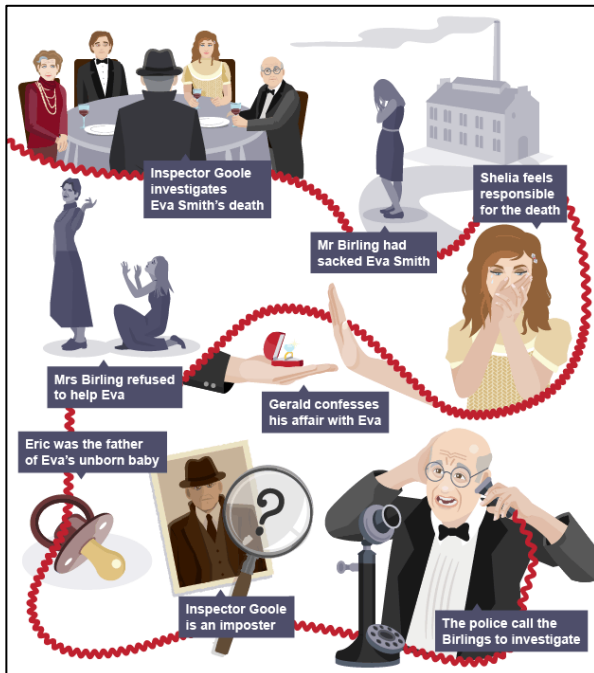










Threshold Concept- Year 10- An Inspector Calls:

TC1 - Understanding texts

TC2 - Demonstrate an appreciation of the writer's craft through analysis and critically evaluative comments.

A plot and character summary of 'An Inspector Calls' Full text (if on MS Teams) = [An Inspector Calls audiobook](#)



 Arthur Birling Head of Birling family, capitalist businessman	 Sybil Birling Birling's snobby wife	 Inspector Goole A police inspector sent to investigate Eva Smith's suicide	 Eva Smith / Daisy Renton A young working-class woman with connections to the Birlings
 Gerald Croft Sheila's fiancé, and son of Birling's business rival	 Sheila Birling Birling's daughter and Gerald's fiancée	 Eric Birling The youngest Birling	

Using this information can you:

- Recount what happens from start to finish in the play?
- Explain who the primary characters are, and what makes them unique?

You should use this information to get the base knowledge needed for J.B. Priestley's play.

E.g. Mr Birling is an ignorant Capitalist who sacked Eva Smith for demanding equal pay.

How to analyse the writer's craft- mention the writer's name and all of the choices they make. Example on Sheila (focus on trying to write explanations like you see in green here.)

The character of Sheila Birling is used to reflect that the younger generation have a chance to be different to their elders. The quotation: **"these girls aren't cheap labour, they're people"** shows Sheila's new understanding that women (regardless of class) should be treated more equally to men. J.B. Priestley has her criticise her male relatives who treat females as lower beings. The adjective **"cheap"** is used by the writer to show that she feels they are worth more than how society sees them. The original audience may dislike a woman challenging a man at this time as it is not the norm at all, though Sheila would be celebrated by a more modern audience as she is seen more so as a strong feminist figure, similar to the suffragettes.

Key quote written down
Technique identified.
What it shows
Audience reaction(s).

In order to be successful, **you must know a range of different moments** from the whole play. For example, other moments where Sheila is important include:

- Sheila's introduction as Sheltered and childish "mummy" "daddy"
- Sheila's new-found power in her speech and interruptions ("cutting in")
- Sheila's change and refusal to accept Gerald's engagement ring. "No...I must think"

Developing this further- discussing audience reaction.

A really effective way to showcase your understanding of the text is by comparing how an original audience might react vs. how a modern audience might react (see the blue part of the WAGOLL above). This is how we do this:



ORIGINAL AUDIENCE MIGHT THINK

Edna is lucky to work for the Birlings. She has a stable job and an opportunity to live in a beautiful house. (Original theatre-goers more likely to have maids and be Capitalists.)

MODERN AUDIENCE MIGHT THINK

Edna is unlucky to work for the Birlings. She would earn very little indeed and has to wait on a whole family at all hours of the day. (Modern audiences more sympathetic to working-class)



Try to consider, as you read the play, your own reactions to characters/ events. Then compare this to how an audience in 1946 (with very different views to us) would react.