ABSTRACT

This thesis is focused on the characterization of the major character named Dorian Gray in The Picture of Dorian by Oscar Wilde. The purpose of this thesis is to find out how Dorian Gray is portrayed by the author of the novel. The research methods the writer approaches are library resources, consisting of the novel itself and literary books, and online source. As the topic deals with the way the major character is created, the writer relies on the theory of characterization. Based on the theory, characterization cannot be separated from characters. Thus, before going any further, the writer begins with finding out what kind of Dorian Gray’s character is. Moreover, the writer adds the theory of beauty or aestheticism, Hellenistic/ Hellenic or Greek beauty, the brief memoirs of Oscar Wilde; not to mention the theory of theme. Afterwards, there comes the analysis of the characterization which is divided into the aspects of characterization, character sketch, and the methods of revealing characters. After analyzing, the writer finds out the characterization of Dorian Gray centres on the greed for beauty, which makes the major character himself admire his own beauty and the beauty of others so much. Furthermore, Dorian Gray’s character develops gradually, from a decent to a monstrous man. The writer also finds out that the greed for beauty has effects on both Dorian Gray and other supporting characters. In addition to that, the theme of the story states that beauty does not always make someone happy, but also disappointed. To put in a nutshell, Dorian Gray is a person who praises beauty above all. His intention is so powerful that it makes Dorian addicted to and happy with charms. The greed for beauty makes him disappointed though.

Keywords:
Characterization
Greed for Beauty
Aestheticism
Hellenic Beauty