

## KEY WORDS

*The Inspector's character stays consistent throughout the play, maintaining the same demeanour. Utilise the words from Act 1 sheet throughout.*

# The Inspector - Act 2

## AFFIRMATIVE WHEN PROPAGATING (SPREADING) RESPONSIBILITY

- The Inspector is not subtle in his description of Eva's suicide and is affirmative and confrontational in **addressing their abandonment of morals**.
- He speaks **[sternly to both of them]** when addressing Sheila and Gerald. He does not allow Sheila's docile expectations as a woman, nor Gerald's untouchable higher status, to prohibit him from harshly delivering the message of responsibility. In society, both would typically be exempt from serious responsibility for these reasons.
- His stage directions are **indicative** of his power and affirmative nature which is clear throughout Act 2 with him **[cutting in, with authority]** when Mr Birling speaks, **[with authority]** when speaking to Gerald and **[severely]** speaking to Mrs Birling.
- His intolerant and **brutal demeanour** is used by Priestley to **ironically** show how it is the upper- and middle-class members of society who require **"to come down harshly on these people"** (Mr B Act1) - their wilful ignorance and oblivion can only be **shattered with forcing them to face the bleakness of reality**.

## COMPARISON

The inspector's profound impact on the younger generation, contrasting his minute impact on the older generation and aristocracy can be used at this point of comparison. Through the introduction of the inspector, it allows the audience to clearly compare the attitudes of these generations and see change is synonymous with the younger generation.

## HIS MINUTE IMPACT ON THE INDOCTRINATED (BRAINWASHED) CAPITALISTS

The Inspector is used to **examine** each character's **intrinsic morality** and innate sense of guilt. He exposes, through his ceaseless investigation, that how **indoctrinated** an individual is by capitalism is **synonymous** with how resistant they are to change and lacking this morality and guilt- highlighted through Mr Birling, Mrs Birling and Gerald.

- Gerald's narrow world views are **engrained** into him, not allowing him to develop this intrinsic sense of morality as he is **deeply grounded in the upper echelon**.
- Mrs Birling is **defensive** and opposing towards the Inspector, she is insulted that the Inspector is examining her intrinsic morals when he questions her on her lying: **"I beg your pardon!"**. The **exclamatory sentence** reinforces how Mrs Birling is astounded that her morality and guilt is questioned as these are two ideas in her warped view of life, can be overcome with money and materialistic items.
- Despite Mr Birling physically being distressed by the Inspector's investigation as he becomes **[rather hot, bothered]**, he proceeds to try and be ignorant to his family's **unscrupulousness**, still indoctrinated by the capitalist idea that his **'public image'** is more integral than his morality.

Priestley cleverly crafts the capitalists to remain **stagnant** and **obstinate** to reveal how socialism **catalyses** a change in both people and society. Contrastingly, capitalism only **prohibits** revolutionary change and reform as they believe that change is **tantamount** (the same as) a loss of their power.

## TOP TIP



*By referring to stage directions, you're hitting A02 (analysing the form of the play). By referencing stage directions, you're acknowledging it is a play form.*

## TOPIC SENTENCES

- The Inspector is affirmative when propagating the message of socialism as the upper class members of society are so wilfully ignorant and resistant to their desperate need for change- the Inspector's brutal awakening and shattering of their [pink and intimate] setting is used by Priestley to highlight how upper classes need to be forced to recognise the need for socialism within their lives.
- The Inspector is used by Priestley to highlight the stagnancy and obstinance of the Birling's that have been indoctrinated by capitalism. He uses the Inspector's ability to catalyse a change to exacerbate their reluctance to embark on their own reformation- the Inspector serves as a moral example to the audience, thus reinforcing that socialism is a moral example for society.

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