

AP English Literature Study Questions
A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, James Joyce

Answers to these questions are due to your English teacher the first Friday of school.

1. Trace the kinds of voices that Stephen encounters from boyhood to young adulthood.
2. Describe Stephen's view of art which he develops in chapter five.
3. How is Stephen's aesthetic theory informed by Roman Catholic doctrine of transubstantiation?
4. How does Stephen's family life affect his character?
5. Examine Stephen's relationship to girls and women.
6. Choose one moment of cannibalization and examine how Joyce employs it to dislodge the authority of Stephen's elders.
7. What does the child's point of view accomplish for Joyce in the early scenes of the novel? What does that view tell you about the young boy's society?
8. Choose one of Stephen's friends and discuss how he influences Stephen's thinking or represents some aspect of Stephen's thinking.
9. What is Stephen's idea of Irish peasants? How does it relate to his idea of himself as Irish?
10. How is British imperialism represented in the novel? How is Ireland depicted as a colonized nation? What is Stephen's response to these two?