Character Analysis

Name: _____

Date: _____

Describe each character (e.g. kind, selfish, passive) and give evidence of things they do or say.

Character	Description	What does the character do or say to fit this description?
 THE STUDENT		
 THE NIGHTINGALE		
 THE RED ROSE-TREE		
 THE PROFESSOR'S DAUGHTER		

Matching exercise

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Match each phrase from the story with an image. Draw a line to join them.

1 "*But there is no red rose in my garden, so I shall sit lonely, and she will pass me by. She will have no heed of me, and my heart will break.*"

2 "*But the winter has chilled my veins, and the frost has nipped my buds, and the storm has broken my branches, and I shall have no roses at all this year.*"

3 "*Pale was it, at first, as the mist that hangs over the river – pale as the feet of the morning and silver as the wings of the dawn.*"

4 "*Press closer, little Nightingale,*" *cried the Tree, "or the Day will come before the rose is finished.*"

5 "*It is not half as useful as Logic, for it does not prove anything, and it is always telling one of things that are not going to happen, and making one believe things that are not true.*"

A 

B 

C 

D 

E 

Glossary

Name: _____

Date: _____

Wretched: (adj) in a very unhappy or unlucky state

Hyacinth: (n) a purplish-blue flowering plant

Opal: (n) a semi-transparent gemstone that shows different colours depending on the light

Harp: (n) a musical instrument

Courtier: (n) a person who attends a royal court

Cynic: (n) a person with a pessimistic view of people

Spray: (n) stem or small branch of a tree or plant

Sun-dial: (n) an instrument that tells the time by the shadow of the sun

Scythe: (n) a tool used for cutting crops such as grass or corn

Chariot: (n) a two-wheeled vehicle drawn by horses

Heather: (n) a purple-flowering bush

Frankincense: (n) high quality incense

Sincerity: (n) the absence of pretence or deceit

Ebb: (v) to gradually decrease

Chamberlain: (n) an officer who managed the household of a monarch or noble

BEFORE YOU READ

Is love worth any sacrifice? What would you give up for someone else, and what would you expect in return?

Why do stories so often use a bird's song or a flower to speak about love? What could a rose stand for?

Live the story in the iClassics app
Interactive · Immersive · Illustrated

Quiz

Name: _____

Date: _____

Please choose the best option for each of the following questions.

1. Why does the young Student want a red rose?

(a) To win a dance with the woman he loves
(b) Because it would bring good luck
(c) To win a competition
(d) To gain entry into a secret club

2. The Nightingale says the young man is:

(a) Unrealistic
(b) Funny
(c) A true lover
(d) Very intelligent

3. Who is giving a ball?

(a) The University
(b) The Metaphysics Society
(c) The Prince
(d) The Nightingale's owner

4. Who wonders why the Student is weeping?

(a) A little Green Lizard
(b) A Butterfly
(c) A Daisy
(d) All of the above

5. Who laughs at the young Student?

(a) The Daisy
(b) The Butterfly
(c) The Green Lizard
(d) The Oak Tree

6. What does the Nightingale decide to do?

(a) Compose a song for the Student to sing to his love
(b) Find a red rose
(c) Find another love for the Student
(d) Nothing – she wants to play with the other animals

7. What is the problem with the first tree?

(a) There are no roses
(b) The roses are white
(c) The roses are pink
(d) It is an apple tree

8. What is the problem with the second tree?

(a) The roses are yellow
(b) The tree won't part with any roses
(c) The tree doesn't like nightingales
(d) The tree doesn't like the Student

9. Why can't the Nightingale get a red rose from the third tree?

(a) It has been cursed.
(b) The winter, frost and storm
(c) The roses are silver
(d) The Student hasn't watered it

10. What must the Nightingale exchange for the price of a red rose?

(a) A song
(b) She must move to live in the rose tree
(c) Her voice
(d) Her life

Live the story in the iClassics app
Interactive · Immersive · Illustrated

Quiz

Name: _____

Date: _____

11. What does she ask of the young man in return?

(a) That he write poetry for her music

(b) That he find a true love for her

(c) That he be a true lover to the young woman

(d) That he keeps the rose preserved for all time

12. Why can't the student understand what the nightingale says to him?

(a) He is deaf to music

(b) He only knows things that are written in books.

(c) He refuses to listen to her

(d) They speak different languages

13. What does the Student say about the Nightingale's song?

(a) Her voice is the most beautiful he's heard

(b) The song truly moves him to his core

(c) She has form, but no feeling

(d) It doesn't capture the depth of his sentiments

14. What colour did the Rose start out as?

(a) Pale silver

(b) Darkest black

(c) Pink

(d) Red

15. Why does the Moon forget the dawn and linger in the sky?

(a) She hears the nightingale's final song

(b) She wants the rose to be finished in time

(c) She is engaged in an interesting conversation with a star

16. How does the girl react when the student gives her the Rose?

(a) She swoons with joy, kisses the Student and puts the Rose in a beautiful vase of water

(b) She says it won't go with her outfit and that she has already been brought more expensive gifts

(c) She flies into a wild rage and slams the door in the Student's face

If you read it in the iClassics app

Answer these extra questions about what you discover as you read:

1. What do the Student's lips turn into on page 2?

2. What colour is the butterfly that was fluttering after a sunbeam?

3. How many letters are in the post box?

4. How many of the yellow roses venture out of their bush to talk to the Nightingale?

5. What can you see in the Nightingale's chest?

6. What happens to the nightingale as she sings her song to the Oak tree?

Live the story in the iClassics app
Interactive · Immersive · Illustrated

Think like a detective

Name: _____

Date: _____

Answer in full sentences. Support your ideas with evidence from the text.

1. The Student believes "things that are written in books" and cannot understand the Nightingale. What is Wilde saying about reasoning versus feeling, and who is the wiser?

2. The Rose is made from the Nightingale's blood and the girl rejects it. Is the sacrifice wasted? Argue both ways with evidence from the story.

3. The story ends with the Student returning to "Logic" and "Metaphysics". What is Wilde's final judgement on him?

iClassics Free for classroom use

Live the story in the iClassics app
Interactive · Immersive · Illustrated

Writing

Name: _____

Date: _____

Imagine it is the Nightingale's funeral. All the animals and plants from the story have come to pay their respects. **The Oak Tree gives the eulogy.** Write it: describe the Nightingale's life and personality and how the other plants and animals felt about her; explain how and why she died; explain why the Student is not at the funeral and how you feel about this; finish by paying respects to her life.



Live the story in the iClassics app
Interactive · Immersive · Illustrated