THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST  
Writer: Oscar Wilde  
In the nineteenth century.   
  
Title explanation:  
The importance of being Earnest means **how important it is to be fair**. The title largely **refers** to the main character **Jack**, who has lied about everything in his life. But **in the end he realize that lies always come true**, so it’s better to live without lies.   
  
The play is about the main character Jack, who lives in **Woolton** and goes to his friend **Algernon in London**. He met a girl there, named **Gwendolen Fairfax**. **He felt in love** with her and asked Algernon, **the uncle** of Gwendolen, to **marry her.** Algernon said that that was okay **if** Jack would tell him more about the girl **Cecily**, who lives in Woolton. Than Gwendolen arrived and Jack asked her to marry him. Jack had told Gwendolen his name was **Ernest, to impress her**. Gwendolen’s mom wanted to know more about **Jack’s life**, before they were going to marry each other. Jack told her he was **found** somewhere as a baby, so he don’t know anything about **his real parents**. Lady Fairfax told him he **couldn’t marry** her daughter anymore **unless** he knows more about his parents. Than Jack goes **back to Woolton**, and sees that Algernon has already asked **Cecily to marry** him and she said yes. But Algernon told Cecily he was **Jacks brother named Ernest** too. Later in the play Cecily and Gwendolen **met** each other and **find out** they both marry a man named Ernest. Jack and Algernon had both lied about their **names and life.** They told their girls that they lied about it so they could be with the ladies. So Gwendolen and Cecily **felt honored** and were not mad anymore. Than **lady Fairfax and miss Bracknell** came on stage and told Jack he was the **sun** **of miss Bracknell’s sister**, so in the end turned out that Algernon was **really a brother of Jack.** Than they could marry their girls and **knew that fairness is really importance in life**.  
  
  
\*Personages:  
\* Jack is de hoofdpersoon uit het verhaal. hij is als baby gevonden op een treinstation. Om een vrouw haar hart te verover noemt hij zichzelf Ernest. Hij zet goed door en bereikt daardoor uiteindelijk toch zijn doel.  
\*Algernon Moncrief: woont in Londen en verzint een verhaaltje over een vriend die ziek is en waar hij vaak heen gaat. Hij vertoont ook veel leugenachtige trekjes net als zijn uiteindelijke broer.  
\*Gwendolen Fairfax: De vriendin van Jack. Ze denkt dat jack Ernest heet.  
\*Cecily Cardew: Jack is haar voogd en ze is erg benieuwd naar zijn broer "Ernest" die uiteindelijk Algernon blijkt te heten.  
\*Miss Primm: De privé lerares van Cecily. Ze is de oppas van Jack geweest en had hem op het perron laten staan toen hij net geboren was, maar daar wordt nooit wat van gezegd.