

The Picture of Dorian Gray: Themes and Analysis



Objective

Students will be able to analyze and understand the themes and philosophical questions presented in **The Picture of Dorian Gray**.

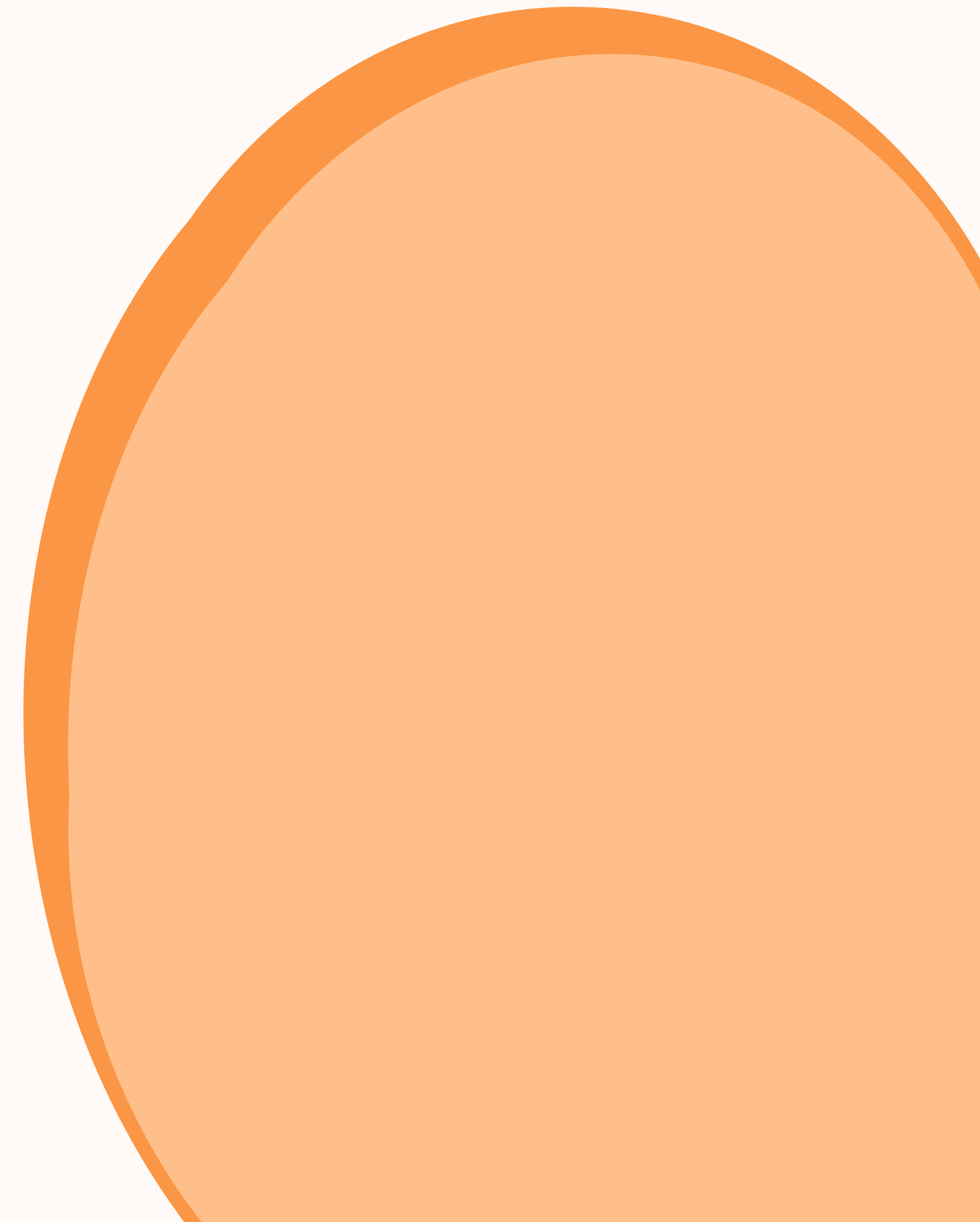
How do you think society's obsession with beauty and youth influences our lives today? Share a personal experience.

We will vote on the most relatable answers!

Let's Explore

Art and Aestheticism

Oscar Wilde's novel reflects the Aesthetic Movement, prioritizing beauty above morality. Lord Henry's influence leads Dorian to value appearance over substance, questioning art's role: beauty or moral lesson?



Draw what aestheticism means to you.

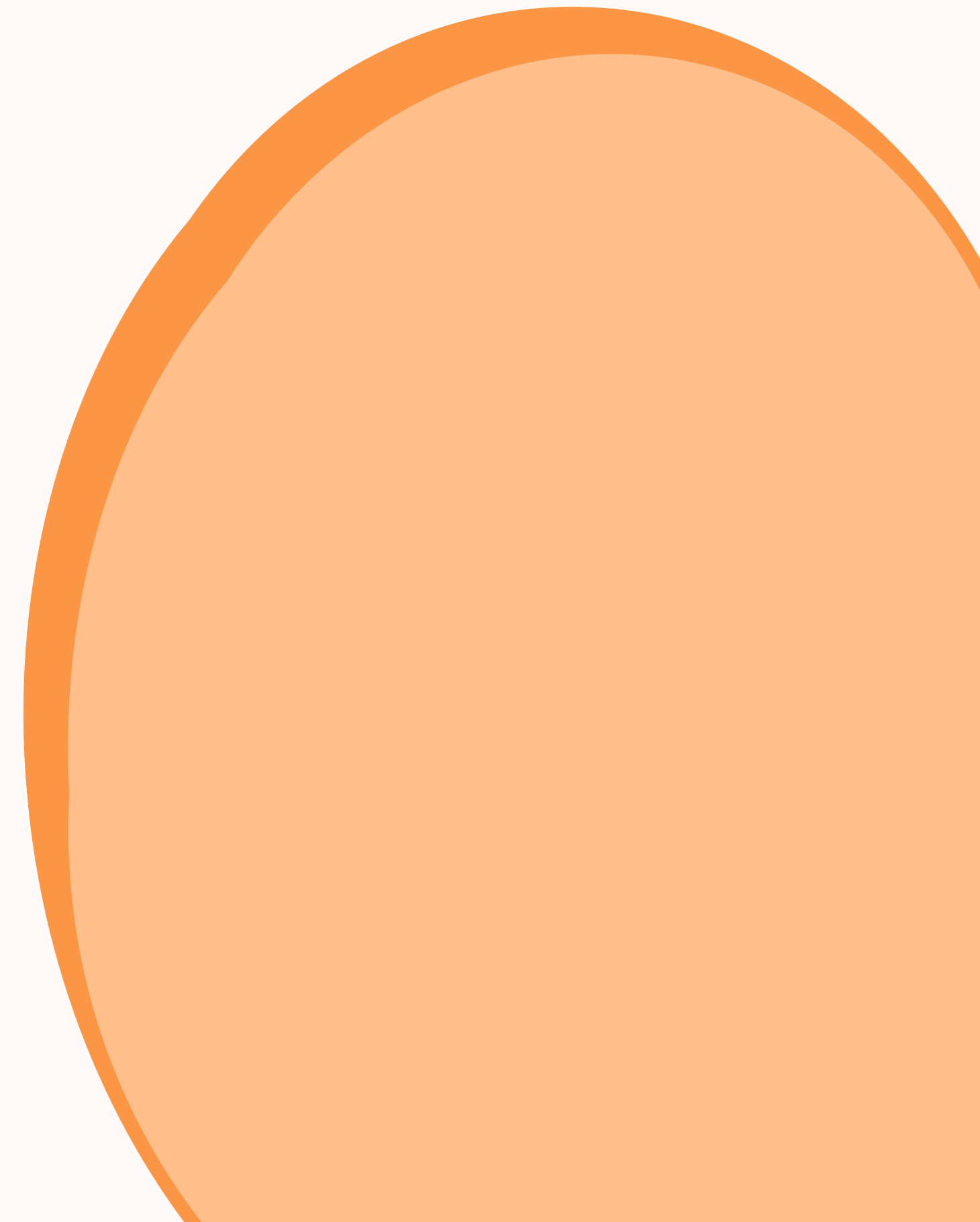
- 1. Aestheticism: A focus on beauty over practicality.**
- 2. Hedonism: The pursuit of pleasure as the highest good.**
- 3. Vanity: Excessive pride in one's appearance.**

Two overlapping orange circles of different shades are positioned in the bottom-left corner of the slide. The larger, darker orange circle is in the foreground, and a smaller, lighter orange circle is partially visible behind it.

We will vote on our favorite drawings!

Dorian's Descent

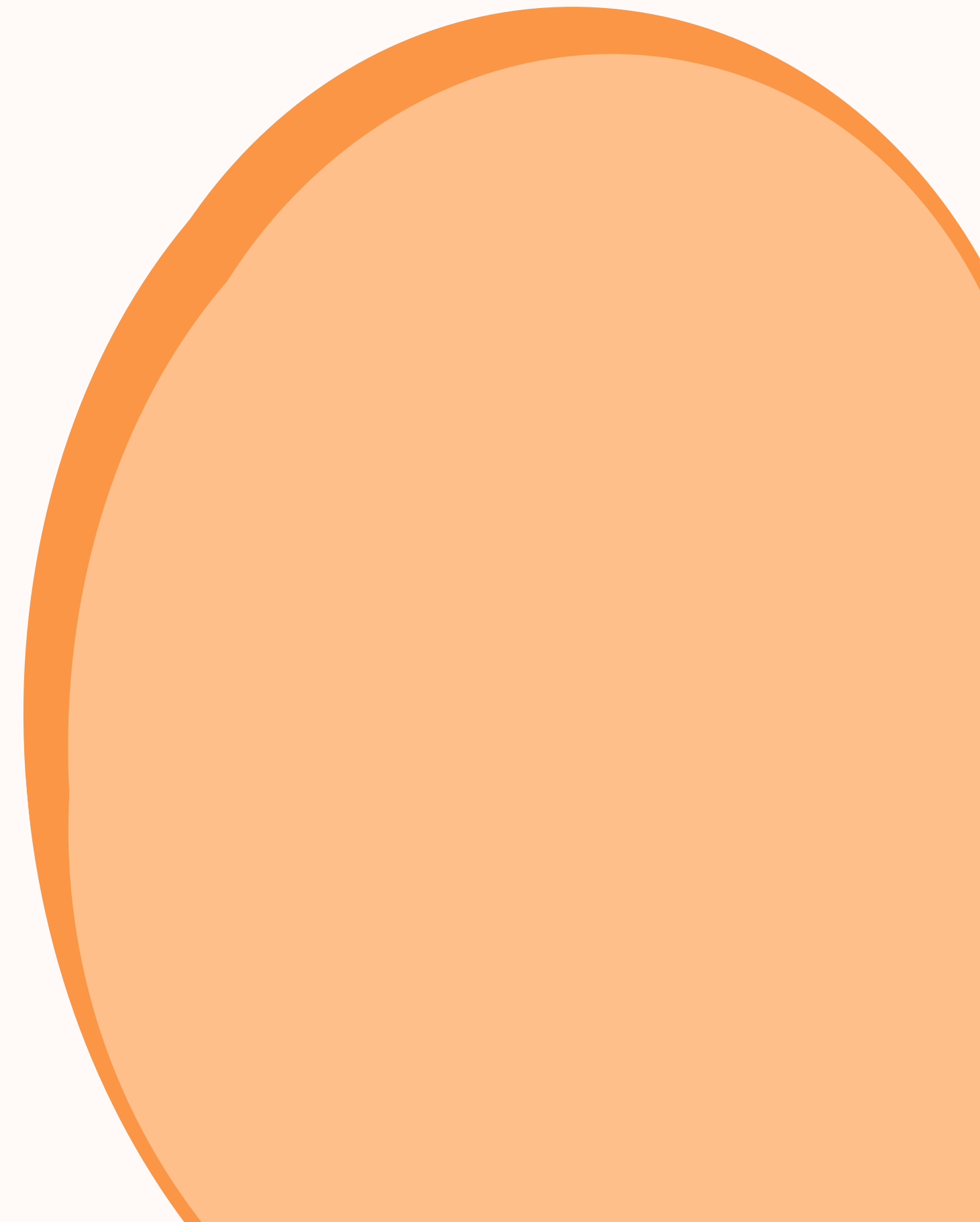
- Dorian's innocence is corrupted by Lord Henry's philosophy.
- 'Dorian's portrait ages, reflecting sins, while he remains youthful.'
- 'Dorian's downfall highlights the dangers of vanity and immorality.'



In a word or phrase, identify the turning point of Dorian's transformation.

Duality of Human Nature

Dorian Gray embodies duality: his public perfection masks a decaying soul. Like Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, suppressing one's darker side can lead to destruction.



Explain how Dorian Gray represents the duality of human nature.

We will vote on the best answers to the question!

What role does Lord Henry play in Dorian's life?

Mentor

Friend

Corruptor

Artist

Think Pair Share

Think about your answer. Discuss with your partner. Share out with the class.

How does external influence shape Dorian's decisions?

A decorative orange wave graphic that spans the width of the slide, starting from the left edge and ending at the right edge. The wave is composed of a solid orange line above a lighter orange gradient area.

Show What You Know

How does Wilde critique society's obsession with beauty and youth in *The Picture of Dorian Gray*?

You will get AI feedback on your response!

Clear answer Supporting details Checked for errors

Reflect on your understanding of the lesson. How confident are you in analyzing the themes?

I'm a Dorian Gray expert!

I see the beauty but need more practice.

Still painting my masterpiece of understanding.

Like the portrait, I need a little touch-up.