

	Summary of Each Act	Key Quotations about Mr Birling	Key Quotations about Inspector Goole	Key Quotations about Mrs Birling	Key Quotations Sheila	Key Quotations Gerald	Eric
1	<p>The Birlings are celebrating Gerald and Sheila's engagement when an inspector Goole arrives. He shows Mr Birling a photo of a girl, Eva Smith, after sharing his enquiries about the young girl's suicide. Birling admits he sacked her for being one of the leaders of a strike for higher wages. Sheila and Eric think their father was harsh to do so. Sheila is shown the photograph and realised, out of jealousy and anger, that she had the girl sacked from a shop, Milwards. The act ends with Gerald reacting to hearing that Eva changed her name to Daisy Renton..</p>	<p>P2 "it's exactly the same port your father gets from him" P7 "unsinkable, absolutely unsinkable" P8 "I gather there's a very good chance of a knighthood - so long as we behave ourselves" P10 "a man has to mind his own business and look after himself and his own" P14 "I can't accept any responsibility" P16 "Get into trouble?"</p>	<p>P11 "<i>he creates at once an impression of massiveness, solidity and purposefulness</i>" <i>"he speaks carefully, weightily"</i> P11 "<i>she was in great agony</i>" P14 "A chain of events" P18 "Are you sure you don't know" P19 "there are a lot of young women living that sort of existence in every city" P22 "you'd better stay here" P24 "you used the power you had...to punish the girl!" <i>(cutting in)</i></p>	<p>"a rather cold woman and her husband's social superior"</p>	<p>P2 "Mummy" p6 "Daddy" P17 <i>(Rather distressed)</i> Sorry! It's just I can't help thinking about this girl - destroying herself" P19 "these girl aren't cheap labour - they're people" P23 "I'd been in a bad temper anyhow" P24 "she was very pretty and looked as if she could take care of herself" P26 "Why - you fool - he knows"</p>	<p>P15 "you couldn't have done anything else" P25 <i>(startled)</i> What? P26 "I don't come into this suicide business" P26 "So - for God's sake - don't say anything to the Inspector"</p>	<p>P3 "You're squiffy" P15 "he could have kept her on instead of throwing her out"</p>
2	<p>Gerald admits he met Daisy Renton in the spring of the previous year and she had been his mistress. Sheila is hurt but respects Gerald's honesty. While Eric is out of the room, Mrs Birling is forced to admit that Eva asked for the help of a charity that she worked for. Mrs Birling refused to help her because she blames the father of Eva's unborn child.</p>	<p>"Now look here, Inspector" "(Angrily)" "Have him in and get it over, then let the lad go" "I only did what any employer might have done" "you must understand that a lot of young men" "I'm a public man" "it isn't going to do us good. The Press might easily take it up"</p>	<p>P30 "we often do on the young ones. They're more impressionable" P41 "you mean you don't choose to do, Mrs Birling" "You're not telling the truth." P41 "public men, Mr Birling, have responsibilities as well as privileges" P44 "I think you did something terribly wrong - and that you're going to spend the rest of your life regretting it"</p>	<p>P30 "Girls of that class - " P31 "you know of course that my husband was Lord Mayor" P42 "what business is it of yours?" P43 "I think she had only herself to blame" P45 "go and look for the father of the child. It's his responsibility" P47 "As if a girl of that sort would ever refuse money!"</p>	<p>P29 "I know I'm to blame - and I'm desperately sorry" P29 "I feel you're beginning all wrong" P29 "if there's nothing else, we'll have to share our guilt"</p>	<p>P34 "she was very pretty - soft brown hair and big dark eyes - <i>(breaks off.)</i> My God!" P39 "I'm rather more - upset - by this business than I probably appear to be"</p>	<p>P32 "he's been steadily drinking too much for the last two years"</p>
3	<p>Eric confesses that he got Eva pregnant and stole money from his father's firm. Eva didn't take it. Eric blames his mother for not helping her. Inspector Goole blames the Birling's lack of responsibility. Gerald returns from a walk and tells the family that he thinks the inspector is a fake which they confirm with a telephone call. Eric and Sheila continue to feel guilty. The telephone rings and the family learn that a girl has died and an inspector investigating.</p>	<p>P57 "there'll be a public scandal" P63 "it makes all the difference"</p>	<p>P55 "each of you helped to kill her. Remember that. Never forget it." P56 "there are millions and millions and millions of Eva Smiths and John Smiths still left with us" P55 "we are responsible for each other"</p>	<p>P61 "be quiet so that your father can decide what we ought to do"</p>	<p>P58 "you don't seem to have learnt anything" P65 "you're just beginning to pretend all over again"</p>	<p>P62 "that man wasn't a police inspector" P71 "everything's all right now, Sheila. <i>(Holds up the ring.)</i>"</p>	<p>P51 "I insisted-it seems, I'm not very clear about it" P55 - "you killed her" P55 "My God - I'm not likely to forget" P64 "the girl's still dead, isn't she?"</p>

Priestley's purpose and themes	Vocabulary
<p>Priestley asks his audience to examine their individual and collective responsibility to society. He wants society to change.</p> <p>Priestley wants to expose the hypocrisy of middle and upper class society where appearance and reputation matter more than reality and morality.</p>	<p>Words to show understanding of form</p> <p>Play, act, dialogue, speech, stage direction, stage business, enters the stage, exits the stage audience, dramatic device, props</p>
<p>Priestley uses the character of the inspector to voice his socialist views.</p> <p>Priestley criticises the selfishness of capitalism through the character of Birling.</p> <p>Priestley wants a fairer, socialist future after the horrors of two world wars.</p>	<p>Subject terminology</p> <p>Dramatic irony, emotive language, adverbial stage direction, adverb, verb, repetition, repeats, question, questions, exclamation, exclaims,</p>
<p>Priestley shows the older generation to be rigidly set in their views.</p> <p>However, the younger generation are open to change and willing to accept social responsibility.</p>	<p>Key words</p> <p>Socialism, socialist, capitalism, capitalist, working class, upper class, social responsibility, moral responsibility, gender discrimination, older generation, younger generation, changed, unchanged</p>
<p>Eva Smith represents all working class women who are oppressed by the middle/upper classes.</p> <p>The play demonstrates that when workers do not have full employment rights they cannot defend themselves.</p>	<p>Characters</p>
<p>Events</p>	<p>Mr Birling: pompous, overconfident, a capitalist, wants to improve his social status, concerned about a public scandal, unchanged by the end of the play</p>
<p>Act 1: The family are celebrating the engagement of Sheila and Gerald. Inspector Goole arrives announcing the death of Eva Smith. Mr Birling and Sheila are each responsible for Eva's dismissals. Eva changed her name to Daisy Renton.</p>	<p>Mrs Birling: concerned with social etiquette, upper-class, arrogant, prejudiced, unchanged by the end of the play</p> <p>Sheila: naïve, compassionate, perceptive, curious, wiser by the end of the play</p> <p>Eric: irresponsible, reckless, frustrated, repentant, wiser by the end of the play</p>
<p>Act 2: Gerald admits affair with Daisy. Mrs Birling refused to offer Eva charity. Eva was pregnant. Suspicion turns to Eric.</p>	<p>Gerald: upper class, deceives Sheila, partly repentant, unchanged by the end of the play</p>
<p>Act 3: Eric admits guilt and having stolen money. The Inspector leaves, lecturing the family on the importance of social irresponsibility and the consequences if they ignore it. Gerald discovers the inspector was a fake and there is no recorded death of Eva Smith. Mr Birling begins to relax. The telephone rings...</p>	<p>Inspector: "massiveness", systematic, perceptive, all knowing, mysterious; a socialist, the voice of Priestley</p> <p>Eva: "warm hearted" but oppressed, represents all working class people, especially women</p>