

# Close Reading Questions

REFER TO ACT III, LINES 108-188, OF THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST.

- ① WHAT LITERARY DEVICES ARE USED TO CREATE THE HUMOR IN LINE 108?
- ② WHAT IS IMPLIED BY THE DOUBLE NEGATIVE IN LINE 112 ABOUT LADY BRACKNELL?
- ③ WHAT IS JACK'S TONE IN THE FIRST SENTENCE OF LINE 121?
- ④ BY USING THE WORD "INCIDENT" (LINE 125), WHAT IS LADY BRACKNELL IRONICALLY IMPLYING ABOUT CECILY'S LIFE?
- ⑤ WHAT IS JACK'S TONE IN LINE 131?
- ⑥ LADY BRACKNELL PROCLAIMS: "WE LIVE, I REGRET TO SAY, IN AN AGE OF SURFACES" (LINES 135-136). WHICH OF HER LINES FROM THIS EXCERPT UNDERSCORE THE IRONY OF THAT STATEMENT?
- ⑦ IN LINE 135, LADY BRACKNELL CONTENDS THAT CERTAIN "QUALITIES" WILL "IMPROVE WITH TIME"; TO WHAT IS SHE REFERRING?
- ⑧ DESCRIBE (WITH A FEW SPECIFIC ADJECTIVES) WHAT LADY BRACKNELL MEANS BY A "MERCENARY MARRIAGE" (LINE 156).
- ⑨ DESCRIBE (USING THREE SPECIFIC ADJECTIVES) THE THREE PROGRESSIVE STAGES OF JACK'S CONCERNS IN LINES 184-188.