

Section A: Modern prose or drama

JB Priestley: *An Inspector Calls*

Below are sample exam questions so you have an idea of what you may be asked in the exam next Summer 2021.

How important is the character of Eric in demonstrating Priestley's ideas?

Write about:

- How Eric responds to his family and the Inspector
- How Priestley presents Eric's actions

How successfully is the idea of collective responsibility explored in this play, through the use of the Inspector?

Write about:

- Priestley's ideas about collective responsibility in *An Inspector Calls*
- How Priestley uses the Inspector to present these views

How does Priestley use Gerald Croft's status to show his ideas about society?

Write about:

- How the Birling family react to Gerald Croft
- How Priestley presents Gerald Croft

How successfully does Priestley present the different attitudes between the older and younger generations in *An Inspector Calls*?

Write about:

- How Priestley presents the older generation and the younger generation
- How Priestley shows his and their attitudes in the way he writes

Why did Priestley create the Birling family as the central characters in *An Inspector Calls*?

Write about:

- How Priestley presents the Birlings
- What the Birling family represent and how they demonstrate Priestley's views

How does Priestley explore guilt in *An Inspector Calls*?

Write about:

- How Priestley presents guilt by the way he writes
- How Priestley presents different characters' reactions to guilt

How does Priestley use Mr Birling to present his ideas about employers' responsibility?

Write about:

- Priestley's ideas about employers
- How Priestley presents Mr Birling

How does Priestley present his ideas about social class in *An Inspector Calls*?

Write about:

- Priestley's ideas about social class
- How Priestley presents these ideas through his characters and the way he writes

Why does Priestley present Eva Smith without the audience ever getting to see her or hear her in *An Inspector Calls*?

Write about:

- How Priestley presents Eva Smith
- What Eva Smith represents and how this shows Priestley's views

How does Priestley show his ideas about gender inequality in *An Inspector Calls*??

Write about:

- Priestley's views on gender inequality
- How Priestley presents gender inequality

How does Priestley use Sheila's change throughout the play to present his ideas??

Write about:

- How Sheila responds to her family and to the Inspector
- How Priestley presents the change in Sheila by the way he writes

What is important about the period of time in which Priestley set *An Inspector Calls*, and why did he do this?

Write about:

- The importance of the period of time in which the play was set
- How Priestley uses this period of time to present his ideas to the audience