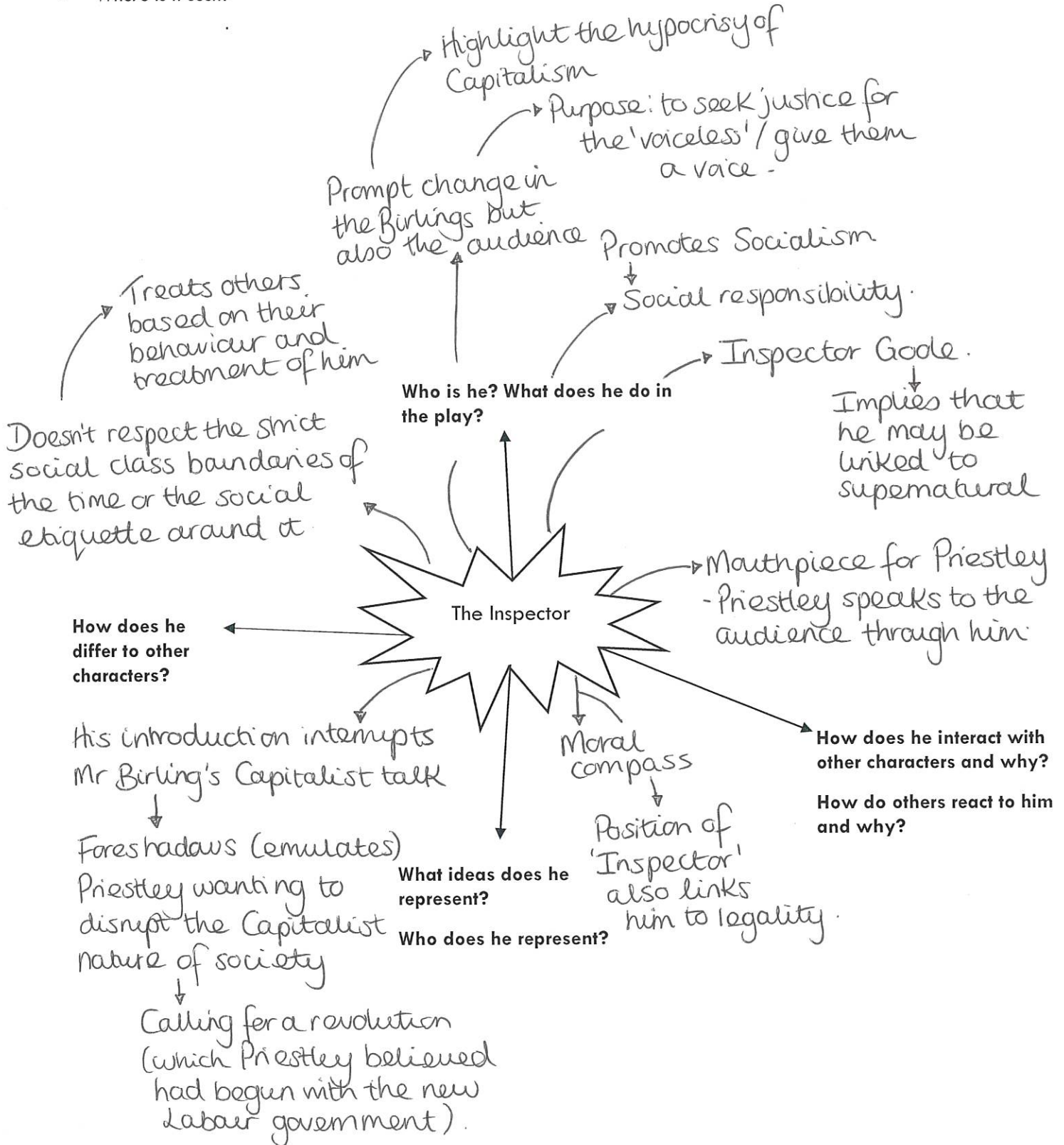


Essay Focus:

Write about the Inspector and his importance to the play as a whole

Blurt

- What does he say about the theme or character?
- Where is it seen?



Knowledge Nugget

In *An Inspector Calls* by J.B. Priestley, Inspector Goole is the central figure who investigates the suicide of Eva Smith, revealing how each member of the Birling family and Gerald Croft contributed to her death. Calm, authoritative, and morally driven, he exposes the characters' selfishness and hypocrisy, forcing them to face their guilt. The Inspector acts as **Priestley's moral voice**, promoting the idea of **social responsibility** and condemning capitalist individualism. His warning, "*We are members of one body... If men will not learn that lesson, they will be taught it in fire and blood and anguish,*" links moral failure to social catastrophe, such as war. When the family learns there is no real Inspector, but a real one is about to arrive, it reinforces the play's moral message: actions have consequences, and denial cannot erase guilt. **Through him, Priestley challenges audiences to recognise their responsibility for others and imagine a fairer, more compassionate society.**

Exam Questions/Initial Ideas

How does Priestley present the Inspector throughout the play?

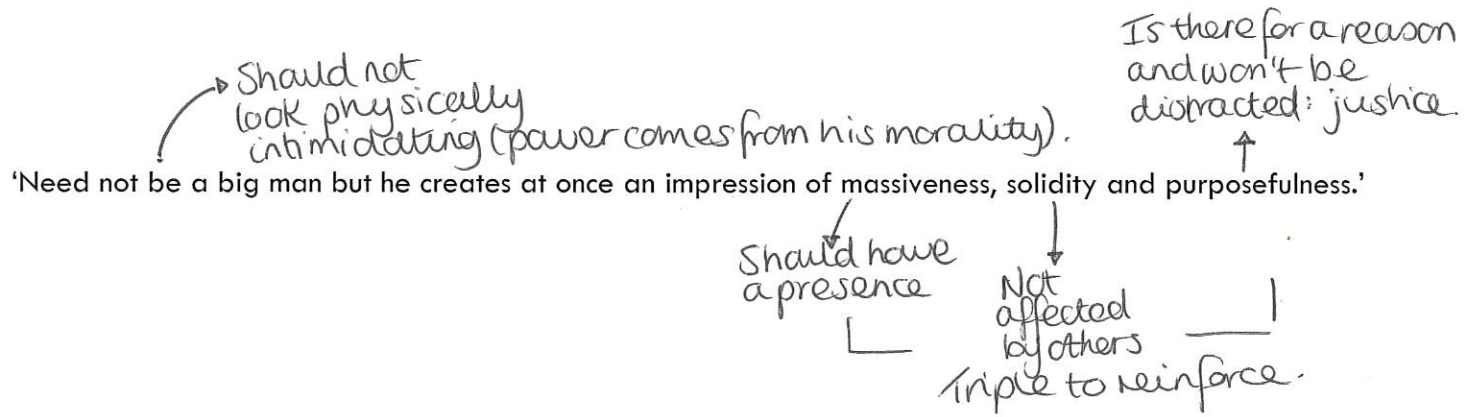
Write about how the Inspector is important to the play as a whole?

How does Priestley use the Inspector to present his ideas about society?

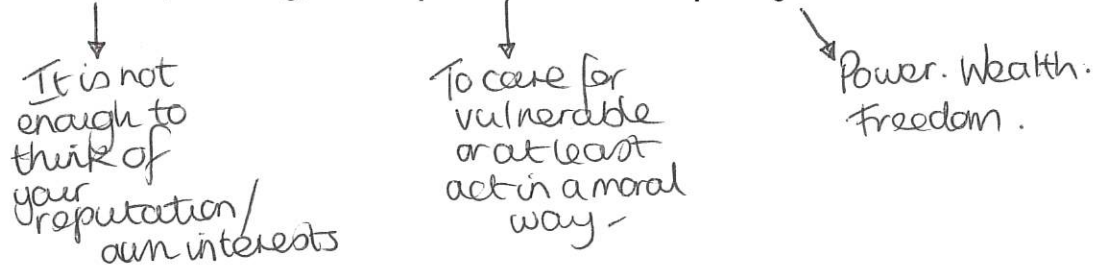
Plan

Introduction What is your overall answer to the question based on the whole text. What is the general answer or your line of argument?	• Inspector is the mouthpiece for Priestley's views. • Constructed to go against social class norms of the time (rebel against expected behaviour). • Represents/promotes Socialism • Moral compass to the morally corrupted (Capitalists) • Used to prompt change from characters and audience.
Main Idea 1 Approach your ideas in chronological order covering the beginning, middle and end of the play. Try to support each idea with 2-4 quotes. Analyse language in at least one per section.	Act 1 1: Interrupts Mr B's Capitalist speech when arriving. 2: Language describing Eva's death is brutal 'burnt her inside out of course'. 3: Quite dominant/assertive towards Mr B. Doesn't obey class norms. Doesn't respond to Mr B's attempts to intimidate - 'I don't play golf'. Doesn't accept Mr B had no choice but to fire Eva - 'It is better to ask for the world than to take it.' 4: Gentler with Sheila: young - hope; takes responsibility; shows signs of Socialism 'these girls aren't cheap labour'.
Main idea 2	Act 2. 1: Reinforces the idea that the Inspector is all knowing (Gerald can't hide his affair). 2: Not as harsh w/ Gerald as Mr B perhaps because he does help Eva initially (even if he gained from it). 3: Most hostile with Mrs B because; she is hostile with him; she's unwilling to accept responsibility ('I did nothing I'm ashamed of'); is callous to Eva because of her class.
Main idea 3	Act 3: Eric and Final Speech. 1: Treats Eric with empathy as he does not know the full extent of his loss yet. If he didn't show some compassion to Eric, Priestley's Socialist message would be lost as it would seem cruel. 2: Final speech addresses the audience - warning that society needs to change or face disaster.
Main idea 4	Act 3: The Inspector is a fake. 1: Has the Inspector be fake to reinforce the idea he is a moral conscience (a concept) but also provides a test for who has really changed and who will go back to immorality if they can get away with it.
Conclusion Authorial intent and key message.	• Need for Socialism and social responsibility • Youth are the best hope for change. • After experiencing 'fire and blood and anguish' (war) now is the time to change so it won't be repeated.

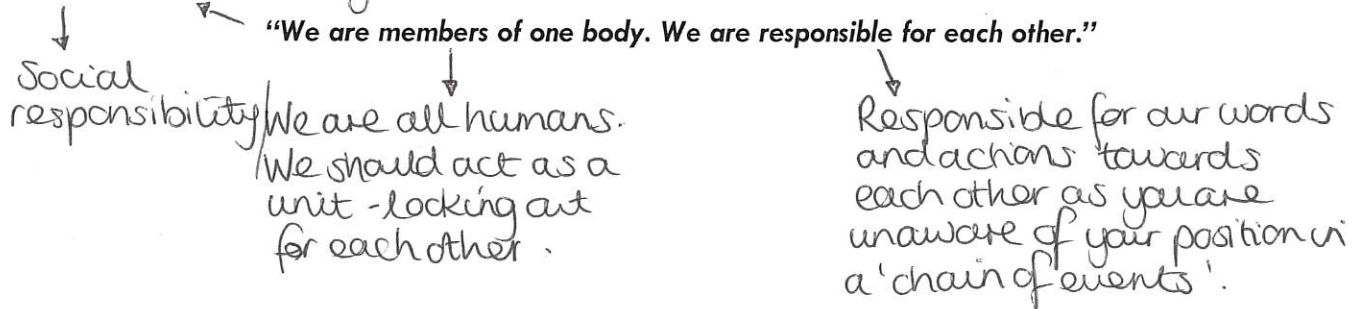
Fab Five



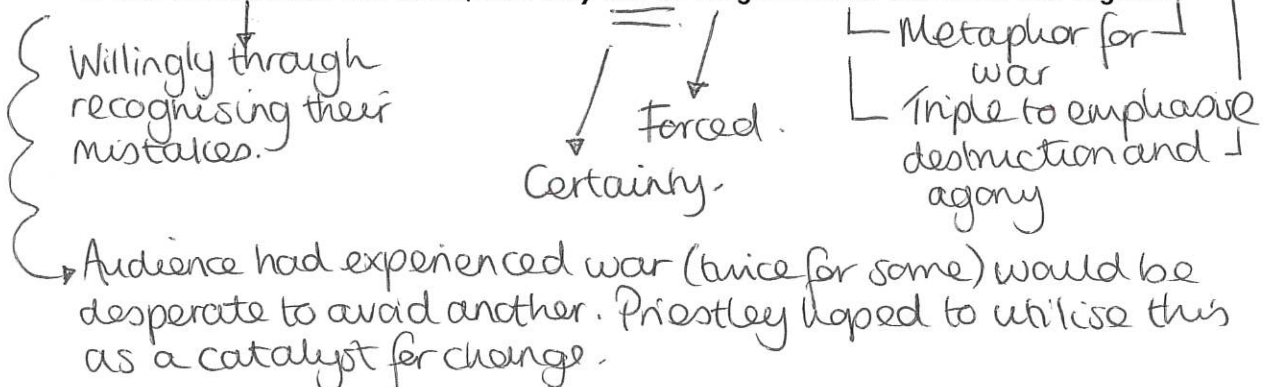
'Public men, Mr Birling, have responsibilities as well as privileges.'



Socialist message



"If men will not learn that lesson, then they will be taught it in fire and blood and anguish."



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

