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| Key Concepts and Context**‘*WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR EACH OTHER’*** Creates Highlights Reinforces Illustrates Suggests Reiterates Informs Confirms Emphasises  | Key techniques | Key vocabularyinquiryjudgementmale-dominatedmatriarchpatriarchalprovincialrespectabilityresponsibilitysnobbishsocialistsubmissivesuperficialtraditionalistvulgar | Key Moments and Quotes |
| **1912 -** Play is set in the Edwardian era before WW1 and the sinking of the Titanic. Priestley had fought in WW1 and was aware of the depths of human suffering**1945 -** Priestley wrote the play at the end of WW2 when the Labour Party were introducing the Welfare State.**Collective responsibility -** Priestley encourages his audience to embrace the idea of breaking down class, age and gender roles. He champions socialist ideals. **‘Each of you helped to kill her. Remember that.’****Class –** Eva Smith is the embodiment of young, working class women who were oppressed by middle/upper classes. Working class have no autonomy and strive for something better. The Inspector is outside the class system and seeks to attack it by showing its faults. Look at his unprecedented behaviour towards the Birlings.**’you’d think everybody has to look after everybody else, as if we were all mixed up together, like bees in a hive.’ ‘girls of that class’****Gender Roles** - The Suffragette Movement was calling for equality and the right to vote. Patriarchal society dominated and women were viewed as emotional, often hysterical and frivolous **‘not only something to make ‘em look prettier – but- well, a sort of sign or token of their self-respect.’****Age versus Youth** – Sheila and Eric progressively come round to Goole’s way of thinking but are seen to be in conflict with their parents throughout the play. Mr and Mrs Birling view Sheila and Eric was children. By the end of the play Sheila and Eric have been influenced by Goole and the notion of collective responsibility. **‘Silly boy’****Social Unrest –** Working class were demanding farer pay and strikes were common | ActAdverbsCharactersDramatic ironyEmotive LanguageForeshadowingPlayPlaywrightSemantic fieldSettingSimileStage DirectionsStaging**Capitalist**: believes the individual is responsible for themselves only and not society as a whole. Wealth and possessions take priority over everything**Socialist**: places the well-being of all in society over the individual. Wants all members to be treated equally. | cheap labourclass confessionconfidencedeceptionemancipationexploitationGoole/ghoulhierarchyimmoral/moralmoralityinfluenceignoranceinjusticeThe InspectorEva/DaisyPhotographTitanicEngagement ringThe portGolfSymbols | *Gerald and Sheila’s engagement and Birling’s speech****: ‘special occasion’/ ‘pleased with themselves’/‘you seem to be a well behaved family’/ ‘Is it the one you wanted me to have?’*** ***‘We’re in for a time of ever increasing prosperity’/ ’unsinkable, absolutely unsinkable’/’the way some of these cranks talk and write now, you’d think everybody has to look after everybody else’ / ‘community and all that nonsense’. / ‘hard-headed business man’****Goole arrives:* ***’We hear the sharp ring of a front doorbell’******’one line of inquiry at a time’ / ‘duty’ /*** *Birling sacks Eva: ‘****I can’t accept any responsibility. If we were all responsible for everything that happened to everybody…it would be very awkward wouldn’t it?’ / but these girls aren’t cheap labour – they’re people’ / ‘it’s better to ask for the earth than to take it’ /*** *Sheila demands Eva’s dismissal:* ***‘I felt rotten about it at the time and now I feel a lot worse’/‘it’s the only time I’ve ever done anything like that, and I’ll never, never do it again to anybody’****Gerald is a cheat!* ***‘You mustn’t try to build up a kind of wall between us and that girl. If you do, then the Inspector will just break it down.’/’The Palace music Hall…It’s a favourite haunt of women of the town-‘ / ’Old Joe Megarty, half-drunk and goggle-eyed, had wedged her into a corner wth that obscene carcase of his’ - / ‘She was young and pretty and warm-hearted – and intensely grateful. I became the most important person in her life – you understand?’****Mrs Birling is uncharitable:* ***‘I did nothing I am ashamed of or that won’t bear investigation’./ ‘I think you did something terribly wrong and that you’ll spend the rest of your life regretting it’ / ‘she was claiming elaborate fine feelings and scruples that were simply absurd in a girl in her position.’ / ‘gross impertinence’ / ‘He should be made an example of.’ / Then he’d be entirely responsible-‘ / Certainly. And he ought to be dealt with very severely – ‘****Eris is the father! ‘****well, I was in that state when a chap easily turns nasty .’ /’ –the ones I see some of your respectable friends with’ ? ‘because you’re not the kind of father a chap could go to when he’s in trouble – that’s why.’Eric; (nearly at breaking point) Then-you killed her.’****Goole’s final speech:* ***‘there are millions and millions and millions of Eva Smiths and John Smiths…with their lives, their hopes and fears, their suffering, and chance of happiness, all intertwined with our lives and with what we think and say and do.’ / We don’t live alone. We are all one body. We are responsible for each other.’/ ‘if men will not learn that lesson, then they will be taught it in fire and blood and anguish.’****The Inspector was a fraud – have things changed? ‘****Probably a Socialist or some sort of crank – he talked like one’ / ‘It’s what happened to the girl and what we all did to her that matters.’ / ‘Look you’d better ask Gerald for that ring you gave back to him, hadn’t you?’ / ‘I suppose we’re all nice people now…’ / ‘No police inquiry. No one girlthat all this happens to. No scandal – ‘ / Eric (bursting out)…You’re beginning to pretend that nothing’s really happened at all. And I can’t see it like that. This girl’s still dead, isn’t she?’ / -the famous younger generation who know it all. And they can’t even take a joke – (The telephone rings sharply.)’*** |
| Plot summary An Inspector Calls by J.B. Priestley |  | Character Summary | An Inspector Calls by J.B. Priestley |
| Act 1: The Birling family are celebrating the engagement of Sheila to Gerald Croft in their comfortable dining room in 1912. A police inspector arrives and announces that a girl has died. The audience discover that Arthur Birling sacked the girl after she had been one of the main instigators of strike action at his factory, which called for fairer pay and working conditions. Eva was sacked from Milwards as she felt that she had laughed at her while she was dress shopping. The audience then learn that Eva changed her name to Daisy Renton, which is when it becomes clear that Gerald knew her and was involved with her romantically while also seeing Sheila.Act 2: The audience learn that Eva was Gerald’s mistress but that he broke it off. She went to a seaside town to remember and make it last longer at this was the time when she was the happiest. The Inspector then questions Sybil Birling, who discovers she had met Eva when chairing a charitable committee. Eva had asked for help after falling pregnant. Mrs Birling refused assistance due to Eva using the name of ‘Mrs Birling’ when coming to the organisation. Mrs Birling refuses to take responsibility for what happened to the girl. She blames the man who got Eva pregnant – Sheila realises that it is Eric.Act 3: Eric admits to having an affair with Daisy. She had told him she was pregnant and he had tried to help by stealing money from the business. When she realised the money was stolen she refused to take the money. The Inspector leaves the family reflecting on their feelings of responsibility for the girl’s death. The younger generation take their role more seriously than the older. The family begin to suspect that the Inspector was a ‘hoax’ and call the infirmary who inform them that there have been no deaths of that sort. As the older members of the family begin to rejoice the phone rings with news that a police inspector is on the way over to speak to them about the death of a girl.  |  | **Mr Birling**: A businessman and capitalist who is against social equalityhttps://www.doddlelearn.co.uk/app/teacher/content/65922 - Internet ExplorerPompous, overconfident, stubborn, arroganthttps://www.doddlelearn.co.uk/app/teacher/content/74859 - Internet Explorer‘’warm-hearted’’, moralistic**Eva Smith**: Unseen in the play. Symbolises social injusticeVoiceless, underdog, working class**Edna:** Birlings’ maid. http://ourlittlesmarties.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/07/maid.jpgIrresponsible, frustrated, reckless, repentant**Eric**: Young and drinks too much; gets Eva pregnat and later regretful | **Mrs Birling**: Socially superior to Mr Birling. Believes in the responsibility of the individual**Gerald**: From a higher class background to Birling. Businessman engaged to Sheila who has an affair with Evahttps://www.doddlelearn.co.uk/app/teacher/content/74857 - Internet ExplorerScreen Clipping‘’cold’’, upper class, supercilious, prejudiced, Aristocratic, unchanged, capitalist**Sheila**: Changes her views after Goole’s intervention and feels remorse. https://www.doddlelearn.co.uk/app/teacher/content/65923 - Internet ExplorerExplode your quotationsNaïve, curious, compassionate, perceptive, wiser**Inspector Goole**: Priestley’s mouth-piece for social change and justicehttps://www.doddlelearn.co.uk/app/teacher/content/65926 - Internet Explorer‘’massiveness’’ ‘’duty’’, systematic, mysteriousSee the source image |