

“The Importance of Being Earnest”

Unit 1 Lesson 1: The Playwright Oscar Wilde

- What are the best strategies and the steps for reading dramatic dialogue?
- Wilde hoped to become a successful what? Even though he was not successful at doing so.
- Wilde’s favorite activity is the pursuit of

Unit 1 Lesson 2: Act I, First Half (Pages 2-16 of PDF)

- Victorian Era
 - Drinking water
- Define earnest include antonym and synonym
- What does Algernon find indecent about Mary Farquhar?
- What happened to the cucumber sandwiches?

Unit 1 Lesson 3: Act I, Second Half (Pages 16-36 of PDF)

- According to Lady Bracknell in "The Importance of Being Earnest," why can't Gwendolen marry Jack (whom she knows as Ernest)?
- Vocabulary
 - Candidly
- Restoration comedies

Unit 1 Lesson 4: Act II, First Half (Pages 37-58 of PDF)

- George Bernard Shaw criticized The Importance of Being Earnest for ...
- Why does Cecily want to study German?
- Where does Cecily say Jack is sending Ernest?
- Vocabulary
 - Melancholy
 - Utilitarian
 - Vacillating

Unit 1 Lesson 5 : Act II, Second Half (Pages 59-79 of PDF) (For English 10 and Foundations 10 ...I have dropped the Discussion Board for this Lesson)

- What are symbols you have noticed in the play?
- How is food a symbol in the play?
- What irony have you noticed in the play?

Unit 1 Lesson 6: Act III (remainder of the pages)

- Theater of the Absurd
- Define effrontery include antonym and synonym
- How does Algernon say Bunbury died?
- What trait does Cecily admire in others?

Keep track of which characters said the following quotes...

Quote	Character
"From the moment I saw you I distrusted you. I felt that you were false and deceitful. I am never deceived in such matters. My first impressions of people are invariably right."	
"How you can sit there, calmly eating muffins when we are in this horrible trouble, I can't make out. You seem to me to be perfectly heartless."	
"I don't quite like women who are interested in philanthropic work. I think it is so forward of them."	
"I hate people who are not serious about meals. It is so shallow of them."	
"To speak frankly, I am not in favour of long engagements. They give people the opportunity of finding out each other's character before marriage, which I think is never advisable."	
"You should get married. A misanthrope I can understand—a womanthrope, never!"	