**ACT I**

Page 7: salver  
Page 8: languidly  
Page 9: to propose to sb  
Page 10: it accounts for  
Page 11: fondest love  
Page 12: kind  
Page 13: to conduce  
Page 14: washing one’s clean linen in public  
Page 15: to alter  
Page 16: to make up one’s mind  
Page 17: expurgations  
Page 18: glibly  
Page 19: should his health permit him

tray  
in a slow and vigourless way  
too flexible  
impetuous  
to propose marriage to sb  
well!  
to try guessing  
it explains  
broke, without money  
opposite of ‘generous’  
greatest love  
nice  
please  
a testament  
‘à peine’  
to lead  
‘faire semblant’  
without…  
(for a meal here)  
to send home  
same expression as in French  
a boring person  
will force me to abandon  
boring  
trivial, superficial  
to change  
to make a decision  
‘devoir’  
illness  
‘rechute’  
to count on sb  
the act of removing smt  
in any case  
in a talkative yet not sincere way  
simple, common  
‘d’autre part, à côté de cela’  
if his health allows him
to feel bound to

to feel obliged to

to tamper

to change, to alter

the bloom

delicacy of a flower

unsound

unhealthy

income

money earned or received over a period of time

chiefly

mainly (‘principalement’)
duties

taxes (‘impôts’)

to make out

poachers

‘braconniers’
a Liberal Unionist

a person, usually Protestant, in favour of a full constitutional relationship between Ireland GB.

the Tories

the political Conservatives

bewildered

amazed, confused

social indiscretion

hidden sexual behaviour happening in public lavatories

ghastly

horrible

as right as a trivet

in perfectly good health/position

a Gorgon

Greek mythological witch

to put up with sb

to stand sb (‘supporter qqn’)

plain

simple, common

profligate

extravagant

apoplexy

crisis caused by blockage or rupture of brain artery

a chill

a cold

capital

great

ward

minor under care of guardian

to blurt

to tell with energy

to loathe

to hate

the Empire

famous theatre in London

fast

quickly

the Albany

area of London

to surmise

to assume, to guess

scrape

trouble
### Vocabulary

#### Act II

**Page 28:**
- utilitarian: useful
- to await: to wait for
- Pray open: Please open
- becoming (adj): suitable, nice
- plain: common, not interesting
- to await: to wait for
- demeanour: behaviour
- to be commended: to be admired
- idle: ‘oisif’
- merriment: joyfulness
- triviality: things of no importance

**Page 29:**
- according to: ‘selon’
- admission: the fact of admitting something
- irretrievably: ‘irremédiablement’
- vacillating: unstable
- to reclaim him: to make him change
- at a moment’s notice: in one second, very quickly
- As a man sows... reap (proverb): ‘On récolte ce que l’on sème’
- slightly: in a way that hurts
- to start: ‘sursauter’ here
- to mislay: to lose
- profitless: without any interest

**Page 30:**
- a stroll: ‘une balade’
- pupil: young student
- to glare: to look
- sole aim: only purpose, unique goal
- merely: simply
- to omit: to forget

**Page 31:**
- wicked: méchant
- to take aback: to surprise
- to deceive: tromper
- reckless: irresponsible
- though: although

**Page 32:**
- to retain: to keep
- You had better (do smt): ‘Vous feriez mieux (de faire qqch)’
- outfit: clothes
- neckties: ties
- I’d sooner (do): I’d prefer (to do)
accounts
Quixotic
wholesome

Page 33:
buttonhole
short-sighted
snare
scholar
shudder
so neologistic a phrase
this very celibacy… astray

ripeness
to start
mourning
I trust this garb… calamity

I trust he will profit by it
a chill
draughts
internment
affliction
manna in the wilderness

Page 35:
distressing
harvest
christenings
on behalf of
discontent
astounded
parish
infant
to bother
the sprinkling
advisable
to trot round
twins
carter
to bow down
trials
blessings
However badly…
To disown
tidings
peculiarly distressing
to motion
to glare at
to induce
a bed of pain
to drive sb. frantic
scoundrel

Page 36:

Page 37:
**ACT II**

**Page 38:**
- dog-cart: cart pulled by a horse
- fearful: dangerous
- liar: sb. who lies
- mourning: ‘deuil’ (also see p. 34)
- so long as: as long as

**Page 39:**
- over-dressed: too smartly dressed
- to make up for: to compensate smt.
- merely: simply
- (water) can: ‘arrosoir’
- to part: to separate (from each other)
- equanimity: peace of mind
- unbearable: ‘insupportable’
- appealingly: ‘d'un air suppliant’

**Page 40:**
- pray…: please…
- to delight in: to really enjoy smt.
- somewhat taken aback: a little surprised
- to cough: ‘tousser’
- at the same hour: at the same time

**Page 41:**
- Why, chief: Well, main, most important
- I daresay: I dare to say
- to settle: to arrange
- worn out: tired
- struggle: battle
- bangle: bracelet
- knot: ‘noeu’
- to kneel: to bend on one’s knees
- to tie up: ‘attacher’
- conceited: pretentious
- the entry: ‘entrée’ (in a diary or a dictionary)

**Page 42:**
- Besides: D’ailleurs
- chap: man, guy
- Bankruptcy Court: ‘tribunal de commerce’
- (to go bankrupt): ‘faire faillite’

**Page 43:**
- thoroughly: completely
- a most (+ adj.): a very (+ adj)
- learned: who has acquired great knowledge
- christening: ‘baptême’
- in no time: very soon
- to call: to come and visit
- elderly: old
- philanthropic work: charity associations
- forward (adj. here): ‘insolent’
to settle
short-sighted
relative / relation
to reside
(see p. 41)
‘myope’
family member
to live
Page 45:
hourly
every hour, as the hours go by
I am bound to state
I have to say
I cannot help expressing
attractive
alluring
plain
honest
upright
disloyalty
‘déloyauté’
deception
‘tromperie’
to supply sb. with smt.
to give smt. to sb.
that explains it
that accounts for it
lacking taste, without any taste
‘un poids’
intriguingly
in an inquisitive way
I beg your pardon?
I’m sorry?
confidingly
as if one were going to confide (=’se confier’)
Page 46:
slight
small, light
misconception
mistaken idea
the prior claim
the advantage of being first
to distress
to annoy
to point out
to underline, to put the emphasis on
‘piéger’
to rescue
to save
unfortunate
unhappy
entanglement
‘histoire emmêlée, emmêlement’
to allude to
‘faire allusion à’
shallow
superficial
to call a spade a spade (= ’épée’)
‘appeler un chat un chat’
‘rétorquer’
‘retenir’
to be angry
débarrasser la table’
’mettre la nappe’
to look at
to clear the table
to lay cloth
to glare at
to entrap
to rescue
to supply sb. with smt.
to give smt. to sb.
that explains it
that accounts for it
Page 47:
to retort
‘pour peu que quelqu’un, si tant est qu’une telle personne existe, s’y plaise’
to restrain
‘en aparté’
to require
to ask for, to wish for
superciliously
with disdain
tongs
‘pincette à sucre’
lump of sugar
’morceau de sucre’
deceitful
‘trompeur’
to trespass on
‘empiéter sur’
a call
a visit
to recede
to walk backwards
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page 49</th>
<th>a gross deception</th>
<th>‘une immense tromperie’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to wound</td>
<td>‘blesser’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to wrong sb.</td>
<td>‘traiter qqn. injustement’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to groan</td>
<td>‘grogner’</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>brightly</td>
<td>in a joyful manner</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page 50</th>
<th>painful</th>
<th>that causes pain, suffering</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>cheerily</td>
<td>with enthousiasm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>neither of us</td>
<td>‘aucune de nous’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to venture</td>
<td>‘s’aventurer’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>cowardly (adj.)</td>
<td>‘peureux’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>scornful</td>
<td>full of contempt (= ‘mépris’)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>this ghastly thing</td>
<td>this horrible situation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>whatsoever</td>
<td>‘quel qu’il soit’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the remotest idea</td>
<td>the smallest idea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I should fancy</td>
<td>I imagine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>trivial</td>
<td>superficial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>wretched business</td>
<td>sad and miserable situation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>exploded</td>
<td>finished</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page 51</th>
<th>off colour</th>
<th>‘terni’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>custom</td>
<td>habit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>As for</td>
<td>Concerning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to take sb. in</td>
<td>‘tromper qqn.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>likelihood</td>
<td>probability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to make out</td>
<td>to understand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>my cuffs</td>
<td>‘mes manchettes (de chemise)’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Besides</td>
<td>(see p. 41)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>greedy</td>
<td>expressing disproportionate hunger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>instead</td>
<td>‘à la place’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>may eat…</td>
<td>has the right to eat…</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page 52</th>
<th>the sooner… the better</th>
<th>‘plus tôt…, mieux ça vaudra’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to give up</td>
<td>to abandon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Quite so</td>
<td>That’s true</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>my constitution can stand it</td>
<td>it agrees with my health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to venture</td>
<td>(see p. 50)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to be carried off</td>
<td>to die</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I daresay</td>
<td>I dare to say</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>improvements</td>
<td>‘améliorations’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to be fond of smt.</td>
<td>to really like smt.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**The Importance of Being Earnest, by Oscar Wilde**

**VOCABULARY**

**ACT III**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page 54:</th>
<th>shame</th>
<th>honte</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>forward</td>
<td>‘effronté’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dignified</td>
<td>dignifie</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Page 55: | matters | subjects |
| to crush | to reduce to dust |
| at stake | ‘en jeu’ |
| to surrender | se rendre |
| to beat time | to beat the measure |
| uplifted | lifted |
| insuperable | ‘insurmontable’ |
| for my sake | for me, for my well-being |

| Page 56: | beyond | ‘au-delà’ |
| to clasp hand with sb. | to hold sb’s hand |
| decay | decadence |
| apprised | informed |
| trusty | that can be trusted |
| to purchase | to buy |
| a coin (money) | 1 shilling, 2 francs, 1 dollar, etc. |

University…Thought

- to undeceive sb. to tell the truth to sb.
- to cease to stop
- firm (adj) inflexible
- to reside to live

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page 57:</th>
<th>to stammer</th>
<th>‘bégayer’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>airily</td>
<td>‘avec désinvolture’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>outrage</td>
<td>atrocity, violent act</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>morbidity</td>
<td>liking of death</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>physicians [faux-ami]</td>
<td>doctors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to get rid of</td>
<td>‘se débarrasser de’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to bow</td>
<td>‘faire une courbette’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to go on</td>
<td>to happen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>have laid down for our guidance</td>
<td>have determined for our happiness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>merely</td>
<td>simply</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to restrain oneself</td>
<td>‘se retenir’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>Page 58:</th>
<th>confidence</th>
<th>‘la confiance’</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>tradesmen</td>
<td>men working in trade, in business</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 58:</td>
<td>the Court Guides</td>
<td>the Tribunal records, archives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>solicitor</td>
<td>‘notaire’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>cough</td>
<td>‘toux’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>measles</td>
<td>‘rougeole’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I had better (do)</td>
<td>‘je ferais mieux (de faire)’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to last</td>
<td>‘durer’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to alter</td>
<td>to change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>thoroughly</td>
<td>completely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 59:</td>
<td>did not know</td>
<td>did not recognize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a want of</td>
<td>a lack of (=’un manque de’)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>chin</td>
<td>‘menton’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I never dreamed for a moment</td>
<td>I never imagined for a moment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to stand in sb’s way</td>
<td>to be in sb’s way, to prevent sb. from passing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>consent</td>
<td>approval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>engagements</td>
<td>‘fiançailles’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 60:</td>
<td>to decline</td>
<td>not to accept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Upon what grounds…?</td>
<td>Why…?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ostentatiously</td>
<td>that can be seen by everybody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>untruthful</td>
<td>who lies, who doesn’t tell the truth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oxonian</td>
<td>a member of the University of Oxford, therefore somebody respectable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>deception</td>
<td>‘tromperie’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>subsequently</td>
<td>then, later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to overlook</td>
<td>to deliberately ignore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>slight</td>
<td>small</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 61:</td>
<td>alteration</td>
<td>change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>accurate</td>
<td>precise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>restraints</td>
<td>obligations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>tutelage</td>
<td>the state by which one has a tutor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>instance</td>
<td>example</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to make sb. cross</td>
<td>to make sb. angry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 62:</td>
<td>to look forward to smt.</td>
<td>‘se réjouir de qqch’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the platform (at a railway station)</td>
<td>‘le quai’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>christening</td>
<td>‘baptême’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>either of us</td>
<td>‘aucun de nous’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the savour</td>
<td>the perfume, the flavour, the taste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>secular</td>
<td>‘séculaire, laïque’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>vestry</td>
<td>‘sacristie’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>repellent</td>
<td>‘repoussant’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>remotely</td>
<td>‘vaguement, de façon lointaine’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 63:</td>
<td>household</td>
<td>family members living in the same house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a celibate</td>
<td>a single person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>nigh</td>
<td>near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>stony</td>
<td>made of stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to quail</td>
<td>to shiver (=trembler’)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>perambulator</td>
<td>poussette, landau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>remote</td>
<td>‘éloigné’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to start</td>
<td>to jump</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>where is that bay?</td>
<td>where is that baby?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Page 63: branded on ‘gravé dans’
capacious large

Page 64: bassinette ‘berceau en osier’
crushed ‘défaite’
I dare not suspect I dare not imagine or think about it
to occur to happen
trunk ‘malle’

Page 65: injury ‘coup, blessure’
stain tache
doublure
beverage drink
to recoil to walk backwards
‘jeter’
to cast
to seize hold of to hold

Page 66: out of practice not used to it
had better be cleared up at once should be solved immediately
to lavish to give with generosity
to recall to remember
directory ‘annuaire’
records information that has been kept

Page 67: ghastly horrible
for I feel because I feel
you are sure to change it is certain that you will change
signs of triviality signs of absurdity,
of ‘meaninglessness’