
Tasks for Act 1

Task 1

Up to the arrival of Lady Bracknell:

- How are the characters of Algernon and Jack/Ernest created for the audience?
- What is the effect of the interchange between Algernon and Lane?
- Give examples of different types of humour and how they work (quote and comment)

Task 2

Draw up a list of statements made about marriage by different characters and comment on the impressions given.

Task 3

'A trivial comedy for serious people'- list words/ phrases where trivial events are treated with overblown seriousness. Identify comic methods.

Task 4

How are women in Act 1 shown to have the upper hand? (Explore more than simply what happens on stage.)

Task 5

What ideas do you gain about 'society' from your reading of the first Act? Find quotations relating to status, behaviour and morality, and culture.

Tasks for Act 1

Task 1

Up to the arrival of Lady Bracknell:

- How are the characters of Algernon and Jack/Ernest created for the audience?
- What is the effect of the interchange between Algernon and Lane?
- Give examples of different types of humour and how they work (quote and comment)

Task 2

Draw up a list of statements made about marriage by different characters and comment on the impressions given.

Task 3

'A trivial comedy for serious people'- list words/ phrases where trivial events are treated with overblown seriousness. Identify comic methods.

Task 4

How are women in Act 1 shown to have the upper hand? (Explore more than simply what happens on stage.)

Task 5

What ideas do you gain about 'society' from your reading of the first Act? Find quotations relating to status, behaviour and morality, and culture.
