**An Inspector Calls**

Act-by-Act Questions

‘Look here, Inspector, I consider this uncalled-for and officious.’









1. In which year is the play set?

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| **Answer**: 1912 | **Extension**: Society in Edwardian England was characterised by inequality  |

1. How should the stage be lit prior to the arrival of the Inspector?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. How is Gerald described in the stage directions?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. What have the Birling family and Gerald had to drink, and what are they about to drink?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character says, ‘Arthur, you’re not supposed to say such things’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Why are Lord and Lady Croft absent from the celebration?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character says, ‘You can drink to me’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Birling says, ‘We’ve passed the worst of it’ – what is he alluding to?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. In which year did Birling serve as Lord Mayor?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Is it Lord Croft or Lady Croft who feels that Gerald ‘might have done better’ for himself ‘socially’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |



1. How should the lighting change when the Inspector enters?

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| **Answer**: ‘Brighter and harder’ | **Extension**: Light is symbolic of truth; the brighter light suggests scrutiny and discomfort |

1. How should the Inspector be dressed?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. How does the Inspector say that Eva died?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. In which year did Birling fire Eva Smith from his factory?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character says, ‘Look – there’s nothing mysterious – or scandalous – about this business’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. How much did Eva and the workforce want to earn?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. What is the name of the Chief Constable who Birling plays golf with?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character says, ‘They’d all be broke – if I know them’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. How old was Eva Smith before she died?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. What is the name of the shop that Eva found work in after she was fired by Birling?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |



1. How long was it before Eva Smith was taken on?

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| **Answer**: Two months | **Extension**: Eva’s existence is wholly precarious  |

1. Why was she considered to be ‘lucky’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character claims to have a headache and says, ‘I think I’d better turn in’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**: |

1. What did Eva Smith change her name to?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. How does Gerald react when he hears the name announced by the Inspector?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

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| **High Five:**1.2.3.4.5. |



1. Which character speaks first at the start of act two?

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| **Answer**: Inspector Goole | **Extension**: Gerald’s earlier attempt to hide the truth will soon prove to be futile  |

1. Which character says, ‘He means I’m getting hysterical now’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. How does Priestley describe Mrs Birling’s movement as she enters the scene?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. How is her tone of voice initially described?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character says, ‘You’re looking tired, dear’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which word, used by Mrs Birling, does Sheila believe is ‘silly’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character is ‘still a magistrate’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character has Mr Birling been persuading to go to bed?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Sheila says that she doesn’t ‘want to get poor Eric into trouble’ – what does she reveal?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. In which month did Eva leave Milwards?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |



1. What is the name of the theatre where Gerald meets Daisy Renton?

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| **Answer**: Palace Variety Theatre | **Extension**: A ‘favourite haunt of women of the town’  |

1. How does Gerald describe the appearance of the ‘women of the town’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. By contrast, how does he describe the appearance of Daisy?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character says, ‘You were the wonderful Fairy Prince?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. What is the name of the alderman who had ‘wedged’ Daisy ‘into a corner’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. What is the name of Gerald’s friend who gives him the key to ‘a nice little set of rooms’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character says, ‘Were you in love with her?’

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Sheila says to Gerald, ‘You must have adored it, Gerald’ – what is she referring to?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. In which month did Gerald end the affair?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character says, ‘I don’t understand you, Inspector’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |



1. What is the name of Mrs Birling’s charity organisation?

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| **Answer**: BWCO | **Extension**: The purpose of the organisation is to provide support for vulnerable women |

1. What name did Eva use when she appealed to the charity for help?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. On what grounds was Eva turned down by Mrs Birling?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character says, ‘Mother – stop – stop!’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character is implicated in the suicide just before the act ends?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

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| **High Five:**1.2.3.4.5. |



1. Which character speaks first at the start of act three?

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| **Answer**: Eric | **Extension**: Eric understands the inevitability of his role in the suicide being revealed  |

1. Which character says, ‘Besides, you’re not that type – you don’t get drunk’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. What does Eric drink before engaging with the Inspector’s questions?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. In which month did Eric meet Eva?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. How much money did Eric give Eva?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character says, ‘Your trouble is – you’ve been spoilt’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character speaks with ‘calm authority’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character is ‘nearly at breaking point’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. How much money does Birling say he would give to Eva if he had the chance?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. How many ‘Eva Smiths and John Smiths’ does the Inspector say there are?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |



1. Which character says, ‘there’ll be a public scandal’?

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| **Answer**: Birling | **Extension**: Birling is concerned only about his own reputation and social standing  |

1. Which character is the first to suspect that the Inspector might not be entirely ‘ordinary’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character says, ‘Probably a Socialist or some sort of crank’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Edna has a single line in act three – what is it?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character declares that Inspector Goole ‘wasn’t a police officer’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Who does Birling call to verify that the Inspector is a ‘fake’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character says, ‘I suppose we’re all nice people now’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. On what page does Sheila say her parents ‘don’t seem to understand’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. On what page does Sheila say ‘won’t bring Eva Smith back to life’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. What evidence does Gerald have for suggesting that Eva Smith might actually be ‘four or five different girls’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |



1. Why doesn’t Eric think it matters if this is the case or not?

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| **Answer**: He is remorseful | **Extension**: Eric accepts full responsibility for his actions |

1. Who does Gerald call to check if ‘there’s a dead girl’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character says, ‘The whole story’s just a lot of moonshine’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character recalls the Inspector’s reference to ‘Fire and blood and anguish’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

1. Which character says, ‘And a police inspector is on his way here – to ask some – questions’?

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| **Answer**:  | **Extension**:  |

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| **High Five:**1.2.3.4.5. |