

Revision Task 5: Literature Paper I Section A: *An Inspector Calls*

Assessment Objective Identification

Look at the paragraph, and identify the different Assessment Objectives in this answer. Colour code using the key to help you:

Assessment Objective 1	Assessment Objective 2	Assessment Objective 3
Inference and Quote Finding	Analysis	Context

In full sentences, explain where you think the strengths and weaknesses lie in this answer.

Example Level 6 paragraph:

Throughout 'An Inspector Calls' Priestley carefully manipulates the structure of the plot to explore the economic disparity between the wealthy and the working class. A key example of this can be seen in Act I when Birling lectures the younger members of the Birling family on his views that 'a man has to look after himself and his own', thus perpetrating the capitalist stereotype of being insular and self-aggrandising which is also evident when he refers to himself as 'a practical, hard-headed man of business.' In both cases, Birling establishes himself, a middle-class factory owner, as the authority on social issues which emanates from his belief that fiscal success equates to good judgement. Words such as 'practical' and 'hard-headed' imply that he sees himself as purposeful and efficient, which conforms to capitalist views that productivity means effectiveness. However, Birling's 'hard-headed(ness)' in many cases acts as his foil, as he is unable to accept his role in Eva Smith's death, nor is he able to morally progress throughout the play by understanding the inspector's message of social responsibility. This is especially important given the role that men like Mr Birling played in events that would unfold in the years to follow such as the Wall Street Crash, where the irresponsibility of capitalists resulted in a decade of economic depression. Moreover, as a 1940s audience would have endured these hardships as well as the struggles of two world wars, Birling's arrogance would have been highly ironic, thus illustrating the ignorance of arch capitalists like Mr Birling. Priestley uses Birling's character as a metaphorical representation of the consequences of failing to accept what he sees as society's moral responsibility to care for its most vulnerable members and to ensure the well-being of others through the promotion of a socialist system. However, Priestley carefully manipulates the entrance and exits of the characters as a means of challenging views similar to Birling's and promoting his own socialist viewpoints. The fact that the inspector, who is often viewed as a mouthpiece for Priestley's own views, enters the play at this exact moment undermines Birling's conservative sentiments and instead allows the inspector to dominate the play with his more progressive, liberal views towards the working-class poor. Priestley uses these strategies to highlight the disparity between the bourgeoisies and the working class in order to compel the audience to promote a higher level of social responsibility.