

# An Inspector Calls

## 'Do Now' Literacy Tasks



This writing needs to be fixed

Spot any errors that exist and  
correct or rewrite them

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# 1

An Inspector calls was first performed just after the end of World War Two. it was a time of grate change in Britain and many writer's were concerned with the welfare of the poor. Priestly wanted to address this issue. This is why social responsibility is a key theme of the play.



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# 2

Age is an important theme in An inspector Calls. Priestly uses it to show how he beleived that there was hope in the younger generations ability to learn and change. The older character's opinions and behaviours are stubbornly fixed.



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# 2

Age is an important theme in *An Inspector Calls*. **Priestley** uses it to show how he **believed** that there was hope in the younger generation's ability to learn and change. The older characters' opinions and behaviours are **stubbornly** fixed.



# 3

The play is set in 1912 (but was written and first performed in 1947), which means that the characters have no knowledge of significant events like the two World Wars or the sinking of the Titanic.



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# 3

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# 4

At the start of the play the unsuspecting birling family are visited by the mysterious Inspector Gool. He informs them that a girl caled Eva Smith has taken her own life by drinking disinfectant. The family are initialy confused as to why the Inspector has caled to see them.



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# 4

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# 5

The Inspector reveals that Eva used to work in Mr Birlings factory, and he had her sacked for going on strike. He then reveals that Sheila thought that Eva had made fun of her, complained and got her sacked. Sheila is deeply ashamed and feels responsible for the girls death.



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The Inspector **reveals** that **Eva** used to work in Mr Birling's factory, and he had her sacked for going on strike. He **then** reveals that Sheila thought that Eva had made fun of her, **complained** and got her sacked. **Sheila** is **deeply** ashamed and feels **responsible** for the girl's death.



# 6

At the start of the play, Sheila is celebrating her engagement to Gerald. She is happy and optimistic about the future. However, she is shocked by the news of Eva Smith's death and also very regretful of her own involvement in the suicide.



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# 6

At the start of the play, **Sheila** is **celebrating** her engagement to **Gerald**. She is happy and **optimistic** about the **future**. However, she is shocked by the news of Eva Smith's death and also very regretful of her own involvement in the suicide.



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Sheila is horrified when she finds out that her complaint led to Eva being sacked. she gives a full and honest account of what hapenned in the store, admmitting that she thought Eva had smiled when she tried on a dress that didnt suit her. Sheila is very ashamed of her behaviour



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# 8

At the beginning of the play Gerald is portrayed as a confident and charming 'man-about-town'. This changes after his affair with Eva Smith is revealed. Gerald gives himself away when he hears that Eva changed her name to Daisy Renton.



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# 10

From the opening of the play, Mrs Birling is portrayed as cold-hearted and snobbish. In act one, she tells Sheila and Eric off for things that she considers impolite, whilst turning a blind eye to her son drinking too much. It is clear that despite Eric being old enough to drink and Sheila getting married, she sees them both as children



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From the **opening** of the play, Mrs **B**irling is portrayed as cold-hearted and **snobbish**. In act one, she tells **Sheila** and Eric off for things that she considers **impolite**, whilst turning a blind eye to her son drinking too much. It is clear that **despite** Eric being old enough to drink and Sheila getting married, she sees them both as **children**.



# 11

The play was first performed just after the end of World War two. It was a time of grate change and many writers were conserved with the welfare of the poor. Priestly felt that if people were more considerate of one another, it would improove quality of life for all. He wanted his audience to be responsible for there own behavior and responsable for the welfare of others



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# 12

The difference between the older and younger characters' reactions to Eva Smith's death shows how Priestley viewed the different generations. He viewed the younger generation with hope, and this is why both Sheila and Eric learn a lesson from the inspector.



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# 13

Gerald met Daisy Rentan in the bar of the Palace Theatre. He 'rescued' her from Alderman Megarty and later kept her as his mistress's for a few months. However, the affair eventually came to an end. He was aware that Daisy Renton's feelings towards him were stronger than his were towards her.



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# 14

Eva Smith shows that she is strong-willed when she organizes a strike for higher wages. This shows that she is not afraid to stand up to 'hard-headed business men like Mr Birling. Even by Mr Birling's own admission, Eva Smith had lots of qualities that showed her strong will – she was lively, worked well and was in line for a promotion



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# 15

The Birling's and Gerald may not have killed Eva Smith, but threw action – and inaction – they all played a role in the events that led to her death. Arthur dismissed her from her job at his mill, Sheila contrived to have her fired from her new post in a department store, both Gerald and Eric embarked on relationships with her, and Sybil denied her charity when she came to her in desperation.



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# 16

Act two begins with Gerold and Shiela discussing the affair. Gerald is initially reluctant to be honest, but he eventually tells the truth. Gerald met daisy in a bar and had looked after her, giving her money and acomodation. While Gerald was fond of her, she had much stronger feeling's for him and was devastated when he ended the relationship.



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# 17

Eva grew up in the country side, but came to the city to begin working as a factory girl at birling and company. Whilst their, she argued for farer pay, becoming a ring leader among the other girl's. This was the first of a series of conections with the Birling family, many of them far from plesant.



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# 18

We learn that Eric had an affair with Eva Smith and that she was pregnant with his baby when she committed suicide. Eric stole money from his father's business to help her. In the final act, Eric makes an emotional attack on his parents and their values and shows that he can be assertive.



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# 19

Mr and Mrs Birling are both unrepentant about their involvement in Eva's death, whilst Sheila and Eric develop a strong sense of social responsibility during the course of the play. When Gerald suggests that the Inspector was not real, Mr and Mrs Birling are relieved that they could be 'off the hook'. However, Sheila and Eric are convinced that even if the Inspector was not real and a girl didn't die, they still behaved badly and should change their ways.



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# 20

An Inspector Calls is scathing in its criticism of middle-class hypocrisy. The play gives voice to Priestly's strong socialist principles, and carries a clear moral message, stressing the importance of social responsibility: 'We don't live alone. We are members of one body. We are responsible for each other'.



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