

GCSE English Literature: An Inspector Calls

Daily Revision Tasks

Day 1

Complete the four tasks below practising exam skills and recalling key information from the text.

Fill in the blanks

'You're just the kind of _____ - _____ - _____ I've always wanted.'

Arthur, Act One

Annotate this quote for what impression it gives us of Gerald

'I didn't feel about her as she felt about me.'

Gerald, Act Two

In the play, the male characters are oppressive and traditionally patriarchal. Do you agree with this statement, and why? Make notes.

What purposeful thematic or contextual comments could you make about gender in the exam? Make notes.

Day 2

Complete the four tasks below practising exam skills and recalling key information from the text.

Fill in the blanks

'...the Titanic – she sails next week ... _____, absolutely _____.'

Arthur, Act One

Annotate this quote for what it tells us about Birling's attitude towards social hierarchy and marriage

'You're just the kind of son-in-law I've always wanted.'

Arthur, Act One

In the play, Priestley uses dramatic irony to build the audience's distrust in Birling, therefore building scepticism in capitalism as a well-functioning socio-economic model. Do you agree with this statement, and why? Make notes.

What purposeful contextual comments could you make about socialism vs. capitalism at the time the play was both set and written? Make notes.

Day 3

Complete the four tasks below practising exam skills and recalling key information from the text.

Fill in the blanks

'But these _____ aren't cheap _____ – they're people.'

Sheila, Act One

Annotate this quote considering the impression it gives us of Birling at the start of the play

'...the Titanic – she sails next week ... unsinkable, absolutely unsinkable.'

Arthur, Act One

In the play, Priestley uses the character of Sheila to convey his opinion that the next generation had the potential to change society. Do you agree with this statement, and why? Make notes.

What purposeful contextual comments could you make about generational divides in the exam? Make notes.

Day 4

Complete the four tasks below practising exam skills and recalling key information from the text.

Fill in the blanks

'Unlike the other _____, I did nothing I'm _____
of or that won't bear _____.'

Sybil, Act Two

Annotate this quote for what impression it gives us of Sheila in comparison to the other characters in the play

'But these girls aren't cheap labour – they're people.'

Sheila, Act One

The play functions like a medieval morality play – holding a mirror up to the characters and showing what they have done wrong. Do you agree with this statement, and why? Make notes.

What purposeful contextual comments could you make about Priestley's representation of how people construct, construe and apply their moral values? Make notes.

Day 5

Complete the four tasks below practising exam skills and recalling key information from the text.

Fill in the blanks

'One Eva Smith has _____ – but there are _____ and _____ and _____ of
Eva Smiths and _____ Smiths still left with us...'

Inspector Goole, Act Three

Annotate this quote for what it reveals to us about Sybil's approach to responsibility

'Unlike the other three, I did nothing I'm ashamed of or that won't bear investigation.'

Sybil, Act Two

The commanding authoritativeness of Inspector Goole causes the family to immediately put their guard up and reject any of his morals and ideals. Do you agree with this statement, and why? Make notes.

What purposeful contextual links could you make in the exam related to the quotes included on this page? Make notes.

Day 6

Complete the four tasks below practising exam skills and recalling key information from the text.

Fill in the blanks

'Probably a _____ or some sort of _____ – he talked like one.'

Arthur, Act Three

Annotate this quote for what conveys to us about the Inspector's role as an omniscient moral force for good

"One Eva Smith has gone – but there are millions and millions and millions of Eva Smiths and John Smiths still left with us...'

Inspector Goole, Act Three

The play is both a warning about the consequences of selfishness, and a call to continue campaigning for a fairer and more socially responsible society. Do you agree with this statement, and why? Make notes.

What purposeful contextual links could you make about Priestley's own views on social inequality? Make notes.

Day 7

Complete the four tasks below practising exam skills and recalling key information from the text.

Fill in the blanks

“I’m very _____. But I think she had only herself to _____.”

Sybil, Act Two

Annotate this quote for what it tells us about Birling’s attitude as a capitalist

‘Probably a socialist or some sort of crank – he talked like one.’

Arthur, Act Three

Sybil is used by Priestley as a lesson for the audience in the consequences of class prejudice. Do you agree with this statement, and why? Make notes.

What other thematic links and comments could you make about prejudice and social responsibility? Make notes.

Day 8

Complete the four tasks below practising exam skills and recalling key information from the text.

Fill in the blanks

'Well, he _____ us all right. And let's not start dodging and _____ now.
Between us we drove that girl to _____.'

Sheila, Act Three

Annotate this quote for what it shows us about blame and responsibility in the play

"I'm very sorry. But I think she had only herself to blame."

Sybil, Act Two

Priestley juxtaposes the attitudes of Sheila and Sybil to convey to the audience how different society could be if there was change. How far do you agree with this statement and why? Make notes.

What other contextual comments could you make about Priestley's use of allegorical statements (a moral or political hidden meaning)? Make notes.

Day 9

Complete the four tasks below practising exam skills and recalling key information from the text.

Fill in the blanks

'I was in that state when a chap easily gets _____.'

Eric, Act Three

Annotate this quote for what it tells us about the differences in generations within the play

'Well, he inspected us all right. And let's not start dodging and pretending now. Between us we drove that girl to suicide.'

Sheila, Act Three

In the play, Eva Smith's morality is not only used to challenge the prejudices of the Birling family but of the audience and the prejudices they might hold about the working class. How far do you agree with this statement and why? Make notes.

What purposeful contextual links could you make in the exam related to the quotes included on this page? Make notes.

Day 10

Complete the four tasks below practising exam skills and recalling key information from the text.

Fill in the blanks

'I didn't feel about _____ as she felt about _____.'

Gerald, Act Two

Annotate this quote for what impression it gives us about Eric

'I was in that state when a chap easily gets nasty.'

Eric, Act Three

Gerald Croft is the most central character in portraying Priestley's message about collective responsibility. How far do you agree with this statement? Make notes.

What purposeful thematic links could you make in the exam related to morality and legality in relation to the quotes discussed on this page? Make notes.