

Nowadays interest to Oscar Wilde returns. People from all over the world read his poems and plays with great enthusiasm. At 2007 (after a special BBC survey) he was recognized as the most sharp-witted man of Great Britain.

Wit, humour, good nature and invincible gaiety of spirit; no one who spoke the English language was so light-hearted amusing as Oscar Wilde. Wilde's wit was entirely effortless and spontaneous. He was a master of satirical nonsense. No one ever said so many acute things in the guise of paradox.

Oscar Wilde was a very wit man. Much of his wit was based on paradox, paradox, a short witty saying is a set of contradictory concepts that reveal a hidden and unexpected truth.

The majority critics of the nineteenth century agree that Wilde is the most paradoxical writer of his time.

The appeal of paradox lies in the fact that, however contradictory it may seem to be to the accepted maxim, it contains nevertheless, a certain grain of truth, which makes it an excellent vehicle of satire. Indeed, it is a device much favoured by many English and American satirists.

Paradox can be considered a figure of speech with certain reservations, since the aesthetic principle, that underlies it, i.e. contrast has diverse linguistic manifestations. Paradoxes as stylistic devices are used for creating generalised images. Usually it is the Present Indefinite Tense. This form of the verb makes paradoxes and epigrams abstract.

Oscar Wilde Paradoxes

„Life is too important to be taken seriously.“

„Always forgive your enemies, nothing annoys them so much“

“If you want to tell people the truth, make them laugh, otherwise they will kill you“

“Education is a wonderful thing, provided you always remember that nothing worth knowing can ever be taught.”

“It is a very sad thing that nowadays there is so little useless information around.”

“The only duty we owe history is to rewrite it.”

“Democracy is simply the bludgeoning of the people for the people by the people.”

“Work is the curse of the drinking classes.”

“I find that alcohol, taken in sufficient quantities, produces all the effects of intoxication.”

“A cynic is a man who knows the price of everything but the value of nothing.”

“Fashion is what one wears oneself; what is unfashionable is what other people wear.”

“Society often forgives the criminal but it never forgives the dreamer.”

“There is no such thing as a moral or immoral book; books are well written or badly written.”

“Examinations consist of the foolish asking questions the wise cannot answer.”

“Punctuality is the thief of time.”

“The truth is rarely pure and never simple.”

Oscar Wilde on Life

“The good end happily and the bad unhappily; that is what fiction means.”

“We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars.”

“Experience is the name we all give to our mistakes.”

“The only thing worse in the world than being talked about is not being talked about.”

“Children begin by loving their parents. After a time, they judge them; rarely is ever do they forgive them.”

“The old believe everything; the middle-aged suspect everything; the young know everything.”

“Nothing succeeds like excess.”

"In this world there are only two tragedies; one is not getting what one wants, the other is getting it."

"To lose one parent may be regarded as a misfortune; to lose both looks like carelessness."

"To get back one's youth, one merely has to repeat one's follies."

"Young people nowadays assume that money is everything, and when they get older they know it."

"It is better to have a permanent income than to be fascinating."

"No man is ever rich enough to buy back his past."

"A man cannot be too careful in his choice of enemies."

"Every great man nowadays has his disciples, but it is always Judas who writes the biography."

On The Importance of Being Oscar Wilde

"I have put my genius into my life, whereas all I have put into my work is my talent."

"I can resist everything except temptation."

"I have very simple tastes, I am always satisfied with the very best."

"I like talking to a brick wall, I find it is the only thing that never contradicts me."

"Whenever people agree with me, I always feel I must be wrong."

"I shall never make a new friend in life, though I rather hope to make a few in death."

"I have had my hand on the moon; what is the use of trying to rise a little way from the ground?"

"This wallpaper will be the death of me; one of us will have to go."

So considerable person as Oscar Wilde will attract people even after his death, because his contribution to English and Irish literature and theatre is inestimable. His works and paradoxes will live forever.