

Oscar Wilde – Aphorisms

1. "A cynic is one who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing."
2. "A gentleman is one who never hurts anyone's feelings unintentionally."
3. "A little sincerity is a dangerous thing, and a great deal of it is absolutely fatal."
4. "A man about to get married should know either everything or nothing."
5. "A man can be happy with any woman, so long as he does not love her."
6. "A man can't be too careful in the choice of his enemies."
7. "A man who does not think for himself does not think at all."
8. "A man's face is his autobiography. A woman's face is her work of fiction."
9. "A well-tied tie is the first serious step in life."
10. "All women become like their mothers. That is their tragedy. No man does. That's his."
11. "Always forgive your enemies - nothing annoys them so much."
12. "An idea that is not dangerous is unworthy of being called an idea at all."
13. "Anyone can make history. Only a great man can write it."
14. "Anyone who lives within their means suffers from a lack of imagination."
15. "Consistency is the last refuge of the unimaginative."
16. "Experience is the name everyone gives to their mistakes."
17. "I adore simple pleasures. They are the last refuge of the complex."
18. "I am not young enough to know everything."
19. "I can resist everything except temptation."
20. "I have put my genius into my life, whereas all I have put into my work is my talent."
21. "I have the simplest tastes. I am always satisfied with the best."
22. "I think that God, in creating man, somewhat overestimated His ability."
23. "In life, we are all in the gutter. Some of us just tend to look up at the stars."
24. "In matters of grave importance, style, not sincerity, is the vital thing."

25. "It is better to be beautiful than to be good - it is better to be good than to be ugly."
26. "Life imitates Art far more than Art imitates Life."
27. "Life is far too important to be taken seriously."
28. "Never speak disrespectfully of Society. Only people who can't get into it do that."
29. "One should always be in love. That is the reason one should never marry."
30. "Only the shallow know themselves."
31. "Patriotism is the virtue of the vicious."
32. "Pessimist: One who, when he has the choice of two evils, chooses both."
33. "Punctuality is the thief of time."
34. "Society often forgives the criminal but it never forgives the dreamer."
35. "The books that the world calls immoral are the books that show the world its own shame."
36. "The only thing worse than being talked about is not being talked about."
37. "The only way to get rid of a temptation is to yield to it."
38. "The pure and simple truth is rarely pure and never simple."
39. "The soul is born old but grows young. That is the comedy of life. And the body is born young and grows old. That is life's tragedy."
40. "The very essence of romance is uncertainty."
41. "There are only two tragedies in life: one is not getting what one wants, the other is getting it."
42. "There is no sin except stupidity."
43. "There is no such thing as a moral book or an immoral book. Books are well written or badly written. That is all."
44. "When I was young I used to think that money was the most important thing in life. Now that I am old, I know it is."
45. "When the gods wish to punish us they answer our prayers."
46. "When we are happy we are always good, but when we are good we are not always happy."