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## APPENDIX

The Title : The Importance of Being Earnest  
The Writer : By Oscar Wilde  
Published : The year was published 1895  
Characters : (As originally produced at the St James Theatre, London, under the management of Mr. George Alexander, February 14, 1895.)

1. JOHN WORTHING, J.P
2. ALGERNON MONCRIEFF
3. REV. CANON CHASUBLE, D. D
4. MERRIMAN, butler
5. LANE, manservant
6. LADY BRACKNELL
7. HON. GWENDOLEN FAIRFAX
8. CECILY CARDEW
9. MISS PRISM, governess

The Scenes of the Play:

ACT I : Algernon Moncrieff's flat in Half Moon Street, W.  
ACT II : The garden at the Manor House, Woolton  
ACT III : Drawing-room of the Manor House, Woolton  
TIME : The present  
PLACE : London

### 1. Maxim of Quality

The utterance gives right contribution for giving clear and objective information that the speaker need in giving feedback each other's between the hearers, so it will violate if the speaker and hearer say out of what they believe to be false and for something which they lack adequate evidence.

#### Datum 1 (Act I)

*JACK : "I am in love with Gwendolen. I have come up to town expressly to propose to her".*

*ALGERNON : "I thought you had come up for pleasure? I call that business".*

*JACK : "How utterly unromantic you are!"*

*ALGERNON : "I really don't see anything romantic in proposing. It is very romantic to be in love. But there is nothing romantic about a definite*



*proposal. Why, one may be accepted. One usually is, I believe. Then the excitement is all over. The very essence of romance is uncertainty. If ever I get married, I'll certainly try to forget the fact"*

**JACK** : *"I have no doubt about that, dear Algy. The Divorce Court was specially invented for people whose memories are so curiously constituted".*

**ALGERNON** : *"Oh! There is no use speculating on that subject Divorces are made in Heaven- (JACK puts out his hand to take a sandwich ALGERNON at once interferes.) Please don't touch the cucumber sandwiches. They are ordered specially for Aunt Augusta (Takes one and eats it)"*

#### **Datum 2 (Act I)**

**ALGERNON** : *"Well, my dear fellow, you need not eat as if you were going to eat it all you. Behave as if you were married to her already. You are not married to her already, and I don't think you ever will be.*

**JACK** : *"Why on earth do you say that?"*

**ALGERNON** : *"Well, in the first place girls never marry the men they flirt with. Girls don't think it right"*

**JACK** : *"Oh that is nonsense!"*

**ALGERNON** : *"It isn't It is a great truth. It accounts for the extraordinary number of bachelors that one sees all over the place. In the second place, I don't give my consent"*

**JACK** : *"Your consent!"*

#### **Datum 3 (Act I)**

**ALGERNON** : *"Where is that place in the country, by the way?"*

**JACK** : *"That is nothing to you, dear boy. You are not going to be invited. I may tell you candidly that the place is not in Shropshire".*

#### **Datum 4 (Act I)**

**ALGERNON** : *"(picking up empty plate in horror) Good heavens! Lane! Why are there no cucumber sandwiches? I ordered them specially".*



LANE : “(gravely) *there were no cucumbers in the market this morning, sir. I went down twice*”.

ALGERNON : “*No cucumbers!*”

LANE : “*No, sir. Not even for ready money*”.

ALGERNON : “*That will do, Lane, thank you*”.

#### **Datum 5 (Act II)**

CHASUBLE : “*Dear Mr. Worthing, I trust this garb of woe does not betoken some terrible calamity?*”

JACK : “*My brother*”.

Miss PRISM: “*More shameful debts and extravagance?*”

CHASUBLE : “*Still leading his life of pleasure?*”

JACK : “*(shaking his head) Dead!*”

CHASUBLE : “*Your brother Ernest dead?*”

JACK : “*Quite dead*”

#### **Datum 6 (Act II)**

CHASUBLE : “*Very sad indeed. Were you with him at the end?*”

JACK : “*No. He died abroad; in Paris, in fact I had a telegram last night from the manager of the Grand Hotel*”

#### **Datum 7 (Act II)**

CHASUBLE : “*But surely, Mr. Worthing, you have been christened already?*”

JACK : “*I don't remember anything about it*”

CHASUBLE : “*But have you any grave doubts on the subject?*”

JACK : “*I certainly intend to have. Of course, I don't know if the thing would bother you in any way, or if you think I am a little too old now*”.

#### **Datum 8 (Act II)**

JACK : “*Merriman, order the dog-cart at once. Mr. Ernest has been suddenly called back to town*”.

MERRIMAN : “*Yes, sir. (Goes back into the house.)*”

ALGERNON : “*What a fearful liar you are, Jack. I have not been called back to town at all*”.



JACK : "Yes you have".

ALGERNON : "I haven't heard anyone call me".

JACK : "Your duty as a gentleman calls you back".

#### **Datum 9 (Act II)**

CECILY : " (rising) to save my poor, innocent, trusting boy from the machinations of any other girl there are no lengths to which I would not go".

GWENDOLEN : "From the moment I saw you I distrusted you. I felt you were false and deceitful. I am never deceived in such matters. My first impressions of people are invariably right"

#### **Datum 10 (Act II)**

Gwendolen : "An admirable idea! Mr. Worthing, there is just one question I would like to be permitted to put to you. Where is your brother Ernest? We are both engaged to be married to your brother Ernest, so it is a matter of some importance to us to know where your brother Ernest is at present"

JACK : "( slowly and hesitatingly) Gwendolen - Cecily- it is very painful for me to be forced to speak the truth. It is the first time in my life that I have ever been reduced to such a painful position, and I am really quite inexperienced in doing anything of the kind. However, I will tell you quite frankly that I have no brother Ernest I have no brother at all. I never had a brother in my life, and I certainly have not the smallest intention of ever having one in the future".

#### **Datum 11 (Act II)**

ALGERNON : "Yes, but I have not been christened for years".

JACK : "Yes, but you have been christened. That is the important thing".

#### **Datum 12 (Act III)**

LADY BRACKNELL : " (to CECILY) Come here, sweet child. (CECILY goes over.) How old are you, dear?"



CECILY : "Well I am really only eighteen, but I always admit to twenty when I go to evening parties".

**Datum 13 (Act III)**

JACK : " (in a pathetic voice) Miss Prism, more is restored to you than this hand- bag. I was the baby you placed in it".

Miss PRISM : "( amazed) you?"

JACK : "( embracing her) Yes ... Mother!

Miss PRISM : "( recoiling in indignant astonishment) Mr. Worthing! I am unmarried!"

JACK : "Unmarried! I do not deny that is a serious blow. But after all, who has the right to cast a stone against one who has suffered? Cannot repentance wipe out an act of folly? Why should there be one law for men, and another for women? Mother, I forgive you. (Tries to embrace her again)"

**2. Maxim of Quantity**

The utterance gives right contribution for do not say anything that the speaker thinks it is wrong and there is no qualified fact and it will violate the quantity maxim if the speaker and the hearer give the unappropriate contribution about the right and false information, qualified or unqualified fact.

**Datum 14 (Act 1)**

ALGERNON : "Did you hear what I was playing, Lane?"

LANE : "I didn't think it polite to listen, sir".

ALGERNON : " I'm sorry for that, for your sake. I don't play accurately - anyone can play accurately - but I play with a wonderful expression. As far as the piano is concerned, sentiment is my forte. I keep science for life".

LANE : "Yes, sir".

**Datum 15 (Act 1)**

ALGERNON : "How are you, my dear Ernest? What brings you up to town?"



**JACK** : *“Oh, pleasure, pleasure! What else should bring one anywhere? Eating as usual, I see, Algy!”*

**Datum 16 (Act 1)**

**JACK** : *“You had much better dine with your Aunt Augusta”.*

**ALGERNON** : *“I haven't the smallest intention of doing anything of the kind To begin with, I dined there on Monday, and once a week is quite enough to dine with one's own relations. In the second place, whenever I do dine there I am always treated as a member of the family, and sent down with either no woman at all, or two. In the third place, I know perfectly well whom she will place me next to tonight She will place me next to Mary Farquhar, who always flirts with her own husband across the dinner-table. That is not very pleasant. Indeed, it is not even decent and that sort of thing is enormously on the increase. The amount of women in London who flirt with their own husbands is perfectly scandalous. It looks so bad it is simply washing one's clean linen in public. Besides, now that I know you to be a confirmed Bunburyist. I naturally want to talk to you about Bunburying. I want to tell you the rules”.*

**Datum 17 (Act 1)**

**ALGERNON** : *“Didn't it go off all right, old boy? You don't mean to say Gwendolen refused you? I know it is a way she has. She is always refusing people. I think it is most ill-natured of her”.*

**JACK** : *“Oh, Gwendolen is as right as a trivet As far as she is concerned, we are engaged. Her mother is perfectly unbearable. Never met such a Gorgon .I don't really know what a Gorgon is like, but I am quite sure that Lady Bracknell is one. In any case; she is a monster, without being a myth, which is rather unfair. I beg your pardon, Algy, I suppose I shouldn't talk about your own aunt; in, chat way before you”. Being Ernest in town, and Jack in the country?”*



### Datum 18 (Act III)

*CECILY* : "Algy, could you wait for me till I was thirty five?"

*ALGERNON* : "Of course I could, Cecily. You know I could"

*CECILY* : "Yes, I felt it instinctively, but I couldn't wait all that time. I hate waiting even five minutes for anybody. It always makes me rather cross. I am not punctual myself, I know, but I do like punctuality in others, and waiting, even to be married, is quite out of the question.

*ALGERNON* : "Then what is to be done, Cecily? "

*CECILY* : "I don't know, Mr. Moncrieff".

### 3. Maxim of Relevance

The utterance gives right contribution for the relevance of conversation and it will violate if the speaker and he hearer do conversation without considering the relevance of the utterance and the information and stating the true fact.

### Datum 19 (Act I)

*ALGERNON* : "My dear fellow, Gwendolen is my first cousin And before I allow you to marry her, you will have to clear up the whole question of Cecily".  
(Rings bell)

*JACK* : "Cecily! What on earth do you mean? What do you mean, Algy, by Cecily? I don't know any one of the name of Cecily".

### Datum 20 (Act I)

*JACK* : "Well my name is Ernest in town and Jack in the country, and the cigarette case was given to me in the country".

*ALGERNON* : "Yes, but that does not account for the fact that your small Aunt Cecily, who lives at Tunbridge Wells, calls you her dear uncle. Come, old boy, you had much better have the thing out at once".



**JACK** : *“My dear Algy, you talk exactly as if you were a dentist it is very vulgar to talk like a dentist when one isn’t a dentist it produces a false impression”*

**Datum 21 (Act III)**

**JACK** : *“I am not a Bunburyist at all If Gwendolen accepts me, I am going to kill my brother, indeed I think I’ll kill him in any case. Cecily is a little too much interested in him. It is rather a bore. So I am going to get rid of Ernest and I strongly advise you to do the same with Mr. with your invalid friend who has the absurd name”.*

**ALGERNON** : *“Nothing will induce me to part with Sunbury, and if you ever get married, which seems to me extremely problematic, you will be very glad to know Bunbury. A man who marries without knowing Bunbury has a very tedious time of it”*

**Datum 22 (Act III)**

**GWENDOLEN** : *“Yes, I am quite aware of the fact and I often wish that in public, at any rate, you had been more demonstrative. For me you have always had a resistible fascination. Even before I met you I was far from indifferent to you. (JACK looks at her in amazement) We live, as I hope you know, Mr. Northing, in an age of ideals. The fact is constantly mentioned in the more expensive monthly magazines, and has reached the provincial pulpits I am told; and my ideal has always been to love someone of the name of Ernest There is something in that name that inspires absolute confidence. The moment Algernon first mentioned to me that he had a friend called Ernest, I knew I was destined to love you”.*

**JACK** : *“You really love me, Gwendolen?”*

**GWENDOLEN** : *“Passionately!”*

**Datum 23 (Act III)**

**CECILY** : *“I beg your pardon, Gwendolen, did you say Ernest?”*

**GWENDOLEN**: *“Yes”.*



*CECILY : "Oh, but it is not Mr. Ernest Northing who is my guardian. It is his brother his elder brother".*

**Datum 24 (Act III)**

*CECILY : "Quite sure. (A pause) In fact, I am going to be his".*

*GWENDOLEN: " (enquiringly) I beg your pardon?"*

*CECILY : " (rather shy and confidingly) Dearest Gwendolen, there is no reason why I should make a secret of it to you. Our little county newspaper is sure to chronicle the fact next week. Mr. Ernest Northing and I are engaged to be married".*

**4. Maxim of Manner**

The utterance gives right contribution for how the right manner in good communication like avoid unclear sentence or information, random attitude towards to the feedback, unambiguity, the kink utterances, and disordered attitude towards the clarification in giving contribution in the conversation or communication process.

**Datum 25 (Act I)**

*ALGERNON : "Yes; but this isn't your cigarette case. This cigarette case is a present from some one of the name of Cecily, and you said you didn't know anyone of that name".*

*JACK : "Well, if you want to know, Cecily happens to be my aunt"*

*ALGERNON : "Your aunt!"*

*JACK : "Yes. Charming old lady she is, too. Lives at Tunbridge Wells. Just give it back to me, Algy".*

**Datum 26 (Act I)**

*ALGERNON : " (Follows ERNEST round the room) Yes. But why does your aunt call you her uncle? "From little Cecily, with her fondest love to her dear Uncle Jack." There is no objection, I admit, to an aunt being a small aunt, but why an aunt, no matter what her size may be, should call her own nephew her uncle, I can't quite make out Besides, your name isn't Jack at all; it is Ernest"*

*JACK : "It isn't Ernest; it's Jack".*

**Datum 27 (Act I)**

*LADY BRACKNELL : "A very good age to be married at I have always been of the opinion that a man who desires to get*



*married should know everything or nothing. Which do you know?"*

**JACK** : *"(after some hesitation) I know nothing, Lady Bracknell"*

**LADY BRACKNELL:** *"I am pleased to hear it I do not Approve of anything that tampers With natural ignorance. Ignorance is like a delicate exotic fruit; touch it and the bloom is gone. The whole theory of modern education is radically unsound fortunately in England, at any rate, education produces no effect whatsoever. If it did, it would prove a serious danger to the upper classes, and probably lead to acts of violence in Grosvenor Square. What is your income?"*

#### **Datum 28 (Act I)**

**ALGERNON** : *"I suspected that, my dear fellow! I have Bunburied all over Shropshire on two separate occasions. Now, go on Why are you Ernest in town and Jack in the country?"*

**JACK** : *"My dear Algy, I don't know whether you will be able to understand my real motives. You are hardly serious enough. When one is placed in the position of guardian, one has to adopt a very high moral tone on all subjects. It's one's duty to do so. And as a high moral tone can hardly be said to conduce very much to either one's health or one's happiness, in order to get up to town I have always pretended to have a younger brother of the name of Ernest, who lives in the Albany, and gets into the most dreadful scrapes. That, my dear Algy, is the whole truth pure and simple".*

**ALGERNON** : *"The truth is rarely pure and never simple". Modern life would be very tedious if it were either, and modern literature a complete impossibility!"*

**JACK** : *"That wouldn't be at all a bad thing".*

**ALGERNON** : *"Literary criticism is not my forte, my dear fellow. Don't try it you should leave that to people who haven't been at a University. They do it so well in the daily papers. What you really are is a Bunburyist I was quite right in saying you were a*



*Bunburyist You are one of the most advanced Bunburyists I know”.*

**Datum 29 (Act I)**

*ALGERNON : “Then your wife will. You don't seem to realize that in married life three is company and two is none”.*

*JACK : “(sententiously) That, my dear young friend, is the theory that the corrupt French Drama has been propounding for the last fifty years”.*

**Datum 30 (Act I)**

*JACK : “Charming day it has been, Miss Fairfax”*

*GWENDOLEN : “Pray don't talk to me about the weather, Mr. Worthing. Whenever people talk to me about the weather, I always feel quite certain that they mean something else. And that makes me so nervous”*

*JACK : “I do mean something else”.*

**Datum 31 (Act I)**

*JACK : “Personally, darling, to speak quite candidly, I don't much care about the name of Ernest. I don't think the name suits me at all”.*

*GWENDOLEN : “It suits you perfectly. It is a divine name. It has a music of its own It produces vibrations”.*

*JACK : “Well, really, Gwendolen, I must say that I think there are lots of other much nicer names. I think JACK, for instance, a charming name”*

*GWENDOLEN : “Jack? No, there is very little music in the name Jack, if any at all, indeed. It does not thrill. It produces absolutely no vibrations. I have known several Jack, and they all, without exception, were more than usually plain. Besides, Jack is a notorious domesticity for John! And I pity any woman who is married to a man called John she would probably never be allowed to know the entrancing pleasure of a single*



*moment's solitude. The only really safe name is Ernest"*

**Datum 33 (Act I)**

*JACK : "Gwendolen!"*

*GWENDOLEN : "Yes, Mr. Worthing, what have you got to say to me?"*

*JACK : "You know what I have got to say to you".*

*GWENDOLEN : "Yes, but you don't say it"*

*JACK : 'Gwendolen, will you marry me? (Goes on his knees.)"*

**Datum 34 (Act II)**

*GWENDOLEN : "I had no idea there were any flowers in the country".*

*CECILY : "Oh, flowers are as common here, Miss Fairfax, as people are in London".*

*GWENDOLEN : "Personally I cannot understand how anybody manages to exist in the country, if anybody who is anybody does. The country always bores me to death".*

**Datum 35 (Act III)**

*ALGERNON : " (airily) Oh! I killed Bunbury this afternoon. I mean poor Bunbury died this afternoon".*

*LADY BRACKNELL : "What did he die of?"*

*ALGERNON : "Bunbury? Oh, he was quite exploded".*

*LADY BRACKNELL : "Exploded! Was he the victim of a revolutionary outrage? I was not aware that Mr. Bunbury was interested in social legislation. If so, he is well punished for his morbidity".*

**Datum 36 (Act III)**

*LADY BRACKNELL : "My dear Mr. Worthing, as Miss Cardew states positively that she cannot wait till she is thirty-five a remark which I am bound to say seems to me to show a somewhat impatient nature I would beg of you to reconsider your decision"*



**JACK** : "But my dear Lady Bracknell, the matter is entirely in your own hands. The moment you consent to my marriage with Gwendolen, I will most gladly allow your nephew to form an alliance with my ward".

**Datum 37 (Act III)**

**JACK** : "I must retire to my room for a moment Gwendolen, wait here for me.

**GWENDOLEN** : "If you are not too long, I will wait here for you all my life. (Exit JACK in great excitement.)"

**Datum 38 (Act III)**

**LADY BRACKNELL** : "At their age? The idea is grotesque and irreligious! Algernon, I forbid you to be baptized. I will not hear of such excesses. Lord Bracknell would be highly displeased if he learned that that was the way in which you wasted your time and money".

**CHASUBLE** : "Am I to understand then that there are to be no christenings at all this afternoon?"

**JACK** : "I don't think that, as things are now, it would be of much practical value to either of us, Dr. Chasuble".

**CHASUBLE** : "I am grieved to hear such sentiments from you, Mr. Worthing. They savor of the heretical views of the Anabaptists, views that I have completely refuted in four of my unpublished sermons. However, as your present mood seems to be one peculiarly secular, I will return to the church at once. Indeed, I have just been informed by the pew-opener that for the last hour and a half Miss Prism has been waiting for me in the vestry".

