

English

Stills from our new series







An Inspector Calls

One of JB Priestley's best known works for stage, 'An Inspector Calls' is a classic of mid-20th century English theatre. These four clips study key aspects of the play.

Context and Background

Set in 1912, the play unfolds during turbulent times in Britain as workers formed unions, and demanded better wages and conditions. This clip explores class divisions at the time, as well as the context of the play's first London performance in 1945. The story is told by a presenter and scene re-enactments – an ideal resource for GCSE level students of English and Literature.

Key Stage 4 - GCSE

Additional Resources

- · Comprehension Questions
- Suggested Responses
- Transcript



2017 | 8 min | CC | AR

• Eva Smith - Dear Diary

Dramatic Style

In this clip, we examine the devices and dramatic styles Priestley employs to influence the audience's response to the play's characters and events – including genre, structure, suspense, speech, melodrama, and dramatic irony. Combining a presenter and re-enactments of various scenes, this is an excellent resource for GCSE level students of English, Literature and Drama.

Key Stage 4 - GCSE

Additional Resoures

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Analysis of Dramatic Style

Inspector Goole

Inspector Goole, an impressively authoritative and purposeful figure, is the focus of this clip. We also examine the way Priestley reveals the key character, who takes on a role more akin to that of a judge than an investigating officer. With content delivered via a presenter, and through scene re-enactments, it is a valuable resource for GCSE level students of English and Literature.

Key Stage 4 - GCSE

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· Mystery Man

Social Responsibility

This clip explores how Priestley conveys his beliefs about community and social responsibility in the play. Driven simply to look after their own interests, each member of the upper-crust Birling family are shown by Inspector Goole to have contributed to the demise of Eva Smith through their own selfishness. Featuring a presenter and re-enactments, it's an ideal resource for GCSE level Literature students.

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Your Verdict