

GCSE – An Inspector Calls – English Knowledge Organiser

Expectations and content

What is this unit about and why do we teach it?

- This unit is thought-provoking and resonates with teachers and students alike the importance of social responsibility, the key theme in the play. We explore Priestley's word and craft in this journey to the greater good in society.

Key Vocabulary taught:

- Communism
- Conservatism
- Capitalism
- Socialism
- Fascism
- Hierarchy
- Astute

Key terminology taught:

- Analytical paragraph
- Dramatic Irony
- Emotive imagery
- Anadiplosis
- Juxtaposition
- Revise word-classes
- Euphemism
- Proxy
- Stage direction
- Motifs
- Themes
- Symbolism

If your child needs support

Suggested activities to help:

- Re-read the play.
- Watch one of the films, adaptations, live performance or recorded performance of this play.
- Research the context. What was happening in 1912 and what had changed by 1945?
- Look into Priestley's life; what influenced him to write about the ideas and themes he does in 'An Inspector Calls'.
- Revise the key vocabulary and key terminology.
- Learn key quotations for each character and theme.
- Re-read and summarise each act with 5 bullet points so you have a clear understanding of the key elements of that act.
- Practise using terminology in your sentences to help you pick apart the language to analyse it.
- Use the revision booklets given to you for your homework - keep working back through them.

If your child needs extension

Questions to discuss with your child:

- What do you think 'Mixed up like bees in a hive' means? Why do you think Priestley decided to use Bees in this metaphor? What could the significance be?
- How do you know that you are not a part of a domino effect?
- How might things have been different for Eva Smith? What needed to change?

Challenging activities to complete:

- Look into Priestley's other work. How may they compare or differ?
- Re-read the play and look for patterns in Priestley's writing and structure.
- Look into ways this country is addressing inequality.

Suggested further reading:

- **Face - Benjamin Zephaniah**- It's about a teenage boy who suffers facial injuries in a joyriding accident.
- **The Tulip Touch - Anne Fine**- The story raises questions of morality and accountability, as well as exploring the question of nature versus nurture
- **Two Pence to Cross the Mersey - Helen Forrester** tells of her early life in the north of England with her parents struggling to make ends meet. Despite harsh times Helen struggles to gain an education to give herself a chance in life.