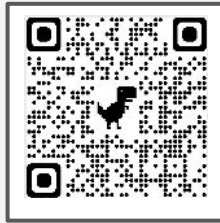


1. Characterisation			2. Literary Techniques and Methods		QR Codes:
1. Arthur Birling	Avaricious Edwardian businessman; pompous ; driven by reputation ; stubborn; a social climber; archetypal capitalist ; no remorse; ridiculed by Priestley; middle-class; a caricature; a misogynist ; a patriarch ; a hypocrite; evokes contempt and derision; symbol of capitalism.		1. Religious allusions	References to Christian beliefs – e.g. Eva Smith (symbol of all women – first sin); ‘members of one body’ (Corinthians – united in the church through Christ); ‘fire and blood and anguish’ (Armageddon and hell).	Key Words 
2. Sybil Birling	Aloof and supercilious; upper-class; prejudiced; infantilises her children; no remorse ; stubborn; antithesis of her daughter; an aristocratic fossil; evokes contempt.		2. Dramatic Irony	Birling’s faith in progress and lasting peace (e.g. ‘unsinkable, absolutely unsinkable’); Mrs Birling’s realisation that Eric was the father; Gerald jokes about ‘police scandal ’ in Act 1; Mr and Mrs Birling accuse Sheila/Eric of childishness ; ‘charity worker’ Mrs Birling commits worst crime; socialist message really for post-war audience, not Birling family (breaks fourth wall).	
3. Sheila Birling	Naïve (start); materialistic (start); stereotypical middle-class young woman (start); compassionate; perceptive; curious; wiser; a proto-feminist ; has a social and moral epiphany ; transformation; role-model for the younger generation; symbol of hope .		3. Cyclical structure	The ending takes story back to beginning of inspection; symbolically, Priestley is warning against returning to errors of pre-war Edwardian era; Ouspensky’s theory of time; prolepsis gives Birling family an opportunity to repent and change .	Essays 
4. Eric Birling	Juvenile (start); socially inept (start); reckless ; frustrated; repentant; undergoes transformation; unloved; does not fit the mould; a victim of parents’ values		4. Symbolism	Titanic = Edwardian middle-class; ring = traditional female role; one body = a society that works for each other; pink lighting = Birlings’ conceit; wall = class divide; slab = middle-class cruelty	
5. Gerald Croft	An aristocrat ; a misogynist; manipulative; enjoys adoration of women; unchanged , ruthless and callous; a barrier to change.		5. Contrast	Sheila vs (is the antithesis of) Eva Smith; appearance vs reality ; the family’s immorality vs Eva’s morality ; Inspector’s blunt language vs Birling family’s euphemistic language.	Wider reading 
6. Eva Smith/Daisy Renton	‘warm-hearted’; moralistic; symbol of the oppression of working-class women; underpaid; a desperate victim ; evokes audience pity .		6. Tension	Hints of unrest in opening stage directions ; claustrophobic single setting; Arthur & Sybil at table; Inspector secretive with photo.	
7. Inspector Goole	‘massiveness’; systematic; didactic ; unflappable; mysterious; a prophet of doom (if no equality); voice of each character’s conscience ; blunt; Priestley’s mouthpiece; Arthur Birling’s iceberg; preacher of socialism .		7. Structure	Play structured into three acts ; the structure has features of Eugene Scribe’s ‘ <i>Well-made Play</i> ’ and Aristotelian tragic structure : exposition , inciting incident, rising action, denouement etc; The Inspector controls the revealing of more information using his <i>systematic</i> interrogation; Priestley uses dramatic climaxes at the end of each act.	British Library Resources 
8. Edna	Voiceless , the underdog, working-class, visual reminder of silent working class.		Authorial intention and context		
3. Themes and Ideas and Priestley’s views on these			Authorial intention and context		
1. Class System		Class system destroying Britain; working-class oppressed; middle-class arrogant /hypocritical; social status more important than moral goodness .	1. Poverty	1892: turn of the century, 30% of people living in London lived in absolute poverty – e.g. unable to feed and clothe themselves or find adequate shelter.	Copy of the text 
2. Wealth and poverty		Employers mistreat their workers; the poor remain voiceless ; poverty is inescapable ; the rich build a ‘wall’ between themselves and the poor.	2. Labour	1900: Keir Hardie and his party represented the trade unions . The workers from the shop floor were starting to challenge factory owners. Accompanied by worker unrest, strikes, violent riots., etc.	
3. Responsibility		Middle-class must take responsibility for society; actions of rich have huge effect on poor; failure to take responsibility will cause war/apocalypse; audience must examine their consciences and change.	3. Edwardian Era	1901-1914: was a time of great social inequality . Industrialisation and Empire combined to create huge wealth. Britain owned ¼ of the world; ¼ population in the British Empire; navy twice as large as the next biggest. However, wealth in the hands of the few , not the many .	Copy of the text 
4. Gender		Misogyny rife in Edwardian society; no social safety net for unmarried, pregnant women; working-class women main victims; emancipation of women will lead to a fairer and stronger society.	4. Liberal reforms	1906-1916: General election. Landslide victory for Liberal Party who brought in social reforms including free school meals, pensions, workers benefits, etc. Groundswell of public opinion in favour of fairer Britain. (Labour victory of 1945 mirrors Liberal Victory of 1906.)	
5. Capitalism and socialism		Capitalists are selfish and uncaring; capitalists foolish to believe in never-ending progress ; socialism will cure the ills of society; socialism is the future.	5. Titanic	1912: A metaphor for the end of the Edwardian age of confidence and the beginning of the modern age of anxiety .	Copy of the text 
6. Generation Gap		Future lies in the hands of the young ; old are stubborn and unwilling to take responsibility; intransigent young (e.g. Gerald) are a threat to society.	6. Women	1913: Few rights – e.g. wage inequality (1/2 man’s wage for same job), abortion illegal, social stigma of pregnancy out of wedlock. 1913 saw rise in Suffragette violence after government rejected The Conciliation Bill.	
			7. War	1914 & 1939 - British Empire collapsed; devastating economic impact; people calling again for a new and fairer Britain after the wars.	
			8. 1945	Priestley writes an Inspector Calls. Clement Atlee’s Labour Party wins landslide General Election on a platform of welfare reform – pension extensions, more workers’ benefits (unemployment and sickness) & NHS.	