Essay #3 Assignment
Writing 2 – L. Miller

You will have your choice of two topics for this essay. Regardless of the essay you choose, you will be required to do the following:

Write a 4-5 page typed, double-spaced essay, using MLA format, Times New Roman 12 point font, 1” margins.

This essay must have a tight, well-argued central claim or thesis, which you support with evidence from the text. Your essay will be evaluated on the strength of your argument and the close reading and analysis of the language of the text you choose. Essays that are too general or lacking in a central argument will receive low marks.

You may wish to refer to the ideas brought up in Wilde’s Preface to *The Picture of Dorian Gray* in any of these essays, but you are not required to do so.

Essay Topic #1: Analyze the role of vision in Wordsworth’s “Lines Written a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey” or Samuel Beckett’s *Endgame*. You may wish to discuss the difference between literal vision – what the eye sees – and inward or imaginative vision.

Essay Topic #2: Analyze the role aesthetics play in Wordsworth’s “Lines Written a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey” or Samuel Beckett’s *Endgame*. You may wish to focus on which tangible and intangible qualities are portrayed as beautiful in “Tintern Abbey” or you may want to write about the ways that beauty and aesthetics are repressed in *Endgame*.

Essay Topic #3: Write an essay analyzing the absence of nature in *Endgame* and the absence of the city in “Lines Written a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey.” What function do these absences serve?

E-mail me your rough draft as a Microsoft Word attachment by 5 pm on Wednesday, November 22nd. No late papers. No exceptions, unless there is a documented medical emergency.

Bring your final draft to class on Wednesday, November 29th.