Seriousness

**The more seriously someone takes themselves, the more likely they’ll have a humiliating public scandal. *(Tom Arnold, actor)***

**No matter what happens, somebody will find a way to take it too seriously. (Dave Berry)**

**You should take your job seriously but not yourself. That is the best combination. (Dame Judi Dench)**

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Humor can get in under the door while seriousness is still fumbling at the handle. (G. K. Chesterton)**

**Without education we are in a horrible and deadly danger of taking educated people seriously. (G. K. Chesterton)**

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**Life is a game in which the rules are constantly changing; nothing spoils a game more than those who take it seriously. *(Quentin Crisp)***

**An elderly economics professor at a large university kept on his desk a crystal ball with a big crack in it. Invariably, students and colleagues would ask about it when they first saw it. He would respond, "I keep the cracked crystal ball on my desk as a reminder not to take myself too seriously and not to take my predictions too seriously." *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Humor is also a way of saying something serious. *(T. S. Eliot, poet)***

**A jest betrays something serious. (Sigmund Freud)**

**It is hard work and great art to make life not so serious. *(John Irving, author)***

**It is a good thing that life is not as serious as it seems to a waiter. *(Don Herold)***

**A nation declines when its people become too serious to set their hearts on toys. (Eric Hoffer, in New York Times Magazine)**

**Mix a little foolishness with your serious plans: it's lovely to be silly at the right moment. (Horace, Roman poet)**

**Do not take life too seriously. You will never get out of it alive. (Elbert Hubbard)**

**Humor is a good way to tamp down the level of nastiness and violence in the world. We really ought to take humor more seriously. (Father Jeffrey Keefe)**

**Learn what is to be taken seriously and laugh at the rest. (Hermann Hesse)**

**Life has become immeasurably better since I have been forced to stop taking it seriously. (Hunter S. Thompson)**

**If you want to stay lighthearted and optimistic, then don't take yourself too seriously. We can find it tempting to get caught up in events and remain terminally serious. That makes no room for fun, laughter and their frequent catalyst, humor. Continually serious people who forget to sprinkle their lives with humor become drones. The legendary ballerina Margot Fonteyn said: "The one important thing I have learnt over the years is the difference between taking one's work seriously and taking oneself seriously. The first is imperative and the second disastrous." People love to laugh and to be around people who laugh -- as long as the humor is good-natured, well-timed and sarcasm-free. I've used humor in tense business situations to jolt myself and those around me so that we regain perspective and relieve the stress of the moment. My father, brothers and sons often use humor in this way effectively. (Tom Gegax, in Winning the Game of Life: Self-Coaching Secrets for Success)**

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**There's not a single shred of evidence to support the contention that life is serious. (Neitzsche)**

**A man's maturity: that is to have rediscovered the seriousness he possessed as a child at play. (Friedrich Nietzsche)**

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**Over-seriousness is a warning sign for mediocrity and bureaucratic thinking. People who are seriously committed to mastery and high performance are secure enough to lighten up. (Michael J. Gelb)**

**There are people who can talk seriously about a controversial issue without taking sides. They are called humorists. (Cullen Hightower)**

**One of the ridiculous aspects of being a poet is the gulf between how seriously we take ourselves and how generally we are ignored by everybody else. (Billy Collins)**

**Political questions are far too serious to be left to the politicians. *(Hannah Arendt)***

**Anyone who takes himself too seriously always runs the risk of looking ridiculous; anyone who can consistently laugh at himself does not. (Vaclav Havel)**

**I'm simply an accident. Why take it all so seriously? *(Emil Cioran, Romanian philosopher, lifelong pessimist)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**Comedy is simply a funny way of being serious. (Peter Ustinov)**

**It is our responsibilities, not ourselves, that we should take seriously. *(Peter Ustinov)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**Life is too important to be taken seriously. (Oscar Wilde)**

**Dullness is the coming of age of seriousness. (Oscar Wilde)**

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**Sex and death are the only things that can interest a serious mind. (William Butler Yeats)**

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***