Wilde Storytelling

1.  Wilde's young Student "pulled out a great dusty book, and began to read" as solace after disappointed love. Do you agree that reading is for failed living or experience? Think about what processes were going on with you while we read "The Nightingale and the Rose" together and add your observations to the list. Reading is

    - escaping
    - imagining
    - looking up words
    - looking up information
    - interpreting
    - asking questions
    - learning
    - skimming
    - 

    - thinking
    - comparing
    - filling in the gaps
    - remembering
    - evaluating
    - feeling
    - time traveling
    - skipping
    - 
    - 

    - believing
    - wondering
    - reading forward
    - reading backward
    - choosing, making decisions
    - rereading
    - listening
    - 
    - 

2.  Read the following fairy tale from James Thurber.

    One afternoon a big wolf waited in a dark forest for a little girl to come along carrying a basket of food to her grandmother. Finally a little girl did come along and she was carrying a basket of food. "Are you carrying that basket to your grandmother?" asked the wolf. The little girl said yes, she was. So the wolf asked her where her grandmother lived and the little girl told him and he disappeared into the wood.

    When the little girl opened the door of her grandmother's house she saw that there was somebody in bed with a nightcap on. She had approached no nearer than twenty-five feet from the bed when she saw that it was not her grandmother but the wolf, for even in a nightcap a wolf does not look any more like your grandmother than the Metro-Goldwyn lion looks like Calvin Coolidge. So the little girl took an automatic out of her basket and shot the wolf dead.

    Moral: It is not so easy to fool little girls nowadays as it used to be.



▲ Calvin Coolidge, 30th president of the United States in 1919

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (MGM): ▸
Leo the Lion
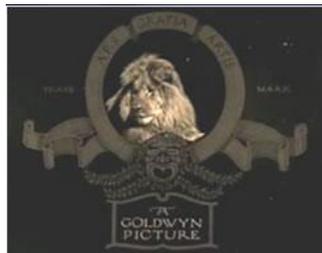


Slats, the Original "Leo The Lion" at Golwyn Pictures, 1916 - 1924

Slats, in the first official MGM logo, 1924 - 1928

Jackie, the second lion, 1928 - 1956

Tanner, the third lion, 1934 - 1956

An unnamed fourth lion, 1956 - 1958

Leo the Lion, 1957 - present

What would the moral for Wilde's "The Nightingale and the Rose" be?
Moral:


3. Look up the word *nightingale* and give a brief summary from each source:
   - Your handy dictionary (give name):


   - An etymological dictionary (give name):


   - A dictionary of symbols (give name):


   - A Hyper-Concordance to the Works of Oscar Wilde at http://victorian.lang.nagoya-u.ac.jp/concordance/wilde/ (give name of work):


4. Write your own modern fairy tale with moral.