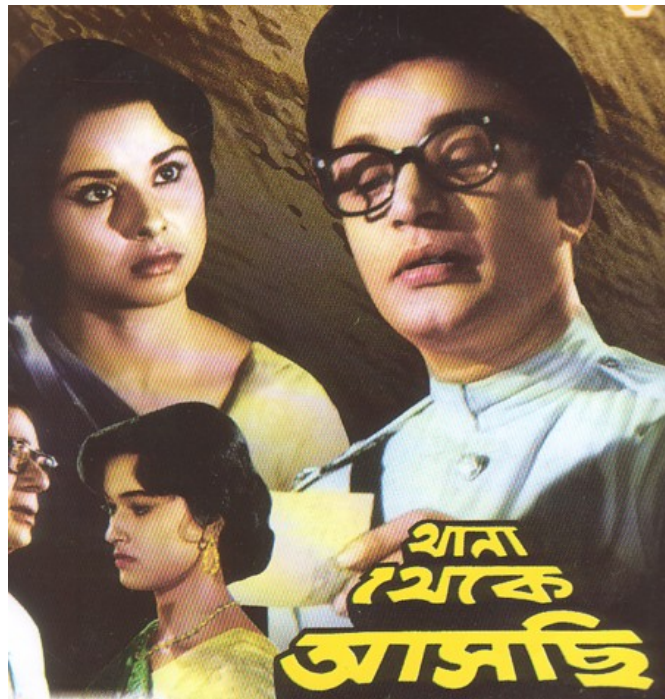
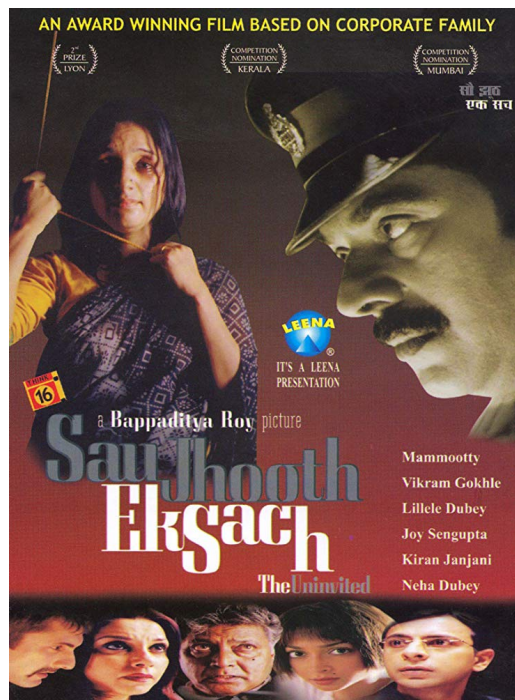


An Inspector Calls: Exemplar Literary Essays



Contents:

1 The Unsinkable Quality of English Inequality: An Inspector Calls
Using Social, Historical and Political Contexts to help interpretation

2. Function of Inspector and Eva Smith—Prepared Essay

3. Character Exemplars

- Birling
- Mrs. Birling
- Sheila

4. Theme

- Social Class
- Selfishness

Success Criteria for a Literary Essay on 'An Inspector Calls'

Introduction

- Address the question:
 - If a theme, offer a definition and explain and unpack the idea
 - If of a character, discuss the way the character changes and their relationships with others, specifically Eva Smith and The Inspector
- Create a thesis with 3 arguments (A, B, C)
- *Could* use Context to help inform interpretation
- Stretch: Evaluate how Priestley uses the theme or character

For Each Paragraph

- Topic Sentence with Argument and or interpretation
- Use of a variety of relevant evidence
- Integrated use of evidence
- Analysis of Language—keywords, relevant literary devices, language
- Analysis of Form—Drama
 - Stagecraft, character, dialogue, stage directions, dramatic irony, audience responses
- Analysis of Structure—a recognition and analysis that characters change
- Analysis of Structure:
 - Before the Inspector
 - During the character's Interrogations and their versions of meeting Eva Smith
 - When they think him fake and Ending
- Relevant Context explained and applied to question
- Exploration of analysis and context and linking to argument
- *Could consider multiple contexts: 1912/1945/2020*
- *Could have personal response*
- *Could have evaluation: weighing up multiple perspectives*
- Returning to the Question

The Unsinkable Quality of English Inequality: An Inspector Calls

Using Social, Historical and Political Contexts to help interpretation

On its maiden voyage in 1912, the RMS Titanic was hailed as the largest ship on the seas. In a time of growing technology and celebration of British scientific, military, cultural and literary achievement, it became a symbol of hope for the future. The immense power and wealth of the United Kingdom in the symbol of a luxury ship. Tragically, the boat hit an iceberg and sunk.

Some of the statistical details demonstrate how powerful a symbol the Titanic is for the class system and inequality in England:

- Of the 2,224 passengers, 1500 died—40% of people were saved
- Given the number of lifeboats, 53% should have survived
- The percentage of First Class passengers who survived: 61%
 - in first class over a third of the men, almost all of the women and all the children survived
- The percentage of Standard Class passengers who survived: 42%
 - 10 per cent of the men, 84 per cent of the women and all the children.
- The percentage of Third Class passengers who survived: 24%
 - But in steerage 12 per cent of the men, 55 per cent of the women and less than one in three of the children survived.

Priestley has Mr. Arthur Birling discuss the Titanic as 'unsinkable, absolutely unsinkable' to emphasise his arrogance and pride. The Titanic becomes a symbol, not of Victorian engineering, but instead Edwardian arrogance. England, as represented by the Birlings, are sure of themselves, think they will always be powerful, and think the way class works is the way it should work. Priestley uses dramatic irony in poking fun at Birling with this

belief in the unsinkability of the Titanic but also his rejection of a war with Germany, tensions in the Balkans and political discontent, particularly amongst workers.

... you'll hear some people say that war's inevitable. And to that I say – fiddlesticks! The Germans don't want war. Nobody wants war, except some half-civilised folks in the Balkans. And why? There's too much at stake these days. Everything to lose and nothing to gain by war.

Set before two world wars, Priestley highlights how wrong Birling is in his predictions. *Inspector Calls* debuted in the Soviet Union and not in London. Russia had a Communist Revolution in 1917. The Inspector's line to Birling about it being 'better to ask for the earth than to take it' would have resonated with the elite revolutionary audiences in Moscow. Priestley sets his play in 1912 and uses the Titanic and the World War as indications of Birling having no comprehension over how his privilege led to the exploitation of one woman, Eva Smith, but also an entire world view. Birling doesn't even imagine that he will not always be powerful. He is history's fool, for Priestley. Priestley wanted to criticise and expose the hypocrisy of English class and wealth.

***Inspector Calls* is a morality play that denounces the hypocrisy and callousness of capitalism and argues that a just society can only be achieved if all individuals feel a sense of social responsibility.**

How does the story of the Titanic act as central *contextual* metaphor for the play *An Inspector Calls*?

The philosophy that animates the traditional upper classes were not only built on privilege, but also demanded responsibility as well. That meant responsibility for the poor or, again, in traditional conservatism, responsibility for the people who worked your land. This is the vague responsibility that might animate Cybil Birling to work for a charity. However, Priestley exposes the power relations and control rather than the sympathy and care that one might expect. Mr. Birling rejects responsibility outright:

Still, 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, wouldn't it?

Following the utter devastation of the Second World War(1945), England did eventually establish a National Welfare System. Education, housing and health care were to be universally available. This didn't come from charity, but from a system of taxation. If the government could use workers and mobilise them in total war, they could also mobilise the state finances to ensure that our most vulnerable were taken care of.

Why did Priestley set his play in 1912? He wanted to portray the mentality of the English ruling class. A mentality, he seems to imply, that led to a selfish and ignorant mentality what would lead to the devastation of not just one world war, but two.

We can understand Priestley's goal through some of his own political writing:

We are floundering between two stools. One of them is our old acquaintance labelled 'Every man for himself, and the devil take the hindmost', which can't really represent us, or why should young men, for whom you and I have done little or nothing, tear up and down the sky in their Spitfires to protect us, or why

should our whole community pledge itself to fight until Europe is freed? The other stool ... has some lettering round it that hints that free men could combine, without losing what's essential to their free development, to see that each gives according to his ability, and receives according to his need.

These 'two stools' vacillate between greed and all for ourselves on one side and the idea that society helps those in need on the other. The play's victim is never seen; she has multiple names and her gruesome suicide is starkly drawn by the Inspector: she drinks bleach and burns her insides out. This is even more brutal when we reflect that she was pregnant. Priestley, and by extension the Inspector, speak for this absent girl and outline how vulnerable she was to the wealth and power of the Birlings, the Crofts and an unjust economic system that punished and marginalised her.

The play begins with the characters' corrupt, unpleasant natures safely hidden away (a respectable group in a respectable home, enjoying that most respectable event, an engagement party); it ends with naked displays of hypocrisy. When it is confirmed that Goole is not really a policeman, Arthur, Sibyl and Gerald immediately regain an unjustified sense of outrage. 'Then look at the way he talked to me', Arthur Birling complains. 'He must have known I was an ex-Lord Mayor and a magistrate and so forth'.

How can multiple contexts be used to think about the play?

- 1912
- 1914
- 1917
- 1945
- Stretch: 2020

Priestley's Inspector is a ghost, a kind of walking talking moral agent who appears to punish and expose the lies of this family. He is the counter-point to Mr. Birling

We don't live alone. We are members of one body. We are responsible for each other. And I tell you that the time will soon come when if men will not learn that lesson, then they will be taught it in fire and blood and anguish. We don't live alone. Good night.

For the Inspector Eva Smith isn't just one person: 'there are millions and millions of Eva Smiths and John Smiths still left with us, with their lives...hopes...fears.' Where the Birlings could be represented by the metaphor of the Titanic, Priestley via

the Inspector have a metaphor of a human body—we are all interconnected. And, if we don't realise this, there will be 'fire and blood and anguish.' This could refer to the coming wars, but it could also refer to a possible Revolution—again something the Soviet audience would have understood and applauded.

Strangely, the Inspector leaves and the invented story Inspector Goole related has now come true. This seems a bizarre coincidence with which to end the play, but if we consider *An Inspector Calls* as a moral fable, and not as naturalistic theatre, it begins to seem much more like a logical, even inevitable, conclusion.

Social Historical and Literary Context that needs to be Applied to your Essays:

To understand and to write about this play in depth, you need to consider:

- Mr. Birling as a **capitalist** and his relationship to Eva Smith and **striking workers**.
- Sheila Birling as an upper-class woman who uses her influence to get another woman fired. This means considering the way **class** functions and the **role of women** in an increasing time of political agitation for **women's rights and suffrage**.
- Through Gerald, you should think about the **role of men in marriage** and the **privilege of men** in society then and now.
- To understand Mrs. Birling, you need to think not only of the role of women, but the role of charities and the way the rich get to decide who is deserving and who isn't deserving. This is in contrast to the development of the post-war Labour government's establishment of the **welfare state**.
- Eric is portrayed as a rich, spoiled and privileged man who abuses alcohol, steals money, and, of course, sexually assaults Eva Smith. Although we see him change, blame his parents and show some shame, his actions should make us think of things such as **consent, sexual assault, male violence towards women as well as male privilege**. The modern context of 2020 helps us see all these characters differently.
- The Inspector, who represents Priestley's own politics, reflects **socialism**.

As a play, you need to think about these characters and how they are portrayed and how they change over the course of their time on stage. This is an old-fashioned play with a heavy-handed political message. As viewers we can revel in judging all of these people and their horrid moral mistakes. The Inspector's pushy exposure of their hypocrisy is fun and gives us both moral outrage and a sense of superiority. In the set piece of Edwardian England, we get a glimpse of the moral poverty and the immense inequality of a society. However, as modern viewers and readers, we should take pause.

Ten years of austerity in Britain have led to massive cuts to school funding, housing, benefits and policing. Austerity was introduced to control borrowing which in turn exploded because of financial deregulation. The financial sector, not the industrialists of the Birling-Croft crowd, became enormously wealthy and when their system crashed, we were expected to bail them out. Now, the benefit system that is supposed to protect our most vulnerable is being ever eroded. We can reflect not just on 1912 and 1945 when watching Priestley's play. If the play is to mean anything, we should think about the way another Eva Smith might be treated in today's England. We want to imagine we are better than the Birlings and the Crofts—maybe we don't drink, maybe we don't have affairs—but England's structural inequality still surrounds us and informs our every waking moment.

How does the current world of England in 2020 reflect changes and similarities to the world that Priestley was describing?

Could there be an Eva Smith today?

What are crucial *social, historical and political contexts* that students need to know to analyse the play?

What do we know about society at the time?
 How did Priestley think society could be improved?
 What does the audience learn from the Inspector in the play?
 What effect does this have on the audience? What does this make the audience think about society?

0 | 2

How does Priestley use the character of the Inspector to suggest ways that society could be improved?

Write about:

- what society is shown to be like in the play and how it might be improved
- how Priestley presents society through what the Inspector says and does

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

0 | 2

How does Priestley use the character of the Inspector to suggest ways that society could be improved?

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[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

- The characters live in a capitalist society, with inequality between social classes
- Priestley thought conditions would be improved for workers, women and the poor through socialism
- The audience learns about Eva's story through the Inspector's interrogations of the different characters
- This allows the audience to see that if the characters had acted differently, Eva's life might have been different.

The Inspector and Mr. Birling

The Inspector and Sheila

The Inspector and Mrs. Birling

0 | 2

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[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Society

- capitalist system
- inequality between classes
- no welfare state

AO3: Context

- Socialism vs. Capitalism
- Charity vs. Welfare State
- Class discrimination

The Inspector and Mr. Birling

--Inspector interrupts a confident speech by Mr. Birling
 -- Inspector shows how Mr. Birling was involved in Eva losing her job
 -- The Inspector implies that what Mr. Birling did may have led to her death

The Inspector and Sheila

--Sheila is jealous of Eva Smith and has her dismissed
 -- Inspector tells her she used her power as a customer to get her fired, just because she was jealous
 -- Sheila feels guilty

0 | 2

How does Priestley use the character of the Inspector to suggest ways that society could be improved?

Write about:

- what society is shown to be like in the play and how it might be improved
- how Priestley presents society through what the Inspector says and does

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Society

- capitalist system
- inequality between classes
- no welfare state

AO3: Context

- Socialism vs. Capitalism
- Charity vs. Welfare State
- Class discrimination

What does the audience think after the Inspector's interrogation of Mr Birling?	What does the audience think after the Inspector's interrogation of Sheila?	What does the audience think after the Inspector's interrogation of Mrs Birling?
<p>How does Priestley use the character of the Inspector to suggest ways that society could be improved?</p> <p>Write about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> what society is shown to be like in the play and how it might be improved how Priestley presents society through what the Inspector says and does <p>(30 marks) AO4 [4 marks]</p>		
Society --capitalist system --inequality between classes --no welfare state	A03: Context • Socialism vs. Capitalism • Charity vs. Welfare State • Class discrimination	

Priestley uses the Inspector to suggest that employers should take better care of their workers. He shows this through Mr. Birling.	Priestley uses the Inspector to suggest that there should be more equality between social classes. He shows this through Sheila.	Priestley uses the Inspector to suggest that there should be a stronger welfare state. He shows this through Mrs. Birling.
<p>How does Priestley use the character of the Inspector to suggest ways that society could be improved?</p> <p>Write about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> what society is shown to be like in the play and how it might be improved how Priestley presents society through what the Inspector says and does <p>(30 marks) AO4 [4 marks]</p>		
Society --capitalist system --inequality between classes --no welfare state	A03: Context • Socialism vs. Capitalism • Charity vs. Welfare State • Class discrimination	

'what happened to her then may have determined what happened to her afterwards' 'She was out of work for the next two months ... she hadn't been able to save much out of what Birling and Company had paid her' 'no work, no money coming in ... few friends, lonely and half starved, she was feeling desperate' 'public men have responsibilities as well as privileges'	'There was nothing wrong with the way she was doing her work' 'when she was dismissed, for no reason that she could discover' 'and so you used the power you had, as the daughter of a man well known in the town to punish the girl, just because she made you feel like that'	'you admit to being prejudiced against her case?' 'I didn't like her manner' 'She was here alone, friendless, almost penniless, desperate. She needed not only money but advice, sympathy ... You must have known what she was feeling. And you slammed the door in her face.'
Society --capitalist system --inequality between classes --no welfare state	A03: Context • Socialism vs. Capitalism • Charity vs. Welfare State • Class discrimination	

Priestley uses the Inspector to suggest that employers should take better care of their workers. 'what happened to her then may have determined what happened to her afterwards' 'She was out of work for the next two months ... she hadn't been able to save much out of what Birling and Company had paid her' 'no work, no money coming in ... few friends, lonely and half starved, she was feeling desperate' 'public men have responsibilities as well as privileges'	Priestley uses the Inspector to suggest that there should be more equality between social classes. 'There was nothing wrong with the way she was doing her work' 'when she was dismissed, for no reason that she could discover' 'and so you used the power you had, as the daughter of a man well known in the town to punish the girl, just because she made you feel like that'	Priestley uses the Inspector to suggest that there should be a stronger welfare state. 'you admit to being prejudiced against her case?' 'I didn't like her manner' 'She was here alone, friendless, almost penniless, desperate. She needed not only money but advice, sympathy ... You must have known what she was feeling. And you slammed the door in her face.'
A03: Context • Class discrimination • Socialism vs. Capitalism	A03: Context • Class discrimination	A03: Context • Charity vs. Welfare State

Do we see Eva in the play?
How do we learn different aspects of her life through each of the characters?
Mr. Birling, Sheila, Gerald, Mrs. Birling, Eric
STRETCH: The Inspector himself

Write about:

- what Eva's life is like in the play
- how Priestley uses Eva to represent the lives of poor people.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

How does Priestley use Eva Smith to represent poverty in *An Inspector Calls*?

Write about:

- what Eva's life is like in the play
- how Priestley uses Eva to represent the lives of poor people.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

- We only know Eva's plight through the Inspector's interrogation
- We learn about how poverty lead to her suicide through each character's actions and story

Mr. Birling	Gerald	Sheila	Eric
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How does Priestley use Eva Smith to represent poverty in *An Inspector Calls*?

Write about:

- what Eva's life is like in the play
- how Priestley uses Eva to represent the lives of poor people

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Poverty and Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> --worker's rights --women's rights, jobs, marriage --housing, living conditions --freedom 	AO3: Context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socialism vs. Capitalism • Charity vs. Welfare State • Role of Women
--	--

Mr. Birling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> --got her fired for strike action for higher wages --thought of her as a trouble maker --shows no remorse --only worries about his reputation 	Gerald <ul style="list-style-type: none"> --met her when she was waiting in a bar --getting harassed by another man --falls for her and starts an affair --houses her in a friend's flat --they eventually part ways 	Sheila <ul style="list-style-type: none"> --after leaving the factory Eva worked in a clothing shop --Sheila thinks that she is laughing at her and is jealous of the way she looks --because she is wealthy she can get her fired --Sheila shows remorse and change
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How does Priestley use Eva Smith to represent poverty in *An Inspector Calls*?

Write about:

- what Eva's life is like in the play
- how Priestley uses Eva to represent the lives of poor people

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Poverty and Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> --worker's rights --women's rights, jobs, marriage --housing, living conditions --freedom 	AO3: Context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socialism vs. Capitalism • Charity vs. Welfare State • Role of Women
--	--

Priestley presents poverty through Eva in <i>what way</i> through Mr. Birling?	Priestley presents poverty through Eva in <i>what way</i> through Gerald?	Priestley presents poverty through Eva in <i>what way</i> through Sheila?
<p>How does Priestley use Eva Smith to represent poverty in <i>An Inspector Calls</i>?</p> <p>Write about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> what <u>Eva's life is like</u> in the play how Priestley uses Eva to represent the lives of <u>poor people</u> <p>[30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]</p>		
Poverty and Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> --worker's rights --women's rights, jobs, marriage --housing, living conditions --freedom 	A03: Context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Socialism vs. Capitalism Charity vs. Welfare State Role of Women 	

Priestley presents how poverty affects workers. He shows this through the interaction between Eva and Mr. Birling.	Priestley presents how poverty affected women differently than men. He does this through the interactions between Gerald and Eva.	Priestley presents the way the rich can control the poor. He shows this through the interaction between Eva and Sheila.
<p>How does Priestley use Eva Smith to represent poverty in <i>An Inspector Calls</i>?</p> <p>Write about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> what <u>Eva's life is like</u> in the play how Priestley uses Eva to represent the lives of <u>poor people</u> <p>[30 marks] AO4 [4 marks]</p>		
Poverty and Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> --worker's rights --women's rights, jobs, marriage --housing, living conditions --freedom 	A03: Context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Socialism vs. Capitalism Charity vs. Welfare State Role of Women 	

Mr. Birling <p>'she had a lot of say, too much... she had to go.'</p> <p>'Community and all that nonsense'</p> <p>'bees in a hive'</p> <p>'that wretched girl's suicide'</p>	Gerald <p>'I didn't install her there so I could make love to her'</p> <p>'I didn't feel about her as she felt about me'</p> <p>Inspector: Gerald 'had some affection for her and made her happy for a time.'</p>	Sheila <p>'she was very pretty and could take care of herself'</p> <p>'cheap labour... people'</p> <p>'feel terrible'</p>
Poverty and Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> --worker's rights --women's rights, jobs, marriage --housing, living conditions --freedom 	A03: Context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Socialism vs. Capitalism Charity vs. Welfare State Role of Women 	

Priestley presents how poverty affects workers. He shows this through the interaction between Eva and Mr. Birling.	Priestley presents how poverty affected women differently than men. He does this through the interactions between Gerald and Eva.	Priestley presents the way the rich can control the poor. He shows this through the interaction between Eva and Sheila.
Mr. Birling <p>'she had a lot of say, too much... she had to go.'</p> <p>'Community and all that nonsense'</p> <p>'bees in a hive'</p> <p>'that wretched girl's suicide'</p>	Gerald <p>'I didn't install her there so I could make love to her'</p> <p>'I didn't feel about her as she felt about me'</p> <p>Inspector: Gerald 'had some affection for her and made her happy for a time.'</p>	Sheila <p>'she was very pretty and could take care of herself'</p> <p>'cheap labour... people'</p> <p>'feel terrible'</p>
A03: Context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Socialism vs. Capitalism 	A03: Context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charity vs. Welfare State 	A03: Context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Role of Women
Stretch: cover all characters <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Mr. Birling and Eric 2) Gerald and Sheila 3) Mrs. Birling and Inspector 		

What function does the character of the Inspector have in 'An Inspector Calls' and how does Priestley present this character?

FUNCTION-

- drives plot, reveals family secret
- knows everything that happened to Eva
- Presents Priestley's socialist message
- Believes in equality and social responsibility

Character—Birling, Sheila, Gerald

Priestley Presents—mysterious, all-knowing, critical over the behaviour of the rich

Cultural CONTEXT—post WWII—imagining WWI—more equitable, socialist society to prevent further destruction

Introduction	--description of context --description of character --powerful, all-knowing, outside, mysterious --connection to themes --connection to other characters	First performed in the Soviet Union in 1945, Priestley's 'An Inspector Calls' presented a critique of the irresponsibility of the rich in the United Kingdom. To do this, Priestley set his play in 1913 to investigate how little has changed with the British rich. He used the character of the Inspector as a mysterious, all-knowing outsider that forces the rich characters to admit their faults and mistakes. His function is to help characters realize their mistakes and take responsibility for what they have done. Priestley uses the Inspector to expose Birling as arrogant, to show Sheila can change and.... [what does he show about Gerald?]
1 Inspector- Birling	TS: Priestley uses the Inspector to help expose the arrogance of Mr. Birling. '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 , wouldn't it?' Language: Form: Irony—they are all connected to Eva Smith Structure: What else in the play does this link to? Cultural Context: What relevant Cultural Context can we add?	Priestley uses the Inspector to help expose the arrogance of Mr. Birling . When being interrogated by the Inspector over his firing of Eva Smith, the girl who commits suicide, Birling refuses to 'accept any responsibility.' Repeating an idea he states earlier to Eric and Gerald, he notes that if 'everybody' was 'responsible for everything' it would be 'awkward.' Language analysis: Zoom into words Form: What doesn't Birling realize? Structure: How does this compare to how Birling and the Inspector speak at the end of the play. Context: What is relevant Contextual Information?

2 Inspector-Sheila	<p>TS: Priestley uses the Inspector to show the audience that Sheila changes her outlook towards responsibility.</p> <p>What key quote can you use for Sheila?</p> <p>Language: What words to zoom in on?</p> <p>Form: What is the audience reaction to Sheila? How does it change?</p> <p>Structure: Think about the opening, middle and the end of the play. How does the Inspector cause change in Sheila? What does Sheila think about the Inspector?</p> <p>Context: What relevant cultural context will help in our discussion of the change in Sheila?</p>	
3 Inspector--Gerald	<p>TS: What does Priestley use the Inspector to show in Gerald?</p> <p>What is the most relevant quote?</p> <p>Language: What words to zoom in on?</p> <p>Form: How does the audience feel about Gerald?</p> <p>Structure: How do his actions at the end of the play complicate our idea of him?</p> <p>Context: What relevant cultural context will help in our discussion of Gerald?</p>	
Conclusion	<p>--Return to the character</p> <p>--connection to theme</p> <p>--connection to context</p> <p>--answer the question in your own words</p>	

Mr. Birling Exemplar 1

Priestley presents Mr. Birling as an outspoken capitalistic character to act as a dramatic foil to contrasting influential characters who portray his own socialistic views such as the Inspector and Eric. This allows Priestley to show socialism in a highlighted positive way.

In the beginning of the play, Priestley uses dramatic irony in order to ridicule Mr. Birling as when he describes the Titanic as 'unsinkable—absolutely unsinkable'. This subsequently cements the audience's opinions of him as arrogant and incompetent. Priestley also shows Mr Birling as selfish. 'A man has to make his own way' showing his single mindedness. His use of 'man' could relate to the sexist views of 1914 in which the play was set. This might possibly be to show that while times had changed, for the most part, with women gaining a higher place in society, capitalists were still determined to revert back to older views. This could also be a valued reason to support the socialist movement.

Priestley also uses the Inspector as a way to ridicule Mr. Birling further. The Inspector's calm and collected composition is juxtaposed to Mr. Birling's angry and rash behavior to show the distinct opposition of the two; with Mr. Birling presented as childish in the face of the Inspector. By placing Mr. Birling so obviously in the wrong, Priestley allows his character to be shown as weak, 'I was quite justified' his use of 'quite' shows that even his defense against the crime is unsure and easily dismissed. Due to the previous portrayal as an obvious capitalist this strengthens the idea that Priestley's aim is to belittle the views. Furthermore, the Inspector's own speech highlighting clearly the socialist views that 'we are responsible for each other' to Mr. Birling's own speech in Act One, where he boldly announced that the 'Germans don't want war' allowing Priestley to further show that while a capitalist such as Mr. Birling may be foolish and unwise socialists are quite the opposite.

Mr. Birling's reaction to the Inspector being a fake, his simple dismissal and excuses that 'I would have' noticed can also be seen as portraying the capitalistic views after the war, a confidence such as Mr. Birling had in Act 1, to the excuses given, much like those after the Inspector leaves. Priestley has easily portrayed Mr. Birling as almost the dictator of the family, however after the ordeal this changes quickly. 'I'm ashamed of you', this clear portrayal of views on Mr. Birling shows how opinions are changing possibly to show the increase in socialism support since the end of WWII. This places Mr. Birling in a weakened position, leading to the belief that the Inspector's influence (of socialistic beliefs) has a positive and morality beneficial effect on the younger generation, in order to suggest that socialism could be the best option for the future.

Through Priestley's continuous ridicule of Mr. Birling and his views allow him to be seen as an embodiment of the negative capitalist views, while his position as a weaker character in the face of socialism allow the socialist views to be viewed as better. Furthermore, by placing Mr Birling in a morally incorrect position Priestley allows Mr. Birling's capitalistic view to be easily dismissed and shows capitalism to be as morally unacceptable political view.

What makes this a successful piece of writing?

What aspects of this essay could be improved?

Pick 3 places in this essay where you could expand the idea, use another quotation or explore the context in a way to expand the argument further.

Mr. Birling Exemplar 2

Throughout the play Priestley presents Mr Birling to be an arrogant fool who only cares for himself mainly furthermore showing the contrast in them two. He presents Mr Birling as a capitalist.

Priestley presents the character of Mr Birling as a mirror image of himself; he shows Birling to be an arrogant man who doesn't care about other people's well being. This is revealed in the quotation 'If we were all responsible for everybody we had anything to do with it would be awkward, wouldn't it?' The word 'responsible' depicts what Birling can't be, furthermore the word 'awkward' shows us Birling is afraid of this reputation being criticized and himself being embarrassed again reinforcing his arrogance. Priestley also shows the arrogance of Mr Birling when the Inspector asks Birling if he knows a girl called Eva Smith and Birling replied with 'the name doesn't come to mind.' This shows that even after the Inspector tells what happened to the girl Mr Birling doesn't feel responsible over her death and isn't kind enough to say he knew the girl. The word 'mind' reinforces his rude and arrogant attitude.

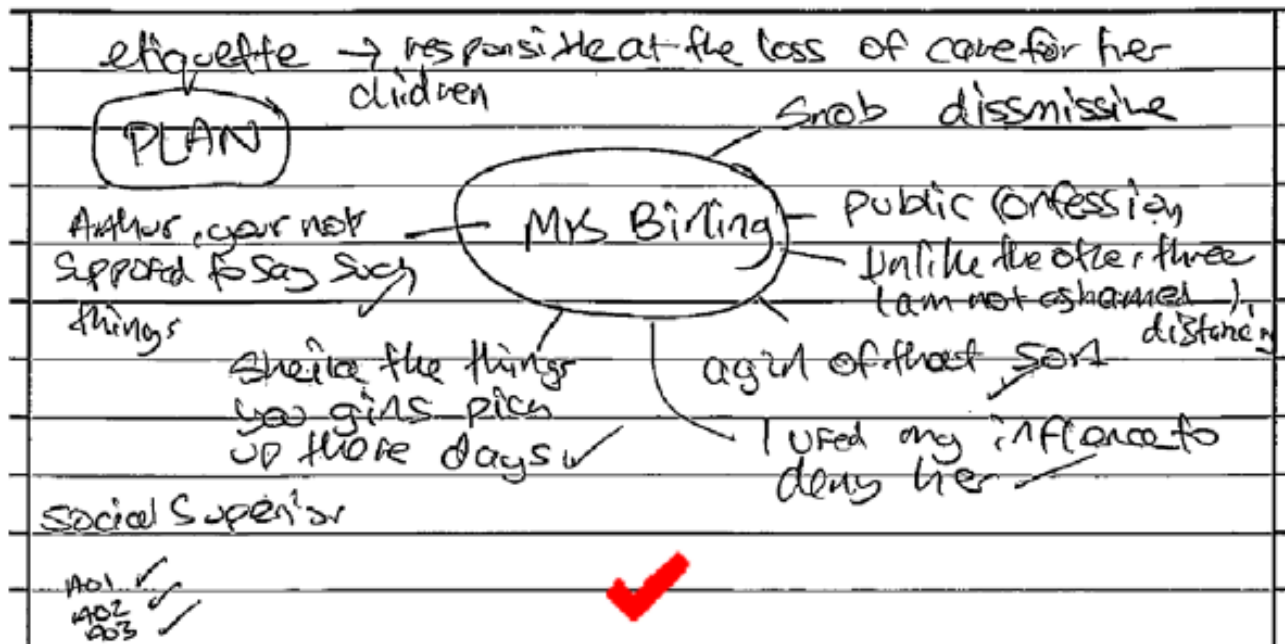
Priestley also presents Mr Birling to be quite a fool sometimes during the play; this is revealed by the word 'unsinkable.' Mr Birling is implying how strong the Titanic is. This is dramatic irony furthermore this also shows how idiotic Mr birling is. We can also see Mr Birling's idiocy by the quotation 'nobody wants war.' The word 'war' tells us that Mr Birling can talk about such serious matters easily as if he was a soldier furthermore this is also dramatic irony reinforcing how much of a fool he is.

Priestley also presents Mr Birling to be very close with his family apart from Eric. This is revealed by the quotation 'What about war?' This shows how Mr Birling shuts down his son and also debates against Eric's opinions or statements. The punctuation shows us that Mr Birling would've shouted at him furthermore reinforcing how weak their relationship is. We can also see how close see how close. Mr Birling and Gerald Croft are due to the fact they both share capitalist views. When Mr Birling finishes telling his story of Eva Smith, Gerald Croft supports Mr Birling this is revealed by the quotation 'There's nothing he could have done.' The word 'nothing' implies he is trying to show to the Inspector there isn't a solution, no choice. We can again see the relationship between Eric and Mr Birling by the quotation 'He could have increased the wages.' The word 'could' reinforces the weak relationship due to the fact it shows Eric not supporting his dad but the Inspector. Priestley also presents Mr Birling to be socially inferior to his wife when his wife complains against his husband for complimenting the chef this revealed by the quotation 'You musn't say these things.' The word 'musn't' shows Mrs Birling's attitude to others, similar to Mr Birlings's, uncaring.

Finally Priestley writes the play after the war, this means he can strike the hearts of the audience at that time in 1945 because some may have lost their loved ones and people are now working together. Priestley could use this as a chance to make sure to keep it that way.

In Conclusion Priestley presents Mr Birling as a man who feels he has no responsibility over his actions, furthermore is Priestley makes Mr Birling a rich man to show the class difference and how bad it is.

- **What makes this a successful piece of writing?**
- **How might have a larger consideration of analysis of drama?**
- The examiners considered this a more successful essay than the other exemplar. Do you agree with them?
- **Pick 3 places in this essay where you could expand the idea, use another quotation or explore the context in a way to expand the argument further.**



In *An Inspector Calls*, J.B. Priestley ~~present~~ uses the character of Mrs Birling to portray a typical higher-class woman. In multiple occasions in the play, Mrs Birling (Sybil) is presented as dismissive and a snob. This behaviour is evident from the very start of the play where she tells off her husband for thanking the chef in front of a guest, Gerald. She says "Arthur, your not supposed to say such things". This authoritative tone of Mrs Birling shows that she takes ~~re~~ pride in her social respectability and ~~does~~ so wants her whole family to not ruin it. Mrs Birling is from a higher social status than Mr Birling so she is socially superior. This is a reason why she is telling off Mr Birling as well. ~~As~~ we learn that she takes high responsibility in social etiquette, which are the ways society expects you to behave ✓

In the same conversation, J.B. Priestley presents Mrs Birling as traditional in the lines "Sheila, the things you girls pick up there days". Here it is clear that Sybil is quite ashamed of the language that her daughter is using because it is not sophisticated and not how the higher class should talk. The repeated

telling off of two members in her family echoes and emphasises her Social Superiority. The collective noun "girls" shows that ~~she~~ Mrs Birling is distancing herself from them and is appalled that Sheila is part of them, and not behaving traditionally. This again shows that Mrs Birling is a bit of a snob and so presents her as an unlikeable character.


When the Inspector arrives and begins interrogating the family members, both Mr and Mrs Birling ^{tried to} use a commanding tone and their social influence to get him to leave but he does not. As each character's acts are revealed, Mrs Birling repeatedly shows no sympathy for Eva Smith. This ~~shows~~ echoes her social class because she ~~was~~ as a higher class woman was not expected to feel sympathy for a lower class person. This however contrast with the charity that Mrs Birling runs for women in need. Therefore, the audience can think that Mrs Birling is not running the charity for the good of lower class woman but more to earn social respect and show off her status. This presents her as an unlikeable character because she is selfish, self centered and doesn't really care about the good of those in lower classes.

When Gerald confesses that he had Eva Smith, but at the time known as Daisy Renton (with renton suggesting renting and prostitution), as a mistress, Mrs Birling is appalled as says "that's disgusting". ~~Here~~ Here, Mrs Birling's dismissive attitude is showing that she is totally against the idea of men having mistresses but she doesn't further accuse Gerald, which could suggest that she is aware it happens with higher class men and so accepts it. When she is interrogated

by the Inspector, Mrs Birling repeatedly lies and tries to avoid the truth but the Inspector starts asking deliberate questions to prevent her from doing this. This presents behaviour presents Mrs Birling as a snob and shows off her higher class attitude because she is trying to avoid the truth and make it suit her. When she finally does reveal that she "used her influence" to deny Eva Smith from receiving help at her charity, she says "Unlike the other three, I am not ashamed of what I did". Here Mrs Birling is distancing herself from the rest of the family to try and keep up her respectability. By doing this, she is once again presented as a snob and it suggests that Mrs Birling feels more strongly towards protecting building up and protecting her social respect than her care for her family. This is further emphasised later in the play when Eric says "You never loved me". This quote provides evidence to Mrs Birling's attitude towards her family because it states that she never showed love towards her children. Therefore, due to her lack of motherly responsibilities ^{and love} that every child deserves to receive, she is presented as an unreliable character.

Mrs Birling tries to blame someone else to avoid her reputation being ruined. When she confesses that she prevented Eva Smith from receiving help, she begins blaming the father who "impregnated" Eva Smith. The Inspector's cleverness is shown in this part of the play because he has laid a trap for Mrs Birling and she has fallen straight into it. This suggests that Mrs Birling is not very smart, unlike Sheila who realises and tries to warn her but Sybil doesn't listen. Mrs Birling says that the father should make a "public confession" and that there should be "a scandal" about this. This echoes to her

dismissive tone as she is again trying to blame some one else. She doesn't even think that her son could be her son and this is being she is of a too high of a class that she can't even imagine that. When she does find out, she bursts into tears and can't bear what her son has done. ~~that~~ In this situation, the ^{audience} ~~viewer~~ will feel some sympathy towards her but others (especially lower class audience) will think that she deserves this for her unhumanly attitudes to the lower class. This ~~is~~ attitude is evident when she says "a girl of that sort". Here she is referring to Eva but is distancing her and showing ~~that~~ no sympathy to her situation by ~~referring~~ classing her in a group of people who are not appreciated by society. As a result of this, she is seen as an unlikable character.

When ~~the~~ Sybil finds out that the Inspector is a hoax, she instantly forgets all that had happened that evening and goes back to ~~what~~ what she was doing earlier on. ~~By~~ By showing no remorse for Eva Smith ~~in~~ through the character of Mrs Birling, JB Priestley is suggesting that there is no chance that the higher class can change to be able to have equal rights and equal morals. He speaks to his audience through the voice of the Inspector where he says "We are all members of one body". This states that we are all the same kind, we are ~~all~~ all human beings, so everyone needs to treat each other equally and as they would be liked to be treated. JB Priestley contrast Mrs Birling's character with Sheila's to show that there is  hope in the younger generation for change. This is evident when

Sheila says "between us we have killed a girl". This shows that Sheila feels strongly guilty for her actions and shows remorse but Mrs Birling doesn't accept this. In fact she criticizes Mr Birling for not interrogating the Inspector at the start, or letting her question him at the start of the evening. This emphasises how Mrs Birling has behaved throughout the ~~course~~ course of the play and shows that she has not changed one bit. This presents her as unlikeable because she is ~~is~~ showing no sympathy for Eva and JB Priestley has intentionally ~~decided~~ made the character of Mrs Birling unlikeable to show that there is no hope in the older generation for changing and accepting moral views, but there is hope in the younger generation.

All Level 5, level 6
for AO1 and AO3

Section A: Modern prose or drama

Answer **one** question from this section on your chosen text.

JB Priestley: *An Inspector Calls***Either**

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How does Priestley present selfishness and its effects in *An Inspector Calls*?

Write about:

- examples of selfish behaviour in the play
- how Priestley presents selfishness and its effects.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

or

0	2
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How does Priestley present Sheila as a character who learns important lessons about herself and society?

Write about:

- some of the things Sheila learns in the play
- how Priestley presents Sheila as a character who learns important lessons about herself and society.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

In ~~An~~ Inspector 'An Inspector Calls', Sheila is the daughter of ~~the~~ business man Mr Birling and is raised with his views on society. However during the course of the play, we see how her character develops and becomes more socially aware.

Priestley presents Sheila as a character who learns important lessons about herself and society by showing her as a ~~child~~ ^{well-mannered} ~~girl~~. In Act 1, we know that the Birlings are celebrating Sheila's and Gerald's engagement. When Gerald gets the ring, she says 'is it the one you wanted me to have?'. The phrase 'you wanted' implies that she depends ~~a lot~~ on men

(in this case Gerald), and from the ~~the~~ impression of the tone, it comes off as if she is saying it in an innocent manner. This can highlight to the audience that she doesn't get a lot of say, and we can see that she's following the etiquette of how women were supposed

to behave. Also in the beginning of the play, we don't hear much more from Sheila, showing how as a female in the play, she was expected to keep quiet. Mr Birling on the other hand, has a lot to say, as he's speaking to Gerald about the business world. He also repeatedly tries to insult famous socialist writers, and even refers to community as 'nonsense'. This

REFS

implies that he is very self-centered and

doesn't think about anyone but himself. At the end of the play, we see how he still hasn't changed, when he says 'I'll have to cover this up as quick as possible.' This highlights how he has no sympathy for the situation

only cares about how he's seen in the eye of the public; he thinks it's vital a man has a good reputation.

This links to the role of women during this era. Women of higher class were expected to be polite, not say much and to get married, whilst ~~men~~ women of the ~~lower~~ working class were just used for

labour and were mistreated. We see how Sheila's manner contrasts with ~~Mr~~ Mr Birling's whilst talking about Eva's death with the Inspector. Thus Priestley presents Sheila as a character who learns important lessons about society and herself by showing her as a ~~child~~ well-mannered girl.

Priestley presents Sheila as a character who learns lessons about herself and society by showing her as sympathetic and regretful. Whilst the Inspector is interrogating her, she repeatedly says phrases such as 'I am guilty.' ~~She~~ She also says 'I'll never do it again' and 'when she finds out the condition Eva was in, she says 'I don't suppose I'd have done it.' These phrases emphasise how bad she feels

about what she's done. Sheila realises that she is partly to blame for the death of Eva Smith, and has no problem with the Inspector telling her about it. She also says "she was </REFS and looked as if she could take of herself." The word "Pretty" suggests that the reason Sheila went to get Eva fired in the first place was out of jealousy. The audience grow to like Sheila more as a character because we see ~~how~~ how remorseful she is, and we see her changing to be a better person. Similarly, Eric realises that what he did to Eva was wrong, and he feels terrible about her death. He says "I threatened to make a row," which implies he used his power over her to get what he wanted. From the stage directions around this, we get the sense that he feels guilty for his actions too. Towards the end of the play, he also says "we all helped to kill her", which shows how he's taking on responsibility for his actions. This links to socialism; the belief that as a society we all have to look for one another, and the rich should re-distribute their money to the poor. We see how both Sheila and Eric change their views into socialistic ones, just like the Inspector. Thus Priestley presents Sheila as a character who learns important messages about society by

showing her as sympathetic.

Priestley presents Sheila as someone who learns important messages about society by showing her as mature. In Act 3, when everyone has been interrogated, she says to her parents 'it frightens me the way you talk?'. The word 'frightens' strongly implies that she's disgusted by the way her parents are handling the matter, and that they are more ~~concerned~~ concerned about themselves than the poor girl and her unborn child that have just died. She knows that her parents are in the wrong. She also says 'we all she still died' when they find out the Inspector was fake. Sheila knows that even though the public might not see her family as bad people, they all still know what each of them did that helped lead to Eva's death. When talking about the Inspector, she says 'he gave us the rope: for us to hang ourselves.' Sheila is very aware of the situation and realises everyone is caught up in this situation one way or another. The phrase 'hang ourselves' suggests that she knows the Inspector knows everything, but he just wants them all to put together the pieces and realise their actions have consequences. In contrast, Mrs Birling remains arrogant and stuck-up.

Even after she's told about how it was her job to provide Eva with help with her charity, she says "I accept no blame at all." The phrase "at all" implies that she's very ignorant and is too self-centered to realise that she was the last trigger that led to Eva's death. She also says "it's the father's responsibility", which is dramatic irony because we know that Eric is the father. This links to the idea of Capitalism; the belief that everyone should look after their own and work their own way up. We see how Mr and Mrs Birling remain capitalists and show no sympathy over the situation, which makes the audience continue to dislike them. Thus Priestley presents Sheila as a character who learns important messages about herself and society by showing her as mature.

In An Inspector calls Priestley presents Sheila ~~sa~~ as a character who learns important lessons about herself and society and becomes less childlike as the Play goes on. Before the inspector ~~arrives~~ arrives Sheila and the Birling family are celebrating her engagement with Gerald Croft. When the inspector arrives she is more cautious and aware of what is happening and curious to find out why the inspector has arrived. After the inspector is gone she accepts full responsibility of what she has done as a part of Eva's death. Sheila ~~th~~ is one of the characters who have an enormous change throughout the play from the start to the end.

Priestley presents Sheila as a character who is understanding and mature who learns important lessons about herself and society. At the start of the play Sheila seems to the audience like a young, immature rich girl who is just living life. However, when the inspector arrives Sheila's points change and the audience sense a change in Sheila and her attitudes. ~~At the During~~ Before the inspector arrives she shows off her engagement ring and explains how lucky she is to have Gerald. "Oh mummy do you like my ring?" After the inspector tells her

how she took part in killing Eva. Sheila is shocked and feels terrible. Sheila says "I was jealous and of her and she made me feel ugly". This tells us the audience that Sheila felt insecure and weren't happy. The word 'jealous' tells us that she didn't like her because she had something that Sheila didn't have. 'Pretty' - the adjective 'pretty' tells us ~~she~~ how Eva looked and the audience presume Eva was a young girl around the same age as Sheila. We later, the audience find out Sheila has recently got ~~her~~ Eva fired from her job. The audience are shocked with Sheila's response because it wasn't a good enough answer to get a human fired from their job. "She made me feel ugly, I felt worthless and she was laughing at me when mother held it on me". This tells us the audience Sheila was insecure about Eva and feels really jealous of her.

Priestley presents Sheila as a character who dramatically changes through the play and learns important lessons about herself and society. When first the inspector is telling Mr Birling his part in her death Mr Birling shows arrogance and acts as if he doesn't

Care about how the young girl died. The Inspector tells Mr Birling how he played a part in Eva's death. The Inspector says "you got her fired, she only asked for a bit of extra money." This quote tells us about Mr Birling, he was a capitalist and only cared about wealth, himself and the upper class. The ~~the~~ phrase "extra money" also links to the time period which was when strikes were going on and Eva had protested against Mr Birling for a pay rise (higher wages). When Sheila hears this she is awfully shocked. Sheila says to her dad that "they aren't just cheap labour, they're humans." The audience agree with Sheila and Priestley wants us to feel sorry for the working class and make us hate Mr Birling because he only cares for himself. Mr Birling also says "if you give them it, once they keep coming back for more." ~~The work keep tells us~~ This quote shows us how selfish the upper class was, and how they only cared for themselves. Sheila is feeling terribly sorry and she tries telling her dad to just accept responsibility and think about what he has done. Yet, Mr Birling accepts nothing and continues

Showing his arrogance, ~~Mr~~ Mr S. Birling continues telling "Sheila to stay out of it, go to your mum". The phrase stay out of it tells us how controlling and cruel the rich are and how they feel they can take over ~~what~~ however they feel like. The tension on stage is really frightening at this time of the play because Mr Birling is saying this all while angry and furious but he doesn't take into mind he has just helped in the killing of a young girl. The word "stay" tells us that he wants Sheila to change her opinions and not be feeling sorry for the Inspector nor Eva but is also used as an oxymoron here to tell her to leave and that she shouldn't be involving herself. This is also a ongoing theme in the poem which is ~~the~~ the role of women. During 1945 when the play was set, women were treated as an object and you had to listen to what your husband has told you to do. If you were a daughter it will be the same thing you will have to listen to your dad and obey his rules. During this time period the rich would often marry the rich and the poor could marry the poor. If you was rich your dad would marry you off to a rich man/family ~~and~~ as a

business deal. In this case we see the relationship with Sheila and her dad and it seems ~~like she~~ like Sheila learns her lesson about herself and accepts full responsibility by the end of the play.

~~Priestley presents Sheila~~ Furthermore / Priestley presents Sheila as a more growing character who learns what responsibility means and the important lessons on what she has done and how she should add on to society in a positive way. Sheila goes from being a little immature and arrogant girl to finally accepting her fault. In this play responsibility is a key theme and many of the characters find it hard to accept responsibility. In this play Priestley which is the inspector wants everyone to feel sorry for Eva and wants the audience to side with her and be a socialist. A socialist is someone who cares about everyone and "we are all one body" and we should look out for one another.

Social class is a main and recurring theme in Priestley's *An Inspector Calls*, as Priestley is enraged by the social/class injustices in 1912. An Inspector Calls was created to show Capitalist and warn Capitalists that Socialism is coming and that we all must help one another.

Priestley presents the importance of social class through Mr Birling's speech, attitudes and ideas. Mr Birling is referred to as a "hard headed practical man of business" which shows how he was a typical factory owner in 1912. He is a member of the middle class and ~~for~~ Priestley shows how he will do anything to ascend the upper class even if it means giving away his daughter Sheila. He is concerned that "Sir Croft and Lady Croft" couldn't attend the party as all his capitalist mindset enables him to think of it in profits and his social status & for example his "knighthood". Even though Priestley's views are directly against that of Mr Birling and Priestley presents him as foolish, we see into the mindset of a capitalist and ~~for~~ Priestley enables the audience to see Mr Birling's passion, wealth and social class. Socialism vs Capitalism was a main part of 1912 as Labourers revolted. Priestley was trying to encourage his audience towards socialist views and to see the error in Capitalist ways.

Priestley presents the importance of social class through Mrs Birling's ruthlessness, Mrs Birling is a cold hearted woman and refuses help for the pregnant Eva Smith. This shows how social class can lead to depression and death. Mrs Birling claims to provide aid for "deserving causes" but its an elaborate excuse to refuse aid for a woman in need. The importance of class is then established when Mrs Birling says "girl of that class" This shows us that Mrs Birling's charitable judgement is based on class. Priestley utilises Mrs Birling as a ~~case~~ character to show the audience how cold the upper class can be if you belong to a lower class. People in need had no choice but to go to people like Mrs Birling for help in the Post War era there was no welfare state. Priestley shows how the fate of your life is in the hands of ~~the~~ people like Mrs Birling if you belong to the working class.

Eva Smith was abused physically and mentally throughout the play and Priestley ~~also~~ utilises Eva to show the audience the importance of class through her experiences in contact with people from a higher class. Every member of the Birling family and Gerald Croft all mistreat Eva Smith only because she belongs to a different social class. Sheila demonstrates the power of the upper class as she gets Eva fired for little to no reason "she was very pretty" Sheila claims which highlights the sinful behaviour of the upper class. If ~~the~~ Eva had come from a higher class she would be respected and

treated as an equal. The cruel behavior in an
~~treated~~ ^{calls} inspector from the upper class shows how
social class is extremely important, social class discrimination
discrimination leads to death in his case as
Priestley uses even death to illustrate and emphasise
how society needs to change from a Capitalist to
Socialist. Class injustice ~~is~~ ^{was} a key part
in 1912 as the bourgeoisie like Mr Birling would
mistreat their workforce and the upper class used the
working class in general, Priestley was extremely
angered by this and ~~is~~ created inspector Goole
to address the problems in society.

I think social class is highly important
there in an inspector Goole as it gives us and
the audience of 1949 the perspective on insight to the
pain of the working class but also the abusive
nature of Capitalist societies.

Priestley ~~present~~ is the playwright of an Inspector calls who was a socialist. Priestley explores the importance of social class through the use of the attitudes of the characters as well as props and the whole light itself. ✓

Priestley explores the importance of social class through the use of the lighting being used. At the beginning of the play the lighting shines upon the higher class as "pink and intimate".

Pink ~~can~~ connotes innocence as well as the rose tinted glasses the family look through suggest how optimistic they are. This presents them as a care free family due to their class. However when the inspector arrives the lighting for this scene is "harder and brighter". The ^{adjective} ~~word~~

"brighter" connotes how the inspectors presence is shining a light upon the higher class. Even though they are higher up ~~in~~ Inspector (whose class is not to be shown) there ways still should be changed. There was a lot of class ~~different~~ discrimination back in the Edwardian period with people being categorized in either an aristocracy or a lower class. However Priestley explores the importance of social class in an Inspector calls as there ~~is~~ still they are still all equal human beings through adjectives

of the lighting. ✓

Secondly Priestley ~~not~~ notes the importance of social class in an Inspector call through the introductions of each the characters. ~~It~~ It talks about Gerald as a "well ~~being~~" man. This connotes how he has been brought up well ~~and~~ emphasizing how well his family is. ~~Secondly~~ ~~Another~~ Another point is that it talks about his fiancée Sheila as "pleased with life", "pleases" connotes ideas of happiness and Sheila having a simple life yet Priestley purposefully doesn't do an introduction on Eva Smith but the Inspector has to talk about her ~~for~~^{to} the other characters. Eva was a working class female and with no introduction about her Priestley echoes on how females ^{of} working class don't have a say at all in society as well as being invisible to others in the play. This connotes strong symbolism of inequality. The Edwardian period was a part of women trying to be more recognized due to women having less rights ^{than} ~~more~~ than men. This is ~~where~~ where the Suffragette movement started to happen ~~trying~~ trying to get women the right to vote. Priestley is trying to evoke the importance of social class in an

inspector calls as how the rich higher class are more recognised than the poor and how this should not happen.

My ~~the~~ third point on how Priestley presents the ~~social class~~ ~~it~~ through importance of social class is through using props. At the beginning the directions of the play say how there is a "decanter of port" on the table. "Port" connotes ideas of how wealthy the Birling family is and presents how rich and higher class they are. A "box of cigars" ~~can connotes~~ ~~that~~ connotes how fancy they are as well. The noun "cigar" ~~shows~~ ~~ideas~~ ~~of~~ ~~how~~ ~~the~~ ~~Birling~~ ~~family~~ ~~are~~ ~~hitting~~ ~~themselves~~ ~~without~~ ~~realising~~ ~~due~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~poisonous~~ ~~toxic~~ ~~smoke~~ ~~from~~ ~~the~~ ~~cigars~~. This can present how the Birlings are killing themselves slowly through their own greed. ~~Later~~ ~~on~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~play~~ ~~the~~ ~~Inspector~~ ~~confronts~~ ~~the~~ ~~family~~ ~~talking~~ ~~about~~ ~~how~~ ~~Eva~~ ~~Smith~~ ~~died~~ ~~from~~ ~~"dissipated"~~. This contrasts the idea of port on the Birlings table as well as cigars. "dissipated" connotes instant death with the Inspector declaring on "Burnt her insides out". "Burnt" connotes ideas of pain and agony. Priestley purposefully did this to present how the higher class and the lower

class have a big overwhelming difference in treatment with the Birtings lavishly treating themselves without knowing the consequences to Eva Smith turning herself in agony.

This starts to emphasise the capitalism and socialism in the play. Priestley wrote this play to present his audience on the effects of Capitalism and socialism. ~~which it is~~ How the rich help themselves and not others. Priestley shows this by showing how the Birtings are carrying on with "mere normal laugh lines" but are so inconsiderate of how their actions have led to a girl drinking "chloroform". Priestley suggests the importance of social class in an inspector calls by presenting how the rich are not so aware of their own actions and choices emphasising how capitalist they are.

Lastly my fourth point on how the ~~Inspector~~ Priestley evokes the importance of social class through the importance of ~~social class~~ the ending. This is stated where the inspector shouts out you will learn in "fire, blood and anguish". The list of three connotes war imagery which ~~the~~ shows agony, destruction and pain. This can present the

echoing effects of the ~~the~~ higher class. The Inspector points out the hypocrisy and effects of the Birings who is also a character Priestley wanted to represent himself. The Inspector also says "millions and millions and millions". The repetition "millions" connotes how it will effect everyone and not just one person emphasising how ~~the~~ Eva Smith isn't the only working class female. This play was set in 1912 just before world war one ever started. The number "millions" can foreshadow the amount of people who died during the war. Priestley wanted to emphasise this to show how class discrimination can lead to such horrendous events. Priestley shows the importance of social class through the al how social class can create serious events which can lead up to the deaths of millions of people.

In my opinion Priestley tries to shine a light on society on how social class can create a big impact on society and through out the whole play contrasts the difference of each class and character. Priestley wanted to emphasise his anger on the attitudes of social class through an Inspector calls

LEVEL 5



In the play 'An Inspector Calls' we see how the actions of the higher class can effect and cause consequences for the working class. This is shown through the characters of Mr. Birling, Eric and Mrs. Birling. The selfish acts of these people have led people to like Eva Smith to commit suicide. In ~~the~~ this time,

In the play, Priestley presents selfishness and its effects through the character of Mr. Birling when he doesn't want to accept the fact that he played an ~~important~~ role in Eva's death. ~~At the play begins, at Sheila's and Gerald's engagement~~ Mr. Birling talks to Gerald about him getting knighted soon. "I think I might be next on the list." As Mr. Birling was being interrogated by the inspector about Eva's suicide, Mr. Birling ~~says~~ says, "She had a lot to say, so she had to go." The phrase "she had to go" implies that Mr. Birling clearly does not care about what happens to the working class such as Eva and only ~~for~~ ~~called~~ ~~her~~ ~~because~~ she wanted a pay rise ~~for~~ he also says things like "If you start giving them what they want, they'd soon start asking for the Earth." The phrase "they'd start asking for the Earth" suggests how Mr. Birling thinks that if you listen to what other people

want, they would never stop asking. This shows how Mr Birling does not care about others at all, he thinks that everyone should only look after themselves and that no one is responsible for each other. In Act 1 of the play, Birling also talks about "It would be very awkward". The word "awkward" indicates how Mr. Birling thinks that everyone should look after themselves and their families. This links to the Inspector in Act 3 when he says "Men have ~~their~~ ~~privileges~~ responsibility as well as their ~~privileges~~". The word "responsibility" shows how the Inspector is trying to state that the higher class should use their wealth to help everyone in society and to show how actions of the higher class can have a huge consequence on the working class. The Inspector also mentions how they're members of "one body". This portrays how everyone needs to look after one another and take responsibility. In this Era, people like Mr. Birling only cared about their wealth, money and status. They saw the working class as unimportant and didn't care about what happened to them. Thus, Priestley presents selfishness and its effects through the character of Mr. Birling.

Durston presents selfishness and its effects through the character of Eric as he uses his power against Eva. In the play, Eric is presented as an immature boy who liked to get drunk and live off his father's money. At the engagement Sheila describes Eric as "squiffy". The word "squiffy" shows ~~how~~ ~~on the~~ ~~outside~~ how Eric can't stop himself. During his interrogation with the Inspector ~~at~~ the audience learns how Eric forced himself on Eva, and sexually assaulted her. Eric says, "I threatened to make a row". The word "threatened" shows how Eric used his power as ^{AO2} son of an influential man to have sex with her. He only did this to her knowing that she was in the working class. If it were to be a woman in his own social class Eric would've never have done this. Eric also states how she was "pretty" and a good "sport". The word "pretty" suggests how ~~that~~ he only slept with Eva because she was good looking. After also finding out she became pregnant with his child he stole money from his own father and that shows the audience how immature he is. This leads to Mrs. Birling when she turned Eva Smith away from her charity and Eric decides to take his anger out on his own mother because of how guilty he felt. He says

"You killed her! my child! Your grand-child!" The word "you" emphasises how Eric verbally attacks his mother and to put his guilty feelings towards her because of his own mistake. During this time, boys like Eric usually weed off their parents' wealth, ~~and~~ and used their status as an excuse to do what they want. Thus Priestley presents selfishness and its effects through the character of Eric as he uses his power against Eva.

In the play, 'An Inspector Calls', Priestley presents selfishness and its effects through the character of Mrs Birling when she turns Eva away when she needed help the most. As Mrs. Birling was being ~~interviewed~~ interrogated by Inspector Goole, she constantly denies and doesn't want to take responsibility for her part in Eva's death. Mrs. Birling continuously decides to shove the blame onto other people. "I can't, and I won't accept any responsibility". The word "responsibility" implies how she feels as if she did ⁰³ ~~was~~ ^{ing} wrong and hasn't come to the realisation that she ~~helped to~~ took part in someone's suicide. "Go look for the father, it's his responsibility". The phrase "go look for the father" indicates how she puts the blame onto the father and as long this man remains

anonymous, she doesn't care what happens to him. As the dramatic irony unfolds and now the audience finds out the father is actually Eric, she "stutters" and says "but I didn't know." She's been criticising her son all this time and after she learns the truth, she immediately stops talking. This goes to show how she doesn't care about anyone unless it's her family. The Welfare Estate was a charity that helped women such as Eva who were struggling to cope with money. Mrs. Birling may run this charity because it made her work good and decided to turn Eva away because she didn't like her manner. This emphasises how Mrs. Birling turned Eva away because she didn't like her money. ~~as this~~
AO TASK ~~Eva's last stop~~ This eventually led Eva to her suicide. Thus, Priestley presents selfishness and its effects through the character of Mrs. Birling.

Plan

Mr Birling ✓

Mrs Birling ✓

Eric ✓ and Sheila

Thesis ① ✓

Capitalism ✓

Inspector ✓

9:00

9:45 am

SEEN

Priestley portrays the inequalities of gender, especially based around women, who were used as an enjoyment and luxury for men. Also represents the class divisions that led to the unfairness of society and the empowerment of Capitalism.

Priestley has Mr Birling who is as a direct antithesis to social reformation; the possessive pronouns "my" and "our" carry connotations of selfishness and greed, elements in which Priestley considers to be inherently the representative nature of Capitalism. Contextually, Priestley also displays a criticism towards Mr Birling's words. Atlee's newly elected Labour government, made increase in social welfare a manifesto commitment in 1945. Priestley ~~is~~ Mr Birling's business ethics and interests would be deemed as counter-productive, as well as the ^{general} idea of extreme austerity. Priestley presents Mr Birling's Capitalism as selfish and self-centred through Mr Birling's words, as well as Mrs Birling.

Social class is ~~present~~ The philosophy that underpins the handcrafted upper class, that were not only built on ^{privilege} ~~privilege~~, but also

demanded responsibility as well. In this case, this meant the poor, in traditional connotations, responsibility who worked [✓] their land. This responsibility might [✓] enslave Mr Birling to work for a charity. However, Priestley [✓] exposes the power relations and [✓] controls, ^{rather than} ~~twisted~~ ^{rather than} the sympathy and ^{care one} ~~love one~~ might expect.

Social class is presented as a selfish, traditionalist exploitative system. ~~But~~ Priestley ~~presents~~ presents this classist reality through Mrs Birling, "she attacks Eva Smith in a ^{most} prejudiced manner and ^{describes her from being} ~~that~~ ^{she is} ~~girls~~ ^{girls} from that class". ~~But~~ immediately, Priestley presents the approach of the audience through the use of 'that': linguistically, ~~lower~~ connotations of derogatory feelings on the basis of social class and egoistic self. ^B This would have been undermined by the contemporary audience, given the recent "war effort", where ~~was~~ United Nations, regardless of background, defending Britain. Priestley here ~~presents~~ [✓] portrays [✓] that the lack of responsibility ~~was~~ is the act of selfish wars which can lead to wars and the mistreatment of others.

The Inspector, here, is a [✓] ~~walking~~ [✓] talking moral agent, who seems to expose the lies of this family. He is the counter-part of Mr Birling ~~for~~ The Inspector's line to being absent, being "to ask for the Earth than take it" may reference to the elite revolution and ~~the~~ audience in Moscow. Priestley sets

sets the play in 1912 and uses the Titanic and the World War to illustrate Mr Biling, who doesn't comprehend how his privilege led to the exploitation of one woman, Eva Smith, but an entire world view. It is history's fool for Mr Priestley - Mr Priestley felt the need to expose the lies of English class and wealth. He also argues that a capitalist society is the plantation of all elements of war and disruption, which effects the inherent violence like the lower class to the end of the upper-class.

However, ~~For~~ ^{Capitalism} ~~However~~, ~~socialism~~ could have been displaced to socialism. Eric's development from being "halfway shy" and "half assertive" to questioning his father's business ethics, "why shouldn't they try for higher wages?" This marks his renunciation of the selfish and ^{the} egoistic traditional upper class and an adoption of a more morally ~~good~~ considerate socialism. He kindly contradicts ~~to~~ his father, in front of people, a serious social faux pas, at this time. The question ~~he~~, in the apparatus, appears to open a challenge to his father and highlight his maturity. ~~For~~ However, Eric as a contrast, Priestley presents capitalism as an illogical unfair fallacy, which given in Eric's question, which would be deemed as reasonable and raise ethical concerns.

Sheila also on the other hand, starts a meal

1000

THE



to build a climax at the end of the play when all is revealed. He uses the Inspector that the "chain of events", which is the stakes that a single action may not be a dire result but a ~~build~~ build up of series of bad events (caused by the Birling and her ~~beared~~) can ultimately lead a young girl to suicide. Priestley ~~uses the~~ ^{camouflages} the Inspector to ~~convey his message~~ ^{convey his message} as a socialist. Priestley's speech ~~is~~ ^{monologue} ~~monologue~~, though he the Inspector, may hint to his beliefs and attitudes of it how he can change ^{our} ~~our~~ moral conscience ~~and~~ ^{to} ~~even~~ ^{don} ~~our~~ mistakes ~~and~~ ^{and} never to repeat them.

Priestley argues, "we don't live alone, we are members of one body, we are responsible for each other." Priestley shows how terrible the socialist ideal is. He makes ~~us~~ people realize that all we ~~need~~ ^{need} to look after each other, and this means not under ~~any~~ ^{any} ~~circumstances~~ ^{circumstances}. This is ~~for~~ ^{just} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~whole~~ ^{whole} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~country~~ ^{country} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~world~~ ^{world} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~future~~ ^{future} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~human race~~ ^{human race}. He also believes equality and ~~being~~ ^{being} self-centred does not ~~equates~~ ^{equates} to good moral status and power. He also argues a just society can ~~be~~ ^{only} be achieved if all individuals feel ~~as~~ a sense of social responsibility.

An Inspector Calls is a play written in 1945 and set in 1912 ~~where~~ written by J.B. Priestley. It explores the idea of capitalism and socialism, how the rich always seem to get their way and how their acts of stealth and greediness effects others around them. Priestley uses many of the upper class characters to show present selfishness and how ~~they~~ their actions lead to the ~~the~~ suicide of Eva Smith. tragically.

Firstly, Priestley presents selfishness and its effect through Mr Birling. When the Inspector interrupts his speech with a "sharp ring of the door bell", he makes Edna go get the door "~~Edna'll get i~~ ask the Inspector in "Give us some more light", the ~~use~~ of monosyllabic tone and use of short sentence shows how controlling he is over Edna. Edna, with no hesitation, will do as her master says. Priestley is indicating how the rich treated working class women very poorly and with no remorse. This could also link to when Mr Birling mentions "Community and all that nonsense", the words "Community" and "nonsense" indicate his ignorant opinion on socialism. He thinks ~~it~~ coming together as "one member of each other's body" is "nonsense". Priestley presents him like this so the audience can despise him, as he sees it as unnecessary ~~to~~ for the poor to come together with the rich. His cruel opinion

even leads to Eva Smith's death.

Secondly, Priestley presents selfishness and its effect through Sheila. In act 1, when the Inspector interrogates her, she mentions how she fired Eva from "Milwards" for "smiling" at her. Even though, Sheila comes to terms with her involvement in Eva's death, she did do an action out of selfishness which ~~was~~ lead to a lot of tragic events for Eva. When Eva got fired from Birlings & Co., she found a better place called Milwards where they had better higher wages. Therefore, Sheila's naive action could state how childish and selfish she really is. It's only when she finds out Eva is dead, she calls her "pretty" and mentions how "these girls aren't cheap labour. Eva was severely damaged by getting fired from Milwards as it lead on to her having a hard time finding a new one. Priestley does this on purpose to with Eva ~~mirror~~ to mirror the Suffragettes. They would have to go on hunger strikes, protests and even suicide just so higher-class people like Sheila would treat them equally.

Thirdly, Priestley presents selfishness and its effect through Gerald. In the beginning, Gerald is seen as erasine, ~~at~~ the question about Eva comes up to him and he simply says "let's leave it at that", this implies how ignorant Gerald is and embarrassed of his actions towards Eva. His says how suicide is not his kind of "business" yet the

inspector manages to interrogate him to post up. When he does, Gerald states how he "installed" her and "made her take some money". The imperative verbs "installed" and "made" emphasises a harsh tone, and how he almost had control over her. "I didn't want to make love to her"; Priestley's use of euphemism to implicate how Gerald is trying to save his reputation, just so no one around him gets suspicious, he mentioned how he didn't want to have sex with her, but then again he ~~did say~~ did give her a "flat" to stay in when she had a "cry for help" expression. Gerald is simply a selfish upper-class man who first put his sexual desires first, played with Eva's heart, to only realise what he did was wrong and left Eva "friendless, penniless" while he went back to his normal life with a relationship with Sheila. Priestley wants to let the audience know how everyone's actions have consequences, just like Gerald's arrogant actions.

Lastly, Priestley presents selfishness and its effects through the structure and setting. Purposely, Priestley makes each act end with a cliff-hanger for example "Act 1: Gerald's affair with Eva" and "Act 3: The phone rings", ~~no matter~~ his suggesting how these upper-class and middle-class people will never learn on their own how wrong their actions could be. He mentions how their dining room is "heavily comfortable, but not cosy" which could mirror the Birling's. They're respectable, well-dressed humans, but

at the same time, indoors they're self-absorbed humans who conflict with each other. Priestley is spreading the message, how if they don't learn from their mistakes, everything will just stay the same and even worse, be trapped like the Birlings. ~~WW1 was just before the play was written.~~ WW1 and WW2 was before this play was written, which could be suggesting how Priestley is making a fool out of the audience. People did not learn the negative impacts WW1 has caused which led to the effects WW2 had on humans. Just like the Birlings had a chance to take responsibility, only to have the phone ring of a real inspector to arrive.

To conclude, I think Priestley mainly presents selfishness and its effects to send the audience a message, as it is a morality play, about thinking before we take actions that might hurt others. ~~Our inner self~~
• We have to remember to share with others and not let others down.

Inspector Calls Gerald Creative Writing

Usually I wasn't the type of man to drink when there was work to be done the next day but, thinking of how stressed I'd been lately, I thought I deserved at least a little selfishness. As I walked into Stalls Bar, several eyes drifted towards me and I tried to control my annoyance. Perhaps if it was a different day I would try to appreciate the attention that I seemed to get every time I came here but right now the only thing I cared about was having enough drinks to both satisfy my need for a break and hopefully forget this momentary negligence. There was also Sheila to consider... I sighed.

Before I could do anything else, a piercing scream rang through the air. With all thoughts of getting myself a drink gone, I snapped my head around to see a girl and... of course. Old Joe Megarty. I should have expected it, he seemed to cause trouble every time I happened to visit. Rolling my eyes, I walked towards them and said some nonsense to that disgusting man - something about the manager needing him - and turned towards the girl. She looked fresh and charming, nothing like the regulars at the bar. For a moment I wondered why she was in a place where she didn't seem to fit in at all but decided it wasn't relevant for now. Whatever the reason, I needed to get her somewhere safe first. For a moment Sheila flashed in my mind, I knew exactly what this would look like to her but for now it didn't matter. Sheila didn't matter.

I learnt a lot about the girl when leading her to a hotel. Her name was Daisy Renton, she'd lost both parents, she had a job in one of the works but had to leave because of a strike and something about a shop. I think its name was Milwards. In other words, incredibly desperate for at least the smallest bit of happiness which I was more than glad to give. Now as I sat in the room of the hotel I had booked for both me and Daisy, I felt my cheeks flush at the memory of her large chocolate-brown eyes shining with both disbelief and gratitude. I remembered the way her lips turned up in a wobbly smile with shaking arms raising to embrace me. The way that, despite us having been acquainted not that long ago, there was no way I could have rejected that hug. It was strange that she could get me captivated and feel something I hadn't felt for a long time... hope. Hope that maybe, even with our drastically different circumstances, we wouldn't be separated. Most of all, I had hope - desire, even - that we could form something stronger than just a man who had helped a woman in need. I knew it wouldn't be possible but like a fool, I wished for a miracle. It occurred to me that I was reaching the point where selfishness was a problem but I couldn't bring myself to stop.

I felt an instant connection to her and I allowed myself to think that, even if Sheila had been the one for me, I would have ended up meeting Daisy with the same results. Even if our circumstances happened to be switched we would still find each other. It was as if fate was mocking me, telling me that Gerald Croft would never truly be happy without Daisy Renton. Though I was reluctant to admit it, I knew fate was right. The smile I hadn't realised I was wearing instantly dropped from my face at this realisation.

She asked if I had someone special waiting for me at home. I said no.

Over the next few months, as we met at the set of rooms I'd insisted Daisy should move into when revealed she was going to be turned out of her own back room, I found myself breaking the rules I'd once carefully set for myself. I would always refer to the phrase "keep your friends close but your enemies closer" but for the first time I didn't hesitate to disregard everything I'd worked so hard just for a girl I wasn't supposed to be close to. In fact, would

say she was closer than even my worst enemies. Now, as we sat together at the fireplace I couldn't help noticing the way the light made her smile more captivating and the stars in her eyes more ethereal - I was in trouble. I'd failed to keep contact with Sheila, neglecting my old life for Daisy; at this point I knew there was nothing I could do to take back everything I had done. Even if I could... I didn't want to. I found myself dreading the day I had to admit to myself that without the company of Daisy, I would be around people who weren't as thrilling as her. She was like wine, when intoxicated, you have the courage to do things you would never do sober and may even regret the next day. However, somehow if this "relationship" came out to the world I knew the last thing I'd do was apologise. I'd been far too selfish but I recognised this as far from a mistake. Daisy wasn't a mistake.

However, this had gone on for far too long. I knew I had to take responsibility for my actions somehow and, although this seemed far from the right timing, I knew there would never truly be a right time. The worst part was that she didn't even look surprised when I finally managed to choke out the words that would change everything. In fact, she looked almost resigned at the behaviour that only a coward who had the conscience of a guilty man would perform. With the once-comforting silence that now seemed to suffocate me, I said:

"This needs to end."

excellent
structure
10/10.

Sheila brirling-interior monologue

I hate pretending to like people from my mums long lost cousins. Her solution to every event and celebrations is to shop from millwards and buy a pretty dress. I sometimes hate my mother's taste in clothes. My ideal dress for the event was to wear, a modest dress trimmed in lace, ruffles and embroidery. Also to compliment the dress I'd wear a pearl necklace with a pair of diamond earrings. mother had picked out a horrific taupe dress that was long and had a zip on the side. As I struggled to try on the dress, I had analysed myself in the mirror to see all the flaws pointing out: my legs were fat, my shoulders were broad and my hair wasn't as lusciously long and shiny as hers. It looked very snug on me and had showed all my imperfections. I looked horrific in the dress. The only word to describe me was fat. Am I insecure? Does my body really look like this? Is this what everybody sees? Does he like me for who I am?

Gerald is sometimes kind and intelligent and funny. Don't get me started I love him and all. But he is always caught up with work. I really hope he doesn't turn out like father. Whenever his around he only talks about what HE has achieved and only about HIM. He doesn't even ask me what I did today or even what I would like to do. Sometimes I feel as if he wants something different, someone who isn't me, someone who is pretty, young and obedient. Sometimes I wonder if he has his own mistress or maybe I'm just overthinking, or am I? He wasn't around me all summer and the reason to it was because he was very busy at work. We'll at least that's what he said. Perhaps my behaviour has been a bit unusual lately, that probably must be the reason to why he has been away from me. shall I scrutinize everything he does? I'm I just over reacting? Would he do such an act? Would he ever break my heart?

Men use us women as their little dolls and pets. They use us as their little pawn in their game. Whatever they want they get. They stand on the sides and gently puff on there cigars whilst us women, cook, clean, feed everyone and go back to work in the kitchen. However some families that are wealthy have maids. Where as the men, they go to work and provide for the family with money. They are also classed as the "man of the house" and to which everyone must be obedient towards and also to follow the rules. In all honesty I think that's pathetic. They talk about women like they are cheap labour. As if they can be bought and used as objects. Us women don't get enough credit for the things that we do. We don't deserve to be treated like "cheap labour".

Apparently I am not slender in some places. I want to wear something pretty but comfortable. I want to look stylish yet modest. We strike on a young girl to model the dress for us. She had a good sense of humour, naturally pretty, soft features. If only I looked like that. She was effortlessly pretty and had a smile that would brighten up the room.

I could feel my blood boiling inside of me. My jaw and fist were both clenched tightly. Heartbeat in my ear was frustrating. I was filled with so much anger and it needed to be let out. Her smirk said it all. my cheeks flushed from embarrassment as I stormed out from the changing rooms and went straight to the manager. That girl had been very impertinent and I needed vengeance. we simply couldn't have someone like that working at millward's so I gave direct orders. someone cheap, someone who works and judge's others shouldn't be able to have a job here, therefore her job had to pay for it. I didn't think about giving her a chance or hearing what she had to say for herself. It was done and dusted. Mother had pointed out a dress and I couldn't care less at this point. The shame and disrespect still blushed my neck red. Gerald had come to my mind and the thought of him made

me smile and giggle. My Gerald loves me and is the pure definition of a gentlemen. I cant imagine not having someone like Gerald in my life. What would I do without him.

Eva Smith – Final Assessment

Rejected.

She didn't even bother to listen to my story, cutting me off like I was some revolting aberration, all because Eva is a "girl of that sort". "Go look for the father of the child. It's his responsibility" she spat at me with a feral gaze when I approached her, her callous gaze pierced through my skin. Why would she out of all people care? "Girls of my class" clearly didn't matter in this society. Class division automatically labels me a worthless white crayon in this world. My colour didn't matter – my class did.

Was I human?

Was I still not a person?

Was I a disease?

Hearing the loud cracks of my heart fall apart, a tear slipped down the dry, dehydrated delicate fragile cheek of mine. Misery grew within me as fast as the lashing rain drizzled on my head. Why did I even go to her? I've erudite the true colours of these higher class people. All they want is to appear like fallen angels sent down from heaven to pick up the less fortunate onto their feet. They're all just cynical devils masked with the act of purity for society. Thoughts thundered in my head while the wind mockingly slapped me in the face, abusing my helpless state.

"Cheap labour".

"Young and pretty".

"Fresh and charming".

These words echoed in my head – my looks evidently mattered more to everyone. No one even tried to see behind the joy and smile I plastered onto my face – my pain was a clandestine to all.

Glowing. The aura of the bottle shone at me, almost as if to tell me it was what I was looking for, what I wanted, what I needed. The damp soggy concrete caved in my feet like a clay mould. Even the world wanted me gone. It seemed like the world was deriding at me, conning to extract me like a girl from the bar I no longer wanted to remember. Its ingredients carefully encrypted the lining; it was relatively small yet a colossal part in mercilessly murdering a soul.

Kill. Murder. Suicide.

I couldn't be killed right now.

I couldn't be murdered right now.

I could though commit suicide right now.

Shaking my head, I threw the thoughts of suicide away. Sealed on loosely, the lid dropped. 'Disinfectant'. The bold, black brazen letters spelled Eva, cajoling and screaming to consume it.

One sip would do the job.

My existence clearly doesn't matter to anyone. Who would even notice I was gone? Who would even care? Absolutely no-one. Drinking this would just annihilate all the pain at once. Alacrity to guzzle the disinfectant increased by the second.

Out! I was dragging my feet out of this execrable factory. They were done with me and I was done with them. Our boss, he always felt the need to debase and decry me and the girls he'd employed – he succeeded every time too... "Twenty two and six" shillings was purely an outrageous amount for all the hard work I performed. Was that all I was really worth? That arrogant man repudiates the fact that his employees deserve much more than that. "It's a free world?" I was forced to work there! Life may be easy for him but it isn't for everyone! It isn't for me... "A hard-headed practical man of business" could never even imagine the horrors that lie outside their extravagant lavish homes and well-built sturdy factories. They'll never comprehend how it feels to skip all your meals for days, as I'm "counting my pennies in my dingy little back bedroom" I realise that it isn't the day Eva. Maybe another time you'll get to eat to your heart's content, or hopefully at least a soupçon. Stale bread and soup. Have they ever had just stale bread and soup for one meal? It doesn't even fill me up halfway. I have to shut my stomach's greedy grows for more. Nausea overcomes me after ingesting my meal. Nearly every day of this life that I've lived to bear, I hated it. No decent food. No decent home. No decent job. I blinked as the penetrating echoes of the rain resonated in my ears again, the disinfected still visually cupped in my hands.

To make it even worse, I was burdened alone with another life growing bit by bit inside of me. The reeking stench of alcohol gave the disorderly man an even more unsettling yet queer aura. Petrified is merely an understatement to describe the utmost horror I was faced with that night. He'd charged in like a ravenous rattlesnake, ready to infect me with a venomous outcome. Affliction. Unable to withstand the unbearable aching pain in my legs, my body still laid there paralysed like a stone-hard statue: emotionless and frozen, numb with shock – I was a physical representation of the living dead. Why did this have to happen to me? He didn't take my feelings or accept any responsibility for the consequences of his impudent reckless actions. It was pointless even attempting to inhibit him from forcing himself upon me. I pray, oh I pray this tragedy never befalls anyone else. That moment disintegrated me. Shattered me into pieces, pieces to this day I still cannot find: a reason to live, my virginity and my identity were purloined from me.

Looking on the positive side, I did once have Gerald keep me company. Label me a liar if I dare say that I didn't succumb to his sweet talk and desire his companionship more than ever at one point.

Maybe I still did -- maybe I was still in love with him.

To this very second, I'm still unsure of why you chose me out of the "millions and millions of Eva Smiths" but I feel like the luckiest girl in the world to have met you. Regardless of whether you love me or not, you "at once became the most important person" in my life. The world crumbles around us like greased lightning Gerald and I die and leave this dastardly place tonight. I want you to know Daisy yearns for your warmth and that charming smile again Mr. Croft. The disinfectant lid dropped abruptly, the sound reverberating in this murky sequestered alleyway.

How did I go from that little five-year-old, invariably jovial and delighted by the pocket-sized things in life to... this? Life is like a war. You either win or die trying.

I've lost. To life.

Eva's smiling, rejoicing in the exultant bliss she has every day. I spent too long convincing myself that I would get better, I now realise I'm not any better and I don't think I can handle this by myself anymore. I'm drowning, suffocating but yet everyone around me is still breathing freely.

Farewell world. This dreamy nightmare can no longer go on. I envision the world in black and white instead of the vibrant colours and shades I know exist. The time's come when explanations, no matter how reasonable, just don't help me anymore. The agony overtook the elation you endeavoured to provide me with. Thank you, thank you so much for striving to give me the best life you could. Forgive me for I cannot live on like this.

Closing my eyes.

Parting my lips.

Hearing the foetus inside of me kick.

To you Eva, I drink.

Tahmina Begum

Mrs Birling: Description and Interior Monologue

As I was working, from the corner of my eye I saw a girl approaching, I looked up and scanned her from head to toe and from what I could see she was a pretty one especially for someone of her type. However, her looks were not fooling anyone, not me at least, even though she tried to clean herself up I could just tell she had been wearing that dress for a good few weeks now. I mean I'm not surprised I mean how could she even afford it, that's my question. Anyways I'm guessing I was the first one she saw so as she came towards me I put on a fake smile and greeted her and asked what she needed help with and what came out of mouth next had disgusted and shocked me. What she introduced herself as was simply a piece of gross impertinence. After I had gotten over my initial shock it got replaced by anger. I was fuming. The audacity, who is this girl? More importantly, who the hell does she think she is? How dare she introduce herself using the Birling name. My name.

When I had revealed in the fact that I was Mrs Birling, she was shocked and started saying nonsense and coming up with excuses like she didn't know and it was the first thought that came to mind. That just made me angrier. Does this lower-class cheap-looking girl think she can fool me? I know what girls of that class are like, and what was coming out of her mouth was just ridiculous so why was she wasting my time with this nonsense, she had told me she was pregnant and also how desperately she needed help. So I questioned her and eventually found out about the father of the child and she said that she knew who he was and that he did offer her money but she thought it was stolen so she refused but I knew it was all a lie could this wretched girl get any worse? She was saying all sorts of stories at this point and I didn't know what to believe anymore and I didn't care.

I knew she was lying, so I had made sure that the rest of the committee would refuse her as well, we have no responsibility to get deceived by a girl of that sort. I don't feel guilty at all because I wasn't the one that told her to go spread her legs or get pregnant, she had brought that upon herself. On top of that, she even disrespected me, so of course, I was not going to approve this girl's case. Did I get her pregnant? Is this my fault? No. This was the father's doing so he should take responsibility. I don't see how this concerns me in any way. If she wants pity and money like the gold-digger she probably is, she should've discussed that with the father of her child as that is his job so that's exactly what I told her to do, go find the father because she wasn't getting help from me or any of us for that fact and I made sure of that.

✓ voice
✓ harsh + sharp.

Billie-Ann Sheehan
English- Mrs Birling

[Mrs Birling a married, middle aged, upper class woman, who runs a charity for the poor is seeing her last application of the day.]

She enters, a young pregnant girl, quite pretty for someone of her class. By her appearance she was trying to come across as respectable and moral. Her clothes were clean and orderly yet thread bare and worn. Most likely being the only respectable clothes she owned I decided to look past it and kindly told her to sit down. I tried to be kind to the girl, not letting my tired emotions cloud my judgement. Then she said it. She had imperiently made use of our name. My name, claiming she was Mrs Birling. She was a fraud, a liar. The deserving poor do not consist of liars and frauds. I couldn't possibly believe a girl of that class after she had already lied to me. I still however decided to question her as I have all my applications, then I asked her why she would lie about being married and having the claim to my name.

I had got somewhat of a truth from her and she had finally decided to tell me that her story was false she was not married and therefore had no claim to the name Birling. As the chairman of the charity I had no obligation to consort with the others on my rejection of the girl's application. I couldn't allow a liar and fraud to join our charity it wouldn't be right of me. Regardless of the girl's situation I had to reject the girl it was the only righteous thing to do as chairman of the charity. If I had accepted the girl's application and had later been discovered that she was a liar and a fraud our charities reputation would have been slaughtered and my own reputation would have been destroyed as I am chairman of the committee. My only choice was to reject her.

How dare this inspector try and blame me for the girl's suicide if she killed herself and her innocent child then it should be her own fault, me and my family have no responsibility for the girl's suicide. This inspector how could he say that to me I am a powerful woman how could he say 'remember what you did'. I have not done anything of the sort. Our actions and behaviour towards the girl may have impacted her life however we cannot accept any responsibility for the girl's suicide. Then this inspector interrogated Eric. He implied as if my sweet Eric my kind son committed a violent act of assault against the girl, (who we had found out her name was Eva Smith). Whatever my son had done with the girl it was consensual. On both parts. When a girl of that class had already lied and frauded her name you cannot possibly believe anything else she has to say because you do not know if she is lying. Therefore no one could believe this girl and her absurd claim that my son Eric had committed such a violent act of assault against her.

Eric. My son, Eva had been pregnant with my son's child. She was pregnant with my grandchild and I had rejected her. I turned her away. After all she had been through, I turned her away. She had committed the most selfish act of all and killed her innocent child alongside her. If anyone should be blamed, it is Eva herself she had the choice of giving her

child a life and she took it away as she took her own away. She killed my grandchild, so if anyone should be blamed for the girl's suicide it should be herself none of my family can accept responsibility for the girl's death. If we did accept responsibility it would be our own social suicide if we accepted responsibility and our reputations would be ruined. How could this inspector? How dare he blame my family and myself for her suicide? I cannot accept any responsibility for this. I will not accept any responsibility for this girl's suicide. I will not risk the reputation of my family's status and the reputation of my noble charity for a girl of that class. Even if we were to accept responsibility for the girl's suicide it would not make a difference. Eva smith is the only responsible person for her suicide. I refuse to accept responsibility for the girl's suicide, she killed herself and her innocent child, my innocent grandchild.

before.
10.10
detail.

→ would she use this language?

"Despite the Suffrage movement, 3 waves of feminism and #MeToo, the situation of women in society has not really improved since 1918"

Feminism and fighting. Has it really done anything for us women today? The truth is many people don't think that it has. You might think it hasn't too, but look around us.

Women today can't just be raped.

Women today can't just be refused the vote.

Women today can't just be paid less.

~~"Rape is an accusation easily to be made and hard to be proved."~~ Up until the 19th century, rape was deemed as a petty crime that men could just pay off and dismiss if they had power and wealth. The victim was required to prove a continued state of physical resistance, whether it be red marks on her wrists from when she was forcibly held down or nails evidently dug into her skin to quieten her screeches. If there wasn't any visual evidence, her case wouldn't matter and she was defamed publicly, the sound of her ripped sandals echoing the room as she dragged herself out in disbelief. Marriage, a marriage always provides eternal bliss, blesses the couple with the never-ending love for each other along with the desire to accompany one another through thick and thin for a whole lifetime. Why would the husband ever force himself onto his partner? His wife obviously gave consent and relished in the pleasure of it all, right? Wrong. In an Inspector Calls, Eva Smith introduces herself as 'Mrs Birling' to imply the fact that the child inside of her belonged to Sybil's only son Eric. However, she didn't willingly get pregnant thus labelling Eric as an immature drunkard who carelessly raped Eva in the wrong state of mind. Despite the fact that he was heavily drunk, it doesn't disregard the fact that he forced himself on top of her. In the 21st century, the government and society has bettered itself for not only women but everyone. No man can get away like Eric did because of the amount of money they possess or the power their family withholds. Men are charged and punished for the inexcusable act of rape. Regardless of whether you know, love or hate the man, he will face the harsh consequences of committing such a heinous crime. What would happen to you if the police and government were just as corrupt as before? Do you really believe that you would've been able to bring justice upon yourself? No. The cruel reality is no, no you wouldn't have been able to. Society would've forced you to live with the haunting memory of it all, live with the unborn child growing inside of you, begging you to keep it and help it survive in this brutal world with you. Your mind would begin to blame you, cause you to deeply reflect and then make you accept that it was entirely your fault that you were born a vulnerable, weak, fragile woman and didn't try hard enough to escape that beast's clutches. Not anymore. Every woman's voice is heard and so is yours today.

In addition to this, the Suffragettes brought about a change that everyone should know about. Emmeline Pankhurst formed the Women's Social and Political Union to forcefully get the right to vote for women. As a young child growing up, Emmeline's education was never taken as seriously as her brothers. She was taught domestic skills, teaching her how to keep the home nice and care for her family. All women growing up were already denied quality education because of their gender. What does gender have to do with education? Don't you deserve a good education? Doesn't he? Doesn't she? According to the Equality Act 2010, gender is a protected characteristic and people are not justified to discriminate others on the basis of their sex or what they classify as. The first thing

Emmeline Pankhurst and the leaders of the WSPU did was to come up with the brilliant slogan 'Deeds, Not Words'. There was no time to waste; the time for women to politely talk and ask men to vote was over. "Women don't want to be law-breakers; they want to be law-makers!" But break the law they would in order to achieve the right us females have today, the right to vote.

Moreover, women used to be underpaid and treated like men's servants. Eva Smith in an Inspector Calls went on a rampage against Mr Birling her employer to defend the rights she had as a worker to get a decent pay – the living wage. In 1912, women were second class citizens earning only 50% to 60% wage for the same job as men. British society was marked by a huge degree of inequality between the richest and poorest. The average working week in 1912 was 56 hours; this not only sums up to a total of a complete 2 days and 8 hours, it implies how long and hard people had to work to earn money to survive. Due to the fact that women earned significantly less compared to a man during the Edwardian era, it was more difficult for a woman to survive on her own. In contrast to this, women and men are paid more equally and although there is still a pay gap between both genders, society is reforming by the second and together we can stop the fact that women are generally paid less for the same job with the same skills compared to man.

To conclude, a lot of women have had to fight for their rights, it's simply absurd. Women should not have had to speak up about the discrimination and downgrading they've faced but we all know that they have. Females have come forward and proven themselves by bringing changes we all appreciate today.

You would've been raped and turned away if you didn't have any marks engraved in your skin.

You would've not had your basic human right to vote and express your thoughts and opinions.

You would've been paid much less than your brother, husband or dad because you're a woman.

Gratitude is what we should all feel. It may not matter to you because you haven't thought of the difficulty these women faced to provide you with the rights you have today. Emily Wilding Davison was run over by the King's horse. Emmeline Pankhurst had to live with the fact that her parents wanted her to be a boy. The Matchstick Girls had to live with poor pay and tolerated the phosphorus fumes in the air giving them a hideous bone-rotting disease called 'phossy jaw'. So many women have suffered mentally, emotionally and physically to build the society we have today. It's outrageous to embarrass the efforts of these women and proclaim society hasn't really improved since 1918 as it very clearly has.

Thank you for listening.

Tahmina Begum

Keira O'Grady

"I don't see any reason for feminism, men and women are equal in this country."

Feminism: the belief that men and women should have equal rights and opportunities. Since the nineteenth and early twentieth century there have been many feminist waves. I think that, even though society has changed, there hasn't been enough change for women and men to be considered equal. In fact, some problems from 1912 have stayed a problem up until 2020.

I believe feminism is needed because even now, there is sexism. In 2012, just 14% of women starting university in OECD countries chose science-related subjects compared with 39% of men. This is likely due to a lack of confidence as they are constantly pressured by society to put family over their career. By 2019, 72% of women felt conflicted when balancing work and family life. It was much worse in 1912 – women were constantly seen as less than men to the point where people thought it was okay to use them. Even women thought that men were superior; when women were fighting for the right to vote, Queen Victoria wrote to the Prime Minister, cautioning against the "mad folly of women's rights". Eva Smith was a working class woman which made the prejudice against her stronger. Therefore, when she got fired from the factory she had both little to no options left and the risk of a ruined reputation. From then until now, sexism has remained even if the amount has reduced. Even if it's not possible to get true equality feminism has helped decrease the amount of sexism.

Feminism should also be considered an acceptable concept as even in 2020, women are paid less than men. In 2013, the gender pay gap increased from 18.6% to 19.1%, suggesting that the problem wasn't seen as an important one. Although the pay rates have improved significantly since 1912, it still hasn't been removed completely. For example, in South Korea the gender pay gap is 34.6% and in the UK it's 16.5%. Eva Smith struggled greatly with low pay to the point where she led a strike asking for a raise to twenty-five shillings. The government didn't approve of strikes so Eva getting fired was expected and her situation was extremely common. However, now that we're in the 21st century haven't we learnt a lesson from the past? If women are equal to men why does their hard work get disregarded?

In addition, sexual assault is still a major issue. In some cases, the victim is blamed for the assault rather than the one that instigated it and if we assume the victim is female the main reason that people use to defend themselves is that the woman was dressed inappropriately. However, there have been many cases that show that clothing doesn't matter; instead, they show that desire is more important than the enjoyment of both people involved. Eva is just one of the many people in Edwardian England that was affected from sexual assault. Furthermore, she wasn't even the one who opened up about it; the Inspector, acting as Eva's voice, had to reveal it. Even if she had revealed it herself, nobody would have believed her as the courts were heavily biased against working class and she would have had to prove that she was "constantly resistant". Now in 2020, many women are still discouraged from opening up about their experiences with sexual assault. For example, Harvey Weinstein was only considered a rapist after the #MeToo movement, years after his first crime. Imagine how many others who are just like him and haven't been convicted or have died without ever getting charged. Is pride really more important than consent?

Some people may disagree because they believe feminism is a way for women to express their hate for men. It's true that some people have given feminism a reputation of only caring about women. However, for most people that's far from the truth – feminism is about equality for both genders. Even if the minority is loud about their opinions, we shouldn't be quick to dismiss the majority of feminists who are working not just for women's rights but

"I don't see any reason for feminism, men and women are equal in this country."

If men and women are so equal in society, then why is the gender pay gap still a thing to this day? Feminism by definition is the belief that women and men should have equal rights and opportunities but people are still out here fighting and protesting. Things may have improved for women but there is not much of a difference between then and now. Women may have won the right to vote but what has that changed? Nothing. Women now are expected to aspire to marriage and believe that's it's the most important thing. When girls act sexually they get shamed but when a man does it gets overlooked. Why is that? Girls are raised to see each other as competitors, not for jobs or accomplishments but the attention of men. I'm not saying that we should ignore a man's feelings, disregard their ideas or hate them, it's just about ending inequality for women.

Structurally, our economy favours men - women are still paid less than men for the same work. During WW1 women took on men's jobs while the men went to fight and they got paid lower wages for the same work, they went on strikes because of the issue of equal pay several times, since then equal pay has always been a problem and fought against, Emmeline Pankhurst was a working-class woman that led the matchstick girls strike they fought for better working conditions and better pay as these girls were putting their lives at risk working overtime in the toxic environment, the bosses had tried to force the women to sign a statement that said they had a lovely time at work and those who refused got sacked. This did not stop her from carrying on her campaigning and fighting for women's rights. The suffragettes back then used to take extreme measures and they went around slashing paintings, chucked rocks at windows and even set fire to buildings. One of the most extreme acts was when Emily Wilding had ran in front of the king's horse with a banner just to get noticed and had died from it. However, despite all of the effort and the campaigns by women's rights groups to close the gap, nothing has changed instead the gap has widened in favour of men. On average, a woman working full time in 2016 earned £5,732 less a year than a man. 64% of the lowest-paid workers are women. Eva Smith had led the strikes for a higher wage and because of that Mr Birling had fired her and not only because she asked for more but because she was a women defying his orders and even to this day in 2020 men are more likely to get promoted over women. So this shows how both women and men are not treated equally.

Men feel that they can look at, comment on, touch and take control of women and their bodies. Women are allowed to say no. The problem with consent is men, not women. If it weren't up until 1982 when men finally got imprisoned for rape they would still be walking around with freedom and only with a minor punishment of a fine. Even today rape still occurs in our society, girls now still get raped and touched against their will and forced to do things they don't want to. In movies, the women's body is always exposed a lot more than the man's body and that is why we have the #MeToo movement which is the movement against sexual harassment and sexual assault. We may have progressed a lot from then, and now people would be imprisoned for rape but it doesn't change the fact that wealthy men can still get away with it. An example of this is Harvey Weinstein, a famous Hollywood producer, he had raped many women throughout his career and it had been a secret for many years

until only recently did he finally get punished for it but even before that he had got released after a 1 million bail. This shows that if you had the money and power you could get away with anything like how Eric got away with raping Eva. Eric and Gerald both use Eva/Daisy for their selfish desires. Gerald may have been nice and treated her well but in the end, he still broke her heart and left her for someone of his class, with Eric he raped Eva there's nothing that he can say to justify or explain what he did. But what happened to Eric? Nothing. This shows us how men take advantage of women and treat women as objects and not as their equal.

Men think that granting women the right to vote erases a history of inequality. Even though the women got the right to vote it wasn't easy for them at all. Many men and women got denied the vote until 1832 when more men were allowed to vote but only the wealthy ones. All women were still not allowed to vote. By 1867 people got more and more agitated and demanded the right to vote, to have a voice in society. Eventually, men who owned homes or land were allowed to vote but still no women. At that time they were suffragists, who campaigned for the right to vote for themselves or for others. They were not going to give up fighting and their campaigns steadily got more powerful and eventually got the vote. However, back then not being able to vote was not the only problem, it was also for a higher wage and equality that they were fighting for. Unions had also started to form into larger organisations gaining more power to fight back. Workers had started to go on strike for higher pay because the prices were rising but their wages were not. This means they couldn't provide for their family and the rich had not helped either, they had taken everything for granted whereas the poor had to work overtime and barely had anything to eat, or a roof over their heads. Without unions we wouldn't have the minimum wage today we would be paid little and that would be what we're worth. People like Mr Birling would be in charge and people would still be treated the same as back then. Eva Smith had fought for women's rights and she went on strike for a higher wage and fought not only for herself but for her fellow workers as well. Eva Smith had struggled because not only was she a worker fighting back and risking everything, but also because of her gender, as she was a poor female, she automatically got looked down upon and not taken seriously and when she got too smart she got fired, it was probably hard for her to find a job as back then for women in her position the only way to earn money would be to sell her body. Poor men back then were more likely to get a job than poor women. This emphasises how equality was non-existent then and even though it has improved, it is still very similar to back then.

Some people may disagree, as they believe that once women had gotten the vote, they had equality and men and women's voices were both heard equally now, so there's no need for feminism. They may also say that women blame men for unnecessary things but I disagree with that as even in 2020 boys have a lot of more freedom than girls, they are seen as capable and they can protect themselves, so they're allowed outside whereas with girls we have to stay indoors helping to cook and clean. With jobs, money and everything, there is still inequality. Women have to cover themselves up so they don't get looked at by men why is that? Why do women have to be the ones to cover-up? Why can't men control their desires instead but it's not just men it's women too, we compare each other to one another, we get jealous and put one other down and for what to get the attention of males? Mrs Birling is an example of this as she calls Eva Smith "a

girl of that sort" showing us how Mrs Birling can be just as cruel and old fashioned as the men are. She does not try to empathise with a member of her own gender. This also highlights her negative attitude toward working class.

In conclusion, I disagree with the statement as men and women are not equal and we need feminism, we need people to continue fighting and protesting so we can eventually be equal to men. Just because women have now got the vote that doesn't mean anything at all, I mean it is an improvement but it doesn't change much, men and women are still out here campaigning for women's rights, despite all this effort, nothing has changed, people have recognised these issues but what are they doing about it the gender pay gap has increased instead of decreased. Legally, men and women are equal but gender equality just doesn't play out, as it should. Women are less likely to get promoted than men. Female athletes today earn less. It's not only some men but also women that support this inequality.