

## An Inspector Calls—Character Revision

### Revision Booklet

Student name:

Teacher name:

Form tutor:



## The characters

**AO1:** Read, understand and respond to texts. Students should be able to:

- maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response
- use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.

**AO2:** Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.

**AO3:** Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the con-

# Mr Arthur Birling

## Task One

'Fiddlesticks! The Germans don't want war. Nobody wants war.'

'The titanic- she sails next week'-'Unsinkable, absolutely unsinkable'

**What dramatic device is being employed by Priestley when he makes Mr Birling say these things? How would the audience of 1946 have reacted to these statements made in a play set in 1912? What emotions would they have gone through and why?**

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## Task Two

'A man has to mind his own business and look after himself.'

**How does Priestley use the quotations from task one to discredit capitalism? How else does Priestley criticise capitalism?**

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## Task Three

'I can't accept any responsibility. If we were all responsible for everything that happened to everybody we'd had anything to do with, it would be very awkward' **Summarise Mr Birling's response to what the family learn about Eva Smith.**

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# Ms. Sheila Birling

## Task One

'(Excited) Oh – Gerald – you've got it – is it the one **you** wanted me to have?' **[She is talking about her engagement ring!]**

'Oh-its wonderful! Look- Mummy- isn't it a beauty? Oh - darling - *[She kisses Gerald hastily]*'

**How does Priestley portray Sheila as dependent and childish in the opening scene, her engagement party? Why does he do this?**

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## Task Two

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

**How does Priestley use Sheila as a mouth-piece for his own views? Discuss the quotation above, and anything from the rest of the play which is relevant.**

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## Task Three

'You were the wonderful fairy prince. You must have enjoyed it, Gerald.' **Summarise what happens between Sheila and Gerald.**

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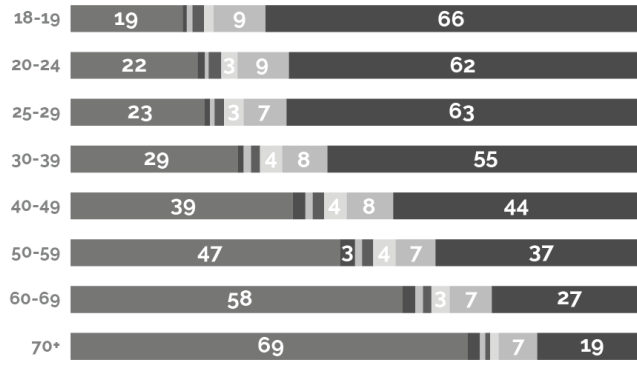
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**Vote by age**

Based on a survey of 52,615 GB adults about their vote in the 2017 general election

■ Conservative ■ UKIP ■ Other ■ Green ■ SNP ■ Lib Dem ■ Labour



YouGov | yougov.com

June 9-13, 2017

**capitalist** ←



**socialist**

Task Four

**Mr B:** 'You seem to have made a great impression on this child [Sheila], Inspector'.

**Inspector:** 'We often do on the young ones. They're more impressionable.'

Based on the 2017 voting data above, is the play as relevant today as it was in 1946? Does socialism still have a greater appeal to the young than it does to the old? Does this mean no progress has been made since 1946?

Lined writing area consisting of 20 horizontal lines for student response.



# Mrs Sybil Birling

## Task One

**Pg 2:** 'Arthur you're not supposed to say such things'

**Pg 3:** 'Sheila! What an expression! Really, the things you girls pick up these days!'

**How does Priestley present Mrs Birling as obsessed with image and being 'proper'? Why does he do this?**

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## Task Two

*'But I think she had only herself to blame'*

**Summarise Mrs Birling's interactions with Eva Smith, and how Mrs Birling feels about her behaviour and decisions.**

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## Task Three

*'I blame the young man who was the father of the child she was going to have. If, as she said, he didn't belong to her class, and was some drunken young idler, then that's all the more reason why he shouldn't escape. He should be made an example of. If the girl's death is due to anybody, then it's due to him.'*

**What dramatic device is Priestley employing when he makes Mrs Birling say this? Why does he do it?**

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