



WILDE'S QUOTES

Discover some of the most famous quotes by Oscar Wilde. Put the words and phrases below in order to find them. (There are two clauses/sentences in some quotes.)

1. to buy back his past / no man / is rich enough /
2. is not / and / is / Journalism / literature / unreadable, / read.
3. the play / badly cast. / a stage, / is / but / The world / is /
4. understood. / to be loved, / are meant / Women / not to be
5. always be in love. / One / should / That / the reason / is / one should never marry.
6. except what / is / worth knowing. / The public / have / to know everything, / an insatiable curiosity
7. anything / can resist / temptation. / I / but /
8. the value of nothing. / is / a the price of everything / and / A cynic / man who knows /
9. old men / want to be / Young men / and are not; / want to be /faithless / and / cannot. / faithful
10. seriously about it. / is / Life / much too important a thing / ever to talk

What are these observations about? Are they true today?



Teacher's Notes and Answer Key

Depending on the level of your students, you may need to pre-teach some vocabulary, eg. insatiable, temptation.

Ask your students to rearrange the word groups (working individually, in pairs or in groups) to form quotes. You may offer a small prize to the first student, pair or group to successfully finish the quiz. Check answers one by one with the whole class, ask your students what the observations are about, and if they are still true?

Answers:

1. No man is rich enough to buy back his past.
2. Journalism is unreadable, and literature is not read.
3. The world is a stage, but the play is badly cast.
4. Women are meant to be loved, not to be understood.
5. One should always be in love. That is the reason one should never marry.
6. The public have an insatiable curiosity to know everything, except what is worth knowing.
7. I can resist anything but temptation.
8. A cynic is a man who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing.
9. Young men want to be faithful and are not; old men want to be faithless and cannot.
10. Life is much too important a thing ever to talk seriously about it.

Homework:

You may ask your students to bring more quotes from Oscar Wilde or another famous British writer to the class. Finally, you may vote the best quote.