The Importance of Being Earnest Video Guide

Directions: Answer each of the following questions in complete sentences. Responses should be ***your own*** and reflect careful and thoughtful consideration of the questions at hand.

1. Outline the ways in which both Jack and Algernon engage in a fair amount of deceit in order to escape social engagements?

2. Attempt to explain Dr. Chasuble’s metaphor regarding bees?

3. In Lady Bracknell’s interview, what suggestion(s) are made about men as a group? Are these realistic?

4. What is the character of Cecily meant to represent? How does she fit within the time period?

5. How is Algernon finally made to pay debts? What is the irony in the situation?

6. Earnest, defined, means “resulting from or showing sincere and intense conviction”. How does this word fit within the film and the larger time period?

7. In what manner do both Jack and Algernon plan to make themselves suitable for marriage (in the eyes of the ladies)?

8. What image(s) of women are offered in the marriage negotiation scene?

9. How is Miss Prism the uniting force amongst all the characters? What is Jack’s origin?

10. What specific aspect of “society” life does the author seem to be satirizing? Why do you suppose he picked this one particularly?

\*\*\*To wrap up the video, list 3 different words on p. 90 in your notebook to fill in this statement: The Victorian Era was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.