

Oscar Wilde

The Importance of Being Earnest

KEY TO THE ACTIVITIES

About the Author

Page 6 – exercise 1

1 Oscar Fingal O’Flahertie Wills Wilde 2 1854, Dublin 3 Greek and Latin (the Classics), Art 4 Trinity College, Dublin, Oxford University 5 America, Paris 6 two sons 7 Editor, writer (playwright) 8 Possible answers: The Happy Prince and Other Tales; A House of Pomegranates; Lady Windermere’s Fan; A Woman of No Importance; An Ideal Husband; The Importance of Being Earnest; The Picture of Dorian Gray 9 1900

Page 6 – exercise 2

Open answer

CHAPTER ONE

Page 8 – exercise 1

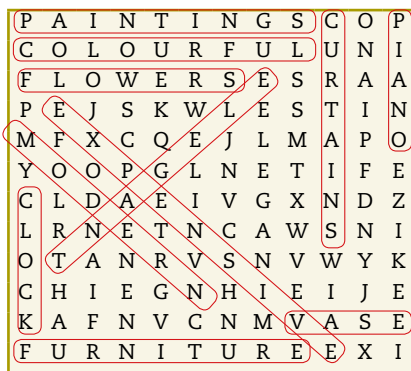
1 A silver case, business cards 2 Jack, Cecily 3 West End of London, £50.

Page 8 – exercise 2

a 3 b 1 c 2 (Bachelor doesn’t match the rest. Doesn’t look after/have responsibility for someone)

Page 8 – exercise 3

vase; curtains; elegant; paintings; colourful; piano; clock; expensive; flowers.



Page 15 – exercise 1

1 b 2 c 3 a 4 d 5 b

Page 16 – exercise 2

2

Page 16 – exercise 3

best man, carriage, dress, hat, bridesmaid, honeymoon, fiancé, proposal, suit, ring, engaged, vicar. 1 proposal 2 bridesmaid

KEY TO THE ACTIVITIES

3 honeymoon 4 ring 5 carriage 6 vicar.

Page 16 – exercise 4

1 He doesn’t think it is romantic. (It is like business.) No, Jack wants to marry Gwendolen because he says he is in love with her 2 ‘There is not much need for good quality champagne if you are married.’; ‘I’m sure there are many people who are very happily married.’ He was married once but it was a mistake 3 Open answer 4 Open answer.

Page 17 – exercise 5

1 champagne 2 silver 3 business card 4 will

Page 17 – exercise 6

Open answer

Page 17 – exercise 7

Example answers: for fun – listen to music, watch films, play games on the computer, play sport, chat on social media; have to – study, pay bills, go to work, do the housework; both: do the gardening, go to the gym, write emails.

CHAPTER TWO

Page 18 – exercise 1

1 Algernon has eaten them all 2 Lady Bracknell 3 Open answer 4 a, c

Page 18 – exercise 2

1 distinguished 2 dinner parties 3 rarely 4 pretended 5 announced 6 layers 7 slightly 8 necklace 9 slim 10 parasol.

Page 24 – exercise 1

a dinner b ordered c announced d marry e piano f carriage g disappointing h ideal. a 3 b 7 c 1 d 5 e 8 f 4 g 6 h 2

Page 24 – exercise 2

a 3 b 4 c 1 d 2

Page 25 – exercise 3

Open answers

Page 25 – exercise 4

Open answers.

Page 25 – exercise 5

Open answers.

Page 25 – exercise 6

1 a 2 e 3 f 4 b 5 d

Page 26 – Culture Spot

1 c 2 b 3 a 4 d 5 a 6 b

Page 27 – exercise 7

3.

Page 27 – exercise 8

Open answers

Page 27 – exercise 9

Open answers

Page 28 – exercise 10

1 b 2 c 3 a 4 a

CHAPTER THREE

Page 29 – exercise 1

1 Possible answers: when you have a job; for entrance to university; a journalist might interview someone; police interview; a meeting when someone asks you question in a formal setting. 2 Open answers depending on the situation but usually open questions, i.e. what, where,



where, what, etc. Can you give me an example of? In law/police situations these might be more closed, i.e. yes/no. Were you at the scene of the crime? Did you know the victim? (Teacher's note: Lady Bracknell is interviewing Jack for the job of 'marriage'. She is also acting as 'judge' and guardian of Victorian moral standards. She uses both types of questions and interviews in both ways.)

Page 29 – exercise 2

1 b 2 c 3 b 4 a 5 a 6 d

Page 29 – exercise 2

A d Astonished is not an adverb; it doesn't begin with the letter 'c'. (Although too high for the level it is possible they will notice the other words are 'relaxed/not too worried'. Astonished shows surprise.)

B Open answer.

Page 36 – exercise 1

1 How old are you, Mr Worthing? I am 29. 2 What do you know? Nothing (I don't know anything.) 3 How much do you earn? I earn 7,000-8,000 pounds a year. 4 Do you have a country house? Yes, I do. 5 What is your address in London? It is 149 Belgrave Square. 6 Was your father a business man or an aristocrat? I don't know. (I have lost both my parents. I was found.)

Page 36 – exercise 2

1 A 2 J 3 A 4 J 5 A 6 A

Page 36 – exercise 3

Open answers.

Page 37 – exercise 4

1 a 2 c 3 a 4 b

TRACK 05

Presenter: Dr James Long is a railway historian. He is going to tell us a little bit more about the fascinating history of the London and Brighton railway.

Dr Long: In the 19th century, London Victoria Station was not one station; it was a terminus for a number of stations. A group of different businessmen suggested six new routes from London to Brighton. In the end, they built the most expensive and difficult line, but it was also the quickest and the most direct. Over 3,500 men and 570 horses were used to build the railway. It took three years to complete. You can imagine the excitement when the first train arrived in Brighton Railway Station in 1841.

You have to remember that people were travelling more at this time and, of course, Brighton was a very fashionable place to visit. In fact, by the 1830s, it was one of the most popular seaside towns in Britain. The line was often used by wealthy travellers and tourists who wanted to go to the coast for their holidays. In 1881, the first luxury train service, complete with first-class carriages and its own serving staff went to Brighton. At this time, the Brighton line was probably the most prestigious and most respectable line from Victoria Station.

Page 37 – exercise 5

Possible answers. Both: bossy, fashionable, serious; Gwendolen is clever but her mother is stupid. Gwendolen is pretty but Lady Bracknell is ugly.

Page 38 – exercise 6

Possible answers. They both want to have fun; they have invented other people so they can do the things they want. They like food and they are greedy. Jack is more serious than Algernon. Algernon is more interested in music than Jack.

Page 38 – exercise 7

1 d cough 2 e sore 3 i allergy
4 a, f sick, aching 5 c, b cold, sneezing 6 g, h bed, flu.
Extra word: incurable.

Page 39 – exercise 8

a

Page 39 – exercise 9

Open answers

Page 39 – exercise 10

How are you feeling? Are you hot or cold? Do you need anything? Have you taken your medicine yet?

Page 39 – exercise 11

Correct answers: 1, 4. Incorrect: 2 (32 teeth), 3 (no, it's impossible)

Victorian morals and values**Page 42 – exercise 1**

1 F 2 T 3 T 4 F 5 T 6 F

CHAPTER FOUR

Page 43 – exercise 1

- 1 The house is a large manor house with columns and steps. Cecily/Jack/Miss Prism live here.
- 2 Cecily is wearing a white dress with a ribbon in her hair; Miss Prism is wearing a jacket and a hat.
- 3 A governess teaches children in a family; governess usually work for wealthy families, families where a child is too far from other places to go to school or when the parent(s) or family move between places/countries a lot.

Page 43 – exercise 2

- 1 Best answer is a (b The man with the car might have lots of money and spend wisely, c The person might show politeness tolerance not hypocrisy.)
- 2 A
- 3 C. Possible answers: because it's the furthest away from Britain; he knows people in Australia; in the past criminals were sent to Australia. Cultural note: the British sometimes sent criminals to Australia instead of the death sentence. This is relevant for the next chapter.

Page 50 – exercise 1

1 B 2 A 3 A 4 A 5 B 6 A 7 A 8 B 9 B

Page 50 – exercise 2

1 d 2 a 3 b 4 c

Page 51 – exercise 3

Open answers

Page 51 – exercise 4

Open answer

CHAPTER FIVE

Page 52 – exercise 1

1 A feeling of great sadness because someone has died. **2** He is wearing a long black coat, black gloves, a waistcoat, a tie and a tall black hat. **3** Algernon. He is pretending to be his brother. Jack has said his brother is dead.

Page 52 – exercise 2

Open answers

Page 51 – exercise 3

Open answers

Page 59 – exercise 1

1 T **2** F **3** F **4** F **5** F **6** T **7** F **8** T

Page 59 – exercise 2

1 C, Miss Prism **2** B, Reverend Chasuble **3** A, Jack

Page 60 – exercise 3

Sample answer: Hello Emilia, I'm sorry to hear about Giovanni. I hope he feels better soon. I'm free next weekend. You can stay at my flat. It's not a problem. We can meet at the coffee shop opposite the station. I'll see you on Saturday!

Page 60 – exercise 4

1 handbag **2** money **3** medicine
4 room **5** reception **6** driver
7 handles **8** Country
9 Hertfordshire **10** 456 321

TRACK 08

Manor House Tours
Hello, and welcome to Manor House Tours. We're delighted to have you with us and we hope you enjoy your stay in England. We have some beautiful houses to show you from small country

houses to grand castles. Now before we begin our tour, I just need to explain the arrangements for your luggage. First of all: hand luggage. You are allowed to take one handbag and one small bag with you on the coach. Please bring your money, your passport and any other valuables with you. For the day tours, please remember to take everything you are going to need for the day. For example, make sure you take any medicine you need. You can leave all your larger items and suitcases with us. When we arrive at the first hotel, your luggage will be taken directly to your hotel room from the coach by the hotel porters. When you check out from your room, please leave your suitcases at reception. The driver will make sure that all your luggage is returned to the coach. He will then leave the luggage at the next hotel so that your luggage is there for you when you arrive. In order to make sure we can clearly identify your luggage, I'm going to give you some luggage tags to put around the handles of your bags and suitcases. You should tie them tightly around the handles so they don't come off. On one side of the luggage tag you should write your name, the tour you are on and most importantly your contact number. We suggest that this is your mobile phone number. This tour is called "England's Country Houses". On the other side of the tag, please write the name and address of the tour company. You can find this information on the papers you

were sent with your booking, but if you want to write it down now the address is: Manor House Tours, 3 Green Tree Road, Little Worthing, Hertfordshire. Hertfordshire is spelled H-E-R-T-F-O-R-D-S-H-I-R-E. The contact telephone number for Manor House Tours is – 01791 456 321. So just to repeat that again: Manor House Tours, 3 Green Tree Road, Little Worthing, Hertfordshire. 01791 456 321.

CHAPTER SIX

Page 61 – exercise 1

1 Merriman interrupts **2** been engaged for **3** is called **4** not **5** she was

Page 61 – exercise 2

0 F **1** F **2** T **3** F **4** T **5** T

Page 61 – exercise 3

A desperately, madly, passionately, deeply. Two meanings: "desperately" also means without hope; "madly" also means with a lot of energy or describes stupid/dangerous/crazy behaviour; deeply – e.g. to breathe deeply – to take a lot of air inside the body.
B Open answers. Most likely: tree, rose bush, castle.

Page 68 – exercise 1

1 Who, Algernon came to see Cecily **2** When, She told him to come back in five minutes **3** Where, She engraved them in/on a tree in a little heart **4** What, Cecily had a/an ring/engagement ring **5** Why, He went to see Reverend Chasuble because he wanted to be christened/change his name to

Ernest **6** Where, She met Gwendolen in the garden **7** Why, Gwendolen was surprised because didn't know Jack had a pretty ward Gwendolen was surprised because didn't know Jack had a pretty ward Who, Cecily said she was engaged to Ernest Worthing.

Page 68 – exercise 2

A Algernon took a rose from his button hole and gave it to Cecily. B Merriman told Algernon/Cecily/ them that the carriage was ready (or Jack told the servants to prepare the horse and carriage because Algernon had to leave immediately). C Cecily wrote their names on the tree (or Cecily showed Algernon the tree where she wrote their names). D Cecily wrote Algernon's.... for him/Cecily told Algernon about his letters/The spelling in the letter Algernon wrote when he/they ended the engagement was very bad.
E/F Open answers

Page 69 – exercise 3

1 Cecily was already engaged to Ernest. Cecily had written their engagement in her diary on 14th February. **2** Cecily showed Algernon the tree. She had written their names on it. **3** Algernon walked towards the church; he had decided to be christened. **4** A lady had arrived at the manor house looking for Jack. Merriman went to the carriage to greet the lady. **5** At the Manor House Gwendolen discovered that Cecily was Jack's ward. Jack hadn't told Gwendolen about Cecily.

Page 70 – exercise 4

A Open answers

B possible answers: a, d are perfect; b, c are not perfect
C a, b

Page 70 – exercise 5

Examples: Bunbury is not real; Earnest doesn't exist; Cecily pretends she is engaged to Ernest and has an imaginary relationship/engagement with him. Gwendolen imagines Ernest will be perfect for her because he is called Ernest. People are not surprised by the imaginary lives that the others create.

Page 70 – exercise 6

1 c 2 e 3 f 4 b 5 d 6 a

TRACK 10

- 1 She is young, slim, elegant and fashionable. She is intelligent and well educated. She is the daughter of Lady Bracknell. She lives in London. Her cousin is Algernon Moncrieff. She wants to marry a man named Ernest.
- 2 She is the mother of Gwendolen Fairfax and the aunt of Algernon Moncrieff. She is married to Lord Bracknell. This means, she has the title of "Lady" and is an important member of society. She dresses in typical Victorian style and always wears a hat. She has a lot of opinions of everything!
- 3 She is the youngest person in the play. She has blonde hair. She is pretty but natural. She lives in the manor house of Jack Worthing in the country. She has a governess called Miss Prism.

She dreams a lot and likes writing in her diary.

- 4 He is interested in fun, style and fashion so he always wears nice clothes. He has dark, curly hair. He doesn't take life too seriously. He likes playing the piano and eating good food. He has an expensive apartment in London. He is the nephew of Lady Bracknell and the cousin of Gwendolen Fairfax.
- 5 She is Cecily's governess. She is also a good friend of the local vicar, the Reverend Chasuble. She has neat, grey, hair which she always ties on top of her head. She wears glasses. She is serious, responsible and clever. She would like Cecily to be more serious about her studies.
- 6 He is Algernon's friend. He is almost the same age as Algernon but he is a few years older. He lives in the country with Cecily Cardew and her governess Miss Prism. He also has an apartment in London where he often stays. People think he is serious and responsible but he likes to have fun.

Page 71 – exercise 7

1 a 2 c 3 b 4 c

CHAPTER SEVEN**Page 72 – exercise 1**

Possible answers: Three slices of bread and butter. A piece of cake or bread and butter. Two lumps of sugar. A couple of sandwiches, scones or muffins. A pot of tea, e.g. herbal tea, green tea, etc. A cup of tea. A glass of champagne or lemonade. A selection of pastries.

Page 72 – exercise 2

b

Page 72 – exercise 3

No. She gives her sugar in the tea and cake instead of bread and butter.

Page 79 – exercise 1

1 A 2 A 3 B 4 B 5 A 6 A
7 B 8 B.

Page 79 – exercise 2

a C b G c G d C e G f C.
5 1 2 3 6 4

Page 80 – exercise 3

1 engagement 2 daughter 3 son 4 Edwards 5 at 6 wedding 7 in

Page 80 – exercise 4

Open answers

Page 80 – exercise 5

Open answer

Page 81 – exercise 6

Open answer

Page 81 – exercise 7

Open answers

Page 81 – exercise 8

b

Dossier The Dandy

Page 84 – exercise 1

1 His clothes and appearance 2 Beau Brummell 3 Charles Baudelaire 4 revolutionaries and artists, a carnation 5 eccentric
Page 84 – exercise 2
1 shoe 2 purple 3 wool 3 jeans.

CHAPTER EIGHT**Page 85 – exercise 1**

C

Page 85 – exercise 2

1 bookshelves 2 coughed 3 explanation 4 agreement 5 bond 6 acres

Page 85 – exercise 3

Possible answers: the drawing room, garden, whistling; pretended to be her guardian's brother/he wanted to meet Cecily; pretended to be Ernest/he wanted to see Gwendolen; believe/they are not called Ernest (their names are not Ernest).

Page 92 – exercise 1

1 c, because 2 b, because 3 e, so 4 g, so 5 h, because 6 f, but 7 g, so 1 c, because 2 a, and 3 e, so 4 g, so 5 h, because 6 f, but 7 g, so 1 c – because; 2 a – so; 3 b because; 4 e – so; 5 h – because; 6 d – but; 7 f but; 8 g – so

Page 93 – exercise 2

1 church 2 pretended 3 guardian

Page 93 – exercise 3

1 2 Open answers 3 b.

Page 93 – exercise 4

1

Page 94 – exercise 5

a c d g

Page 94 – exercise 6

1 The qualities of the name Ernest were important qualities for a good member of Victorian society.
2 Possible answer: no, they are not honest (about Ernest/Bunbury); they are not very serious but they are determined to marry the women. 3 Open answer.

Page 94 – exercise 7

Example answers **1** No. We know Algernon spends all his money. Lady Bracknell says he has no money. He said he had no money in Chapter One. It's not a problem because he comes from a respectable family. Cecily has money so it isn't a problem. Algernon would probably live with her. (Cultural Note: until 1870, women's property became their husbands when they married but this was not the case when the play was written.) **2** No, she didn't. Yes, it's an example of irony. (If student's level allows expansion: she behaves like she has money so people believe she has money when the opposite is true.) **3** Both. Money is very important. It's a good reason for Algernon to marry Cecily. But respectability is equally important. She won't let Jack marry her daughter.

Page 95 – exercise 8

Open answers

Page 95 – exercise 9

a **3** b **2** c **4** d **1**

TRACK 13**1** Carla

I'm terrible with money. I should be a bit more careful! When I get money, I spend it. I love shopping and I like buying things. If I don't have money at the end of the month, I know I can live on a very small amount of money if I need to so I don't worry too much. You only live once!

2 Idris

I am very careful with money. I check my bank account often. Sometimes my friends say I think about money too much but then they never have any money because buy things they can't afford. I have some savings but I would like to get a better job. Then I could save more money to buy a house.

3 Mohammed

I think you should spend what you earn. If you earn a lot, you can spend a lot! I'm not very rich now but I'd love to win the lottery. I have my own business. All my money goes into my business but one day I hope to make lots of money and be successful. One day, I'd like to be a millionaire.

4 Gloria

I often worry about money. I live on my own with my children and I don't have much money. I need to know that I will have enough money to pay for my rent and my bills. The children are always asking for things. It's very difficult!

Page 95 – exercise 10

1 \$100 **2** £69,000 **3** 1p **4** 100,000 pesos

Page 96-97

Open answer

CHAPTER NINE

Page 98 – exercise 1

1 B **2** A **3** C **4** A

Page 105 – exercise 1

a **1**, waved from b **7**, wasn't c **4**, her handbag d **2**, pale e **3**, Miss Prism f **6**, another room g **5**, was left in h **8**, older i **9**, first j **10**, Earnest.

Page 105 – exercise 2

Open answer

Page 106 – exercise 1

1 sent **2** ate **3** knew **4** week **5** sighed **6** there

Page 106 – exercise 4

1 8 (eight) **2** pram **3** lake **4** manuscript **5** Miss Prism **6** Miss Prism/she/the lady **7** by **8** cloakroom **9** coat.

Page 107 – exercise 5

Words swapped from text, in order: secret, forest, discover, plays, double, painting. Words not swapped: theme - subject, babies - children, true - real, real - true.) Puzzle – Across: **3** double; **4** forest; **5** Secret – Down: **1** plays; **2** painting; **3** discovers.

Page 108 – exercise 6

1 His name was Ernest; he had a brother **2** b (although he didn't behave seriously/honestly, he was honest and true to his word that he would marry Gwendolen); **3**. Possible answers – yes, he is Earnest/Ernest; he is not pretending to be Earnest/Ernest. **3** no – he has learnt nothing at all. He is just very lucky and he is enjoying his luck!

Page 108 – exercise 7

1 irony **2** satire **3** wit **4** epigram

Page 108 – exercise 8

Open answer

After Reading**Page 109 – exercise 1**

E **1** **A** **2** **C** **3** **F** **4** **B** **5** **D** **6**

Page 110 – exercise 2

Open answer

Page 110 – exercise 3

1 **3** **5** **6**

Page 110 – exercise 4

1 Lane (Algernon's butler) **2** Jack (Worthing) **3** Algernon (Moncrieff) **4** Algernon (Moncrieff) **5** Reverend Chasuble **6** Merriman (Jack's butler) **7** Cecily (Cardew) **8** Gwendolen (Fairfax) **9** Miss (Laetitia) Prism **10** Lady (Augusta) Bracknell

Page 111 – exercise 5

Down: **1** fiction **2** chapters

3 poem **4** character

Across: **1** author **2** playwright

3 published **4** novel

Page 111 – exercise 6

C	H	E	E	K
M	A	R	R	K
S	C	E	N	T
A	S	S	E	S
C	H	E	S	T
S	E	T	T	E

EXIT TEST ONLINE**1** Possible answers:

- A will not allow him/does not agree/is not happy about it/doesn't want him to marry her.
 B they become friends/they call each other sister.
 C wicked/handsome/Jack's brother Ernest/her fiancé.
 D was found in a handbag/was left in a station classroom/doesn't know anything about this parents.
 E Ernest. F - Bunbury (his friend Bunbury who he visits in the country).
 G get married/find a wife.
 H died in Paris of a cold.

Suggested order (may change according to answers):

**1 - F 2 - A 3 - D 4 - C 5 - G
6 - H 7 - B 8 - E****2****1 - A 2 - C 3 - D 4 - B 5 - B
6 - A 7 - D 8 - C****3**

- 1** hungry/Algernon;
2 trivial/Lady Bracknell;
3 careful/Miss Prism;
4 studious/Reverend Chasuble;
5 sincere/Jack;
6 ignorant/Lady Bracknell;
7 beautiful/Cecily
8 determined/Gwendolen.