

An Inspector Calls

Answer part (i) and either part (ii) or part (iii).

You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (i), and about 40 minutes on part (ii) or part (iii).

(i) Read the extract on the opposite page. Then answer the following question:

Look closely at how Gerald speaks and behaves here. How could it affect an audience's feelings towards him? [10]

Either,

(ii) An Inspector Calls is set in 1912, and was written in the mid 1940s. Why do you think it is still popular today, in the 21st century?

Remember to support your answer with reference to the text. [20+4]

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question.

Or,

(iii) How does JB Priestly present the character of Mrs. Birling to an audience throughout the play? [20+4]

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question

BIRLING (excitedly) You know something. What is it?

GERALD (slowly) The man wasn't a police officer.

MRS. B. Are you certain?

GERALD I'm almost certain. That's what I came back to tell you.

BIRLING (excitedly) Good lad! You asked about him, eh?

GERALD Yes. I met a police sergeant I know down the road. I asked him about this Inspector Goole and described the chap carefully to him. He swore there wasn't any Inspector Goole or anybody like him on the force here.

BIRLING You didn't tell him—

GERALD (cutting in) No, no. I passed it off by saying I'd been having an argument with somebody. But the point is— this sergeant was dead certain they hadn't any inspector at all like the chap who came here.

BIRLING (excitedly) By Jingo! A fake!

MRS. B. (triumphantly) Didn't I tell you? Didn't I say I couldn't imagine a real police inspector talking like that to us?

GERALD Well, you were right. There isn't any such inspector. We've been had.

BIRLING (beginning to move) I'm going to make certain of this.

MRS. B. What are you going to do?

BIRLING Ring up the Chief Constable - Colonel Roberts.

MRS. B. Careful what you say, dear.

BIRLING (now at telephone) Of course. (At telephone.) Brumley eight seven five two. (To others as he waits.) I was going to do this anyhow. I've had my suspicions all along. (At telephone.) Colonel Roberts, please. Mr Arthur Birling here . . . Oh, Roberts – Birling here. Sorry to ring you up so late, but can you tell me if an Inspector Goole has joined your staff lately . . . Goole. G-O-O-L-E . . . a new man . . . tall, cleanshaven. (Here he can describe the appearance of the actor playing the INSPECTOR.) I see . . . yes . . . well, that settles it.

. . . No, just a little argument we were having here. . . . Good night.
(He puts down the telephone and looks at the others.) There's no
Inspector Goole on the police. That man definitely wasn't a police
inspector at all. As Gerald says – we've been had.

MRS. B. I felt it all the time. He never talked like one. He never even
looked like one.

BIRLING This makes a difference, y'know. In fact, it makes all the
difference.

GERALD Of course.