



# An Inspector Calls – Dramatic Style

## Analysis of Dramatic Style

Complete the following questions to demonstrate your understanding of Priestley's use of dramatic style.

1. Re-read the end of Act 2. Start from the following quote and read to the end of the scene.

**MRS BIRLING:** "No you haven't. Simply because I've done nothing wrong – and you know it."

2. Make notes on the following aspects of this section.

a) What do the stage directions, explaining how the actor should speak the lines, tell us about the attitudes of Sheila and Inspector Goole?

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b) What is the importance of the long stage direction at the end of the act?

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c) Explain the effects of Sheila's interventions.

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d) What impressions are created by Mrs Birling's speech and manner?

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e) What is the dramatic irony in this scene and how might it affect the audience?

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### Extension Activity

Using your notes on these dramatic devices, and any other details you notice, write an essay addressing the following essay question:

**How does Priestley create dramatic tension at the end of Act 2 of *An Inspector Calls*?**

