

Key Quotations: An Inspector Calls.

How to use these:

Annotate them – look carefully at individual words and what they suggest; identify the techniques Priestley has used.

Identify what these lines tell us about the characters and how they view others?

Identify how these lines link to the themes of the text.

Identify how these lines link to the Priestley's message.

Key themes: SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY SOCIAL CLASS GENDER AGE/GENERATIONAL GAP BLAME/RESPONSIBILITY

"I'm talking as a hard-headed practical man of business" Mr B

Titanic [...] unsinkable, absolutely unsinkable" Mr B

"You'd think we were all mixed up together like bees in a hive – community and all that nonsense" Mr B

A man has to make his own way – has to look after himself – and his family too, of course" Mr B

(Excited) Oh – Gerald – you've got it – is it the one [ring] you wanted me to have?' Sheila

"But these girls aren't cheap labour – they're people" Sheila

"You were the wonderful fairy prince. You must have adored it, Gerald." Sheila (about Gerald)

"She was young and pretty and warm-hearted and intensely grateful" Gerald

"As if a girl of that sort would ever refuse money!" Mrs B

"Go and look for the father of the child. It's his responsibility." Mrs B

"I'm sorry she should have come to such a horrible end. But I accept no blame at all" Mrs B

"I was in that state when a chap turns easily nasty and I threatened to make a row" Eric

"Why shouldn't they try for higher wages? We try for the highest possible prices" Eric

"A chain of events" The Inspector

"We don't live alone. We are members of one body. We are responsible for each other." The Inspector

"Public men, Mr Birling, have responsibilities as well as privileges." The Inspector

"If men will not learn that lesson, then they will be taught it in fire and blood and anguish" The Inspector

"Everything's all right now, Sheila. What about this ring?" Gerald. "No, not yet. It's too soon. I must think." Sheila