

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

Character Breakdown

John “Jack” Worthing, J.P., aka Ernest – 20’s/30’s

A wealthy young gentleman who takes life seriously. Fries to Algernon whose behavior he sometimes deplures. John is Cecily’s guardian and is in love with Gwendolen Fairfax. A bit stuffy, but loveable.

Algernon Moncrieff – 20’s/30’s

Witty and blithely selfish nephew of Lady Bracknell and cousin to Gwendolen Fairfax. He’s Ernest’s (John/Jack’s) best friend. In love with Cecily Cardew. A charming cad.

Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax - 20’s

Algernon’s young, aristocratic and charmingly superficial cousin and Lady Bracknell’s daughter. She’s in love with John/Jack/Ernest. Playful and sophisticated.

Lady Bracknell – 40’s/50’s

Domineering, cunning, mercenary and snobbish. Gwendolen’s mother, and she means to see her daughter well-married. A formidable woman, Lady Bracknell is used to having her own way in all ways. A tough nut to crack.

Cecily Cardew - 20’s

A young woman given to romantic fantasies and intrigued by the wickedness of Jack’s brother. She is the simpler, more innocent country girl to Gwendolyn’s sophisticated city girl. Sweet and impetuous.

Rev. Canon Chasuble, D.D. (Doctor of Divinity) 50’s

Is the pleasant rector on John/Jack’s estate and has a crush on Miss Prism. A playful pastor.

Miss Prism 50’s

Cecily’s pedantic governess. She’s somewhat puritanical, but her softer side leans toward Dr. Chasuble. She once wrote an important novel. A genial governess.

Merriman 30’s+

The butler at Jack’s country estate

Lane 30’s+

Algernon’s manservant.

All ethnicities are encouraged to audition.