In acting class, we were assigned to attend the play “The Importance of Being Earnest.” After doing so, we had to write a paper critiquing the play and analyzing two of the main characters.

I noticed in the play that the actors portrayed many of the concepts we learned in class. As stated in my paper, “They seemed fully engaged in their character and portrayed it well.” The actors seemed to be completely in the moment yet focused and alert enough to still know what was occurring outside of their character. I drew the conclusion that Lady Bracknell was a powerful character because of the way she acted on stage. Though she did not have an enormous part or a lot of time on stage, she spoke with tone inflection thus to enhance her character. I also drew the conclusion that the play as a whole was “a parody of life in the sense of love and marriage.”

One of the main characters which exemplified this parody was Jack Worthing. By both verbal and nonverbal communication, I was able to evaluate his character as someone who escapes reality claiming a false identity. I stated, “Because of this, his functional trait is very amiable and uncertain of himself. His likeness traits, which let him appear as being human, are always defining himself in given situations, being a liar, and always acting and smiling nervously.” These traits were shown as he always appeared jittery and moved his hands around. He sometimes stuttered in answering questions so to get another’s approval before making a decision. His character led me to the conclusion I stated in the paper.

The other main character was Algernon Moncrieff. I stated in the paper, “He is also a very powerful character who is always smiling and has positive words to give to others.” I concluded that his function trait was being charming and his likeness traits included being positive, nosy and witty. The consistency of his character changes which I can identify when he is around Cecily. She seems to have power over him and he becomes less in control. His character led me to the conclusion that he is in fact a false person as well and shows the parody of the story just as well as Jack does.