

“The Canterville Ghost”
By Oscar Wilde

DIRECTIONS: The paper you will be writing on Oscar Wilde’s “The Canterville Ghost” will focus on the relationship between character, conflict, and theme. As a final preparation, complete the questions below to help you understand how Wilde is using the characters and events of the story to make an argument about important issues that go beyond the text itself. Choose any **THREE** to complete on your own paper (kindness, compassion, moving forward, vanity, and/or courage). Complete more for extra credit.

Kindness

- How does the author Oscar Wilde feel about the value of helping others? Explain. This should be a statement of opinion, not a one or two word answer.
- Which character best illustrates or proves that this is the author’s point of view? Explain why.
- What events in the story help reveal that this is the author’s point of view? Explain. This should include at least two examples from the text. Use paraphrase, not quotation.

Compassion

- How does the author Oscar Wilde feel about the need to forgive? Explain. This should be a statement of opinion, not a one or two word answer.
- Which character best illustrates or proves that this is the author’s point of view? Explain why.
- What events in the story help reveal that this is the author’s point of view? Explain. This should include at least two examples from the text. Use paraphrase, not quotation.

Moving Forward

- How does the author Oscar Wilde feel about the possibility of overcoming the past? Explain. This should be a statement of opinion, not a one or two word answer.
- Which character best illustrates or proves that this is the author’s point of view? Explain why.
- What events in the story help reveal that this is the author’s point of view? Explain. This should include at least two examples from the text. Use paraphrase, not quotation.

Vanity (excessive pride in oneself)

- How does the author Oscar Wilde feel about excessive self-regard? Explain. This should be a statement of opinion, not a one or two word answer.
- Which character best illustrates or proves that this is the author’s point of view? Explain why.
- What events in the story help reveal that this is the author’s point of view? This should include at least two examples from the text. Use paraphrase, not quotation.

Courage

- How does the author Oscar Wilde feel about the value of facing one’s fears? Explain. This should be a statement of opinion, not a one or two word answer.
- Which character best illustrates or proves that this is the author’s point of view? Explain why.
- What events in the story help reveal that this is the author’s point of view? Explain. This should include at least two examples from the text. Use paraphrase, not quotation.