
5 Think about any stage productions/film versions of the play you have seen. Write any additional points you might therefore be able to include.

6 Think also about the social and historical context of the play. Can anything else be added to your plan?

7 If you were to respond in a multi-modal way, using writing and speaking, what additional aids might you use?

8 *Either*

a Write up to 800 words in response to the question for which you planned.

Or

b Devise a ten-minute presentation (either oral or multi-modal) in response to the question for which you have been planning.

Controlled assessment 3

Stagecraft (1)

Priestley wrote *An Inspector Calls* to be performed. He uses specific devices particular to this type of text. Below are examples of devices that a playwright can use:

- stage directions
- dramatic irony
- flashback
- juxtaposition
- sound effects
- monologues

1 Define each of the terms listed above.

2 Consider the 1954 film of *An Inspector Calls*. Which device is used here that is not used in the original play?

3 What does this add to the film, if anything?

4 Work in pairs. Remind yourselves of events from p. 48 'And if her story is true' to p. 49 (end of Act Two). Make a list of dramatic devices used here and discuss their effects.

Homework 1

Context

There is information about J. B. Priestley at the following site:
www.jbpriestley-society.com/biography.html

- 1 Read through the biographical information and make some notes below about his life.

After two world wars, there did not appear to be much to smile about. In an effort to boost national morale, in 1949, J. B. Priestley wrote a series of mini essays about the humble delights in life. This has inspired a new book, which was published in 2009.

- 2 Read about it in the following article:

www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-1212382/Lifes-LITTLE-delights-A-rediscovered-masterpiece-captures-simple-pleasures-make-life-worth-living.html

- 3 You can also listen to an interview with Tom Priestley, J. B. Priestley's son, who wrote the introduction to the new book, and Alexei Sayle, a contributor, at the following site:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_8244000/8244165.stm

- 4 Give some examples of the kinds of delights some of the contributors include.

- 5 Make a list of three or four delights that you might have included if you had been asked to do so.

Homework 2

Plot

1 Look back at Act One. Write four bullet points summarising events.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

2 Look back at Act Two. Write four bullet points summarising events.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

3 Look back at Act Three. Write four bullet points summarising events.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

4 Imagine that news of the suicide of a local ex-factory worker and her possible connections to the prominent Birling family has leaked out to the press. Draft the article that appears in the newspaper in April 1912.

The following information may be useful: Eva Smith’s diary with key dates; the telephone calls that Gerald and Mr Birling make.

Homework 3

What is Mr Birling like? How do you know?

The five descriptions below could be used to describe Mr Birling. Find evidence in the play to support each one. Write brief notes for each adjective, and include relevant page numbers. The first one has been started for you.

- **Social climber**

His wife is his social superior (stage directions, p. 1).

He likes Gerald because this will improve his business: 'You're just the kind of son-in-law I always wanted' (p. 4).

He makes sure to mention his possible knighthood to Gerald to impress him (p. 8).

- **Self-important**

- **Traditionalist**

- **Self-made**

- **Talkative**
