

“Do Now” Work

How can I analyse and evaluate the text?

Be able to apply what? how? why? paragraphs to your work.

1. What are the four assessment objectives for English Literature?
2. How many marks is each assessment objective worth?

Challenge: AO4 is only assessed in two sections. What are they?

In Silence Please



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1. What are the three assessment objectives for English Literature?

AO1: Read, understand and respond to texts. Students should be able to:

- maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response
- use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.

AO2: Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.

AO3: Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.

AO4: Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.

4 Macbeth Spag.
4 A1C.

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1. What are the three assessment objectives for English Literature?

AO1: WHAT?

AO2: HOW?

AO3: WHY?

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How does Priestley present Inspector Goole in the play?

WHAT?

Priestley presents Inspector Goole as a straight-forward and direct character, who challenges the ideology of both the Birlings and the audience, so that both the characters and the audience are positioned to understand the significance of the events leading up to the suicide of Eva Smith.

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HOW?

Inspector Goole uses emotive language to highlight the fact that after Birling sacks Eva, she was left with 'few friends, lonely, half-starved, she was feeling desperate.' Priestley lists emotive adjectives such as 'lonely' and 'desperate' in an attempt to make Birling understand the impact of his actions and empathise with the horrific situation that Eva was left in. The verb 'starved' with its connotations of being near to death, is a blatant attempt to guilt Birling into understanding the effect that the sacking had on Eva. As Birling has shown little compassion up to this point, we can sense the Inspector's sense of frustration and anger that Birling has not learnt the lesson that he hoped he would have done – that of compassion for his fellow man. Through the Inspector, Priestley reflects his own Socialist views, in particular the idea that we should all be responsible for one another, and be able to 'put ourselves in the place' of those who do not have the same opportunities or are as prosperous as ourselves.

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WHY?

We could also interpret that Inspector Goole is not only talking to Birling, but all the characters on the stage. He wants them all to contemplate how myopic their world is, and indeed Sheila does seem to reply with some compassion for the girl's predicament. An audience watching the play in 1945, having lived through two world wars, would perhaps see more clearly the hypocrisy of Edwardian values and the readiness to blame the working class without considering how it must feel to have nothing and nowhere to turn.

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How is the character of Sheila presented within the play An Inspector Calls?

WHAT?

Priestley uses specific stage directions to present Sheila as immature, naïve and inconsiderate of the consequences of her actions.

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HOW?

Sheila tells Mr Birling, 'Oh- sorry. I didn't know. Mummy sent me in to ask you why you didn't come along,' when she comes into the drawing room and interrupts Mr Birling's discussion, which suggests her place as a child rather than an adult within the household. Her use of the word, 'Mummy' enforces this level of immaturity, encouraging the audience to view her as someone that awaits permission rather than act upon her own initiative. Her ignorance within the statement, 'I didn't know,' indicates that she sees ignorance as an excuse for her behavior at times, preparing the audience for her lack of consideration at her actions in relation to Eva's death.

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WHY?

Priestley skillfully employs the character of Sheila as an example of what happens when individuals choose to ignore that their behaviour has actions. Sheila's use of oblivion here and transfer of blame to her mother could be interpreted as habitual behaviour that we are about to see during her interview with the Inspector. However, it also enables the audience to sympathise with her, perhaps because we are witness to her realisation of that fact that she needs to take ownership of her behaviour.

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How is the character of Mr Birling presented in 'An Inspector Calls'?

What? Selfish, Self-centred, Survival of the fittest, capitalist.

How? making money ← ignoring the plight of others → puts himself first = self-centred

"a man has to mind his own business and look after himself and his own"

own is repeated
verb - suggests this is vital to doing well in life → selfishness
- doesn't see himself as part of wider society
people from the working class are not worthy of his care.

Why? Priestley wanted to challenge this view.
Priestley wanted the audience to disagree with Birling.
promote socialism → interrupts Birling.

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How is the character of Mr Birling presented in 'An Inspector Calls'?

Arthur Birling is presented as a selfish, self centred man. He promotes the idea that in a capitalist society, people with power and money will do better than those without. This selfish outlook on life may also be referred to as the 'survival of the fittest' idea. Arthur's belief in the survival of the fittest is shown in act 1 when he promotes the idea that "a man has to mind his own business" to Eric and Gerald. The phrase "own business" has a double meaning, suggesting both the importance of making money as well as the idea of ignoring the plight of others. The verb "has" implies that Birling thinks that this is vital to doing well in life. Birling continues, "and look after himself and his own - and -", which highlights his selfishness to the audience. The phrase "his own" could also imply that Birling sees poorer people as different or below him. By repeating "own", Priestley emphasises Birling's refusal to see himself as part of a wider society. Birling is trying to justify his selfish economic behaviour, but Priestley undermines this by interrupting Birling during this speech to show that he is wrong. By interrupting Birling at this point, Priestley shows the audience that this capitalist viewpoint is one that he wants to challenge, and instead, he uses the inspector as a tool to promote his own socialist views to both Birling and the audience.

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Be able to apply what? how? why? paragraphs to your work.

How is the character of Mr Birling presented in 'An Inspector Calls'?

Selfish, self-centred, egotistical, dismissive,
capitalist, 'survival of the fittest',

ignoring the
plight of others

making
money

puts himself
first

"a man has to mind his own business and look after himself and his own"

Verb
- vital to
doing well
in life.

repetition -
doesn't see himself
as part of wider
Society.

people from the
working class
not worthy of his
care.

Priestley wanted to challenge this view
Priestley wants the audience to dislike and
disagree with Birling.
Interrupts Birling to show this -
promote his socialist message.

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Be able to apply what? how? why? paragraphs to your work.

How is the character of Mr Birling presented in 'An Inspector Calls'?

Selfish. self-centred, capitalist ideals, 'Survival of the fittest' family

ignore the
blight & others

making
money

puts himself
1st

"a man has to mind his own business and look after himself and his own"

verb

repetition

- vital to doing
well in life.

refuses to
be part of wider
society.

people
from
working
class - not
worthy of
his care.

Priestley presents Birling as someone who tries to justify his choices - cuts him off as he wants the audience to see this view as wrong.

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How is the character of Mr Birling presented in 'An Inspector Calls'?

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How is the character of Mr Birling presented in 'An Inspector Calls'?

Survival of the fittest.



