

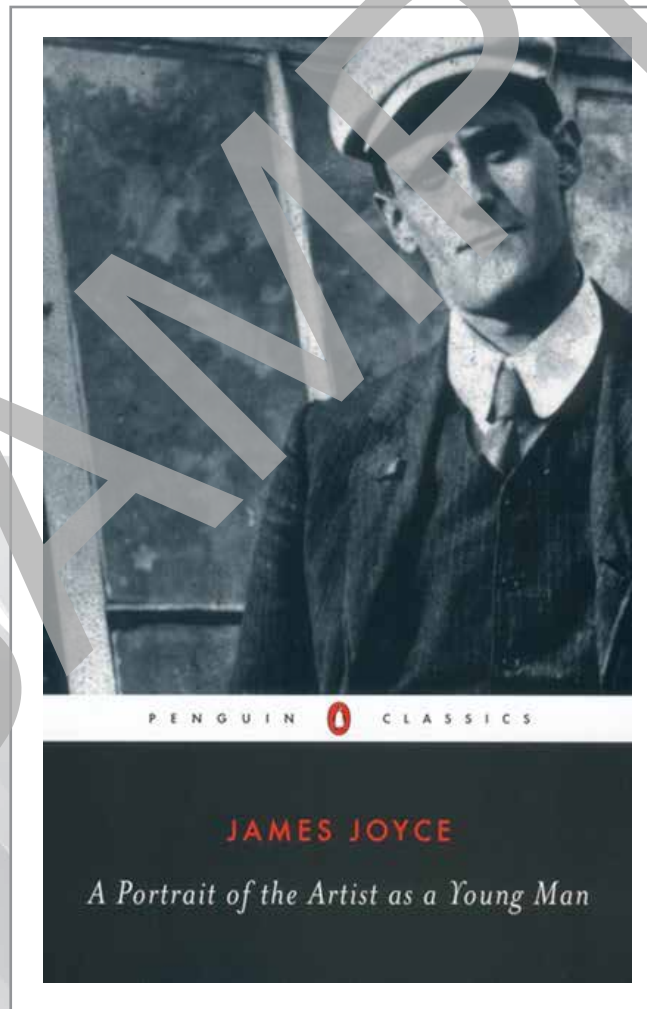


STUDENT PACKET

GRADES 9-12

A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man

James Joyce



READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT

A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man

James Joyce

STUDENT PACKET

NOTE:

The trade book edition of the novel used to prepare this guide is found in the Novel Units catalog and on the Novel Units website. Using other editions may have varied page references.

Please note: We have assigned Interest Levels based on our knowledge of the themes and ideas of the books included in the Novel Units sets, however, please assess the appropriateness of this novel or trade book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading with them. You know your students best!

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Name _____

- * 5. Stephen elaborates on the distinctions among true works of art. What categories does he enumerate? Into which category do you think this novel falls?
- 6. Stephen has thought a lot about the nature of art. What is the next challenge he will face?
- 7. When Lynch and Stephen reach the library, why does the atmosphere swiftly change?
- 8. Who is Stephen's "beloved" and why is he afraid he may have misjudged her?

Chapter Five, pages 219–253

- 1. To what "morning inspiration" does Stephen awaken on page 219?
- 2. What religious images are connected with Stephen's poem and his feelings about it?
- 3. What does Stephen think about Emma's supposed flirtation with Father Moran? What do you think Emma represents for him?
- * 4. Do you think the first piece of Stephen's art that we have seen is worth the sacrifices he has made to "free" his mind enough to be able to create it?
- * 5. Summarize in your own words the feelings and ideas represented in the villanelle.
- 6. What is the importance of Stephen's thoughts as he recalls the opening of the national theatre?
- * 7. Do you agree with Stephen's decision not to go through the motions of doing his Easter Duty, or do you think he should have done this for his mother's sake?
- 8. Why is Stephen able to let go of both his obsession with Emma and his friendship with Cranly?
- 9. What is the tone and style of Stephen's diary entries?

Name _____

Motif

A literary **motif** is an idea, image, or element which is found in many literary works. A **leitmotif** is a motif which occurs repeatedly within a single work. In *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, Joyce uses a number of both types of motifs in connection with various situations. Look for the following motifs and leitmotifs as you read, relate how they are used, and note page numbers. When you have finished reading the novel, choose **one** and write a brief essay about its use in the novel.

Motifs	Occurrences	Page #
color: white		
color: red		
color: yellow		
eyes/eyesight		
roses		
birds & flight		
warm/cold		
cows		
water		