

Year 10: Cycle 1: English - An Inspector Calls and Macbeth (a) 100% sheet

Section 1: An Inspector Calls Context		Section 2: J.B. Priestley	
Setting	The play is set in 1912, before the outset of WW1. Set in Brumley, a fictional industrial town.	Birthplace	Priestley was born in 1894 in the industrial city of Bradford.
Written	It was written in 1945, at the end of WW2 when the country desired a change.	Service	Priestley served in the British army in WW1.
Edwardian period (1901-1914)	Known for elegance and luxury; moral looseness, particularly amongst men.	Education	Priestley attended Trinity Hall, Cambridge, gaining a degree in Modern History and Politics.
Class division	In 1912 there were great divisions between the social classes.	Political Views	Socialist; Priestley founded the Common Wealth Party.
Welfare state	The welfare state was a system that the state protects the health and well-being of its citizens. Starts in 1945.	Critical Acclaim	Priestley's plays garnered him recognition, particularly An Inspector Calls which is a staple of British literature.
Section 3: Key Concepts		Section 4: Key Characters 1	
Social responsibility	Priestley believed that society had a shared responsibility to take care of each other, regardless of class or wealth.	The Birling Family	Rich family that lives in a comfortable house suited to their wealth and status.
Social class	Rigid class system: upper class unaware that they lead easy lives based upon the hard work of the poor.	Arthur Birling	Hubristic, pompous and static. Represents capitalism.
Age	The young are more open to progression and change; the older generation care only for themselves.	Sybil Birling	"Cold" hearted, snobbish, ignorant. Represents the class system which Priestley abhorred.
Gender	Priestley believed in equality. Vulnerability of women evokes sympathy.	Sheila Birling	Naïve, assertive, insightful. Represents the potential for change.
Socialism vs Capitalism	Priestley believed in socialism. Capitalism promoted rich owners keeping profit for themselves.		
Section 5: Key Characters 2		Section 6: Key Quotes	
Eric Birling	Assertive, emotional, guilt-ridden and his alcoholism makes him less reasonable than Sheila.	'unsinkable, absolutely unsinkable'	Priestley uses dramatic irony to ridicule Mr Birling and capitalism. The repetition of 'unsinkable'-foolish.
Inspector Goole	Imposing, prophetic, moralistic. Represents socialism and a mouthpiece for Priestley.	'These girls aren't just cheap labour – they're people'	Sheila matures due to Inspector's visit and challenges her father- she changes. The noun 'people' - shows her empathy for working classes.
Eva Smith	Strong-willed, resourceful, desperate. Emblematic of the poor.	'Girls of that class'	'That class' reveals snobbish and aloof attitude of upper class (Mrs B) to the working class.
Gerald Croft	Confident, remorseful, arrogant. Represents how ingrained attitudes were in the upper classes.	'burnt her inside out'	Vivid and violent imagery of 'burned' exposes damaging impact of capitalism on working classes.
		'dropped her...'	Gerald exploits his privilege by using Eva/ Daisy. The verb 'dropped' suggests carelessness and dehumanises her.

Section 7: Theatrical Techniques		Section 8: Dramatic Devices	
Dialogue	The words that the actors speak out loud for the audience to hear. The speech of the characters.	Morality play	The audience are taught about the consequences of sins. They have a chance to repent, thus echoing Priestley's message of society's need for redemption and change.
Stage directions	The actions that the actors act out for the audience to see; the way in which the characters act or speak.	Dramatic irony	When the audience have knowledge the characters on stage do not.
Characters	The people in the play that have been created by the playwright.	Entrances and exits	Characters dramatic timed entrances/exits for effect.
Act	The larger sections of a play – An Inspector Calls has 3 acts.	Climactic curtain	Cliff hanger at the end of an act to increase dramatic tension.
Section 9: William Shakespeare		Section 10: Macbeth Context	
Birthplace	Shakespeare was born in Stratford-upon-Avon.	Jacobean	The era in which Macbeth was written – it marks the reign of King James I.
Occupation	Shakespeare was a world-renowned playwright, actor and poet.	King James I	Shakespeare includes themes such as the supernatural to ingratiate himself with King James I.
Died	26 th April 1616.	Protestant	England and Scotland where Protestant nations at the time due to King James I's devotion to this Christian religion.
Acting Troupe	Shakespeare was a member of The King's Men acting troupe, performing plays at the Globe Theatre in London.	King James Bible	The Bible produced by King James that was written in English and made available to the public for the first time.
Legacy	Shakespeare's legacy transcends literary significance, impacting the modern world with interpretations of his plays and language with the words and phrases that he created.	Patriarchal	A society in which men have more power, opportunity and rights than women. Jacobean society was very patriarchal.
Section 11: Key Concepts		Section 12: Key Characters	
Gender	Shakespeare and Lady Macbeth challenge the Jacobean expectation of domestic women.	Macbeth	Ambitious tragic hero; starts the play as 'brave Macbeth' but brings about his downfall to a 'dead butcher'.
The Supernatural	The belief in things not understood by science or reason e.g. witches. Shakespeare exploits contemporary anxieties about the supernatural.	Lady Macbeth	Powerful 'fiend-like' wife of Macbeth. Lady Macbeth emasculates and controls her Macbeth; she is ultimately driven mad by guilt.
Divine Right of Kings	The belief that the monarch was chosen by God.	The Witches	Unnatural and evil supernatural influences.
Great Chain of Being	The belief that there was a hierarchical order in society that should be respected.	King Duncan	Foil to Macbeth as a 'tyrant' ruler, as he is a responsible and rightful King.
Regicide	The killing of a monarch; one of the worst crimes imaginable.	Macduff	Foil to Macbeth; loyal to Scotland.
Section 13: Key Theatrical Terminology			
Aside	Dialogue delivered onto the audience, whilst other characters are on stage that reveals the inner thoughts of the character to the audience only.		
Soliloquy	A speech delivered to the audience that reveals the inner thoughts of a character when they are alone on stage.		
Monologue	Similar to a soliloquy, but with other characters able to hear.		
Setting	Where the play is set/ where each scene is set.		

