



PiXL Independence

English Literature – Answer Booklet KS4

An Inspector Calls
Contents:

Answers

I. Context Quiz

- In what country was An Inspector Calls first performed? How might this be significant?
 It was first performed in Moscow, after Priestley did not receive a positive response from British theatres.
- 2. Where did Priestley grow up and how did this inform his political opinions? Priestley grew up in Bradford. He saw first hand the consequences of a class of people working long underpaid hours, living in crowded and squalid houses. He once said 'I have tried to make myself – and other people – aware of the harsh economic realities of our time.'
- 3. What is the Welfare State and when was it created? How does it reflect the themes in *An Inspector Calls*? In 1942 the Beveridge Report outlined a system of social insurance that was to cover every citizen regardless to income. It was described as a 'cradle-to-grave' welfare system.
- 4. What was surprising about the 1945 general election result?

Given that the Nazis surrendered less than 12 weeks earlier, many believed that Churchill would be chosen to continue as the country's leader. It was a surprise to many when Labour won, especially as they had only previously held office on two occasions.

- 5. List three things that contributed to the Labour Party winning the 1945 election.
 - The Beveridge Report and the promise of a Welfare State
 - People wanted an end to wartime austerity
 - . Labour leaders acquired more experience during the war, which gained public trust
 - · Labour's proposal to nationalise parts of the economy seemed less radical after the war
 - The military vote: millions of men and women in the armed services voted for Labour as they yearned for change and a better civilian life more than others
 - The tabloid The Daily Mirror is considered to have swayed public opinion by publishing Philip Zec's 'Don't lose it again' cartoon.
- 6. How were women's roles different in 1912 (when the play is set) and in 1945 (when the play was written)? In 1912, women were still considered to have a mostly domestic purpose and were subservient to men. Upper class women were married off, and lower class women were seen as cheap labour. As a result of the wars, with women taking on a more active role to fill the jobs left by men fighting on the front lines, women seemed to have earned a more valued place in society.
- 7. What are Aristotle's 'Unities' and how do they relate to An Inspector Calls?
 - Aristotle's *Unities* are derived from his writing *Poetics*. They outline how Aristotle believed drama should be constructed. There are three Unities:
 - *Unity of Action*: A play should have one action that it follows, with minimal subplots. In *An Inspector Calls* the Inspector ensures the focus is kept rigorously on his questioning.
 - *Unity of Time*: The action in a play should occur over a period of no more than 24 hours. *An Inspector Calls* takes place over a single evening.
 - Unity of Place: A play should exist in a single physical space and should not attempt to compress geography, nor should the stage represent more than one place. The entirety of An Inspector Calls is set in the Birlings' home.
- 8. What is your understanding of the term 'denouement' in reference to the play?
 - A denouement is the final part of a narrative, when all the strands of the plot are drawn together. Priestley subverts this initially by allowing the Birlings and Gerald to 'unpick' the narrative. They are brought sharply back together when the phone rings at the close of Act Three.
- 9. Define the term 'social conscience' in your own words.
 - Having a sense of responsibility for the problems others face in society, even though they might not affect you personally.

10. What is symbolic about Mr Birling's reference to the *Titanic*?

In the timeline of the play, the Titanic has not yet set sail and everyone is still lauding it as a great feat of British engineering.

 $\label{thm:continuous} \mbox{However, this is ironic as anyone watching or reading the play will know that the ship sinks.}$

This is symbolic of Mr Birling's certainty in his political ideology. In his opinion, both the Titanic and Capitalism are *unsinkable*.

II. Multiple Choice Questions

Quiz One	Quiz Two	Quiz Three	Quiz Four	Quiz Five
1. D	1. A	1. B	1. C	1. A
2. C	2. C	2. A	2. C	2. C
3. A	3. C	3. D	3. D	3. D
4. D	4. C	4. D	4. A	4. A
5. B	5. A	5. C	5. B	5. C
6. D	6. C	6. B	6. D	6. B
7. B	7. D	7. A	7. D	7. C
8. B	8. B	8. C	8. C	8. B
9. C	9. A	9. B	9. D	9. D
10. A	10. C	10. A	10. C	10. B

Quiz Six	Quiz Seven	Quiz Eight	Quiz Nine
1. A	1. B	1. C	1. C
2. C	2. C	2. B	2. D
3. A	3. B	3. C	3. C
4. C	4. C	4. A	4. A
5. D	5. A	5. C	5. B
6. A	6. B	6. B	6. C
7. D	7. D	7. A	7. D
8. C	8. C	8. D	8. C
9. A	9. D	9. C	9. D
10. B	10. A	10. A	10. B



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