AIC EXAM REVISION

KNOWLEDGE OF CHARACTERS AND RELATIONSHIPS

a) How far do you believe Mrs Birling is more responsible for the death of Eva Smith than the other characters?

b) What do you think is Inspector Goole’s role in the play? How does Priestley present him?

c) How does Priestley build sympathy for Eva Smith throughout the play?

d) How does Priestley present the change in Sheila during the course of the play An Inspector Calls? How do you think this change reflects some of Priestley’s ideas?

e) Write about the way the relationship between Gerald and Sheila develops during the play.

f) The audience never actually meets Eva Smith but only hears about her from different characters. What does Priestley achieve by withholding Eva’s character from the audience in this way?

g) What is revealed about family relationships throughout the play?

h) How does the younger generation differ from the older generation in the play?

i) How does Priestley show that tension is at the heart of the Birling family?

KNOWLEDGE OF ISSUES AND THEMES

a) “An Inspector Calls is full of lies and deceit.” How far do you agree with this statement? What methods does Priestley use to lead you to your view?

b) How is the theme of gender inequality explored in the play?

c) How does Priestley present the theme of class differences in An Inspector Calls?

d) How does Priestley present ideas about social duty in An Inspector Calls?

e) How does the play explore the issue of time and the past’s impact on the present?

f) What do you think the Inspector set out to achieve? How successful do you think he is?

g) Priestley criticises the selfishness of people like the Birlings. What methods does he use to present this selfishness?

h) An Inspector Calls has been called „a play of contrasts‟. Write about how Priestley presents some of the contrasts in the play.