely curved scarlet

lips, his frank blue eyes, his crisp golden hair. There was something in his face that made one trust

him at once. All the candour of youth was there, as well as all youth's passionate purity. One felt that

he had kept himself unspotted from the world. No wonder Basil Hallward worshipped him.

"You are too charming to go in for philanthropy, Mr. Gray - far too charming." And Lord Henry flung

himself down on the divan and opened his cigarette-case.

2

"You have killed my love," he said quietly. Then he jumped up and went to the door. "My God! How

mad I was to love you! What a fool I have been! You are nothing to me now. I will never see you

again. I will never think of you. I will never speak to you again."

The girl went white. "You are not serious, Dorian? You are acting?" she whispered, putting her hand

on his arm.

He pushed her back. "Don't touch me!" he cried. Then he turned and left the room.

After walking the streets of London all night, he arrived home just after sunrise. As he passed through the library, he saw the portrait that Basil Hallward had painted of him. He stared at it in surprise. In the dim light the face seemed to have changed a little. One would have said there was a touch of cruelty in the mouth. It was certainly strange.

He walked to the window and opened the curtains. The light flooded the room but the expression in the portrait stayed the same. In fact, the sunlight showed him the lines of cruelty around the mouth as clearly as if he had been looking into the mirror after he had done some dreadful thing.

Had he been cruel? It was the girl's fault, not his.

3

Many years passed. Yet the wonderful beauty that had so fascinated Basil Hallward and many others, stayed with Dorian Gray. Even those who had heard terrible rumours against him, could not believe them when they met him. He always had the look of someone who had kept himself pure and innocent. Men who talked grossly became silent and ashamed when Dorian Gray entered the room.

Many people suspected there was something very wrong with Dorian's life but only he knew about the portrait. Some nights he would secretly enter the locked room. Holding a mirror in his hand, he

would stand in front of the picture Basil had painted of him. He would look first at the hideous, sagging flesh of the face in the picture, the wrinkled forehead, the heavy mouth and bulging eyes, and then at the handsome young face that laughed back at him from the mirror. He fell more and more in love with his own beauty, and more and more interested in the corruption of his own soul.

**Description/narrative**

1. *Eliciting the target language for each picture, e. g.*

hideous

sagging

wrinkled

heavy

The face seemed to have changed.

lines of cruelty

finely curved lips

frank blue eyes

crisp golden hair

2. *In groups of 3s, the ss each describe the pictures, using the target language. Alternatively, the teacher provides a bridge to help students create a narrative, e.g.:*

There was a young man called Dorian Gray who everyone admired for his: ….

He fell in love with a girl, but she displeased him so he: …

Many years went by, but Dorian’s youth and beauty didn’t go away. The picture, however, told a different story: …

**After-reading**

*Gap fill and discussion:*

Everyone is responsible for their face after they turn 40.

You cannot judge a book by its cover.

He who judges will be judged.

Youth cannot be bought. Neither can old age be sold.

**Exit ticket**

*Students complete the following:*

Title:

Author:

Topic:

1 thought:

3 new words or phrases:

Play-dough recipe

<https://www.mimibazar.cz/recept/22702/domaci-plastelina>

NOTE: The extracts are a combination of the original and graded reading versions.