

## Character Perspective Task Sheet

**Directions:** Choose one of the options below for a creative piece of writing. Then read the corresponding task card for further guidance.

Options	Role	Audience	Format	Topic
Option 1	Mr Birling	The Chief Constable of Brumley	Formal letter	Complaining about the Inspector's visit
Option 2	Mrs Birling	A close friend	Email correspondence	Family life and Sheila's engagement to Gerald
Option 3	Sheila	Eva Smith and those at her funeral	Speech	Apologising for her behaviour
Option 4	Eric	Readers of an influencer's blog	Blog post	The challenges of family life
Option 5	Gerald	A newspaper agony column	Advice letter	Advice about whether or not to reveal his affair with Eva Smith
Option 6	The Inspector	The Birlings and Gerald	Speech	Social responsibility and universe of obligation
Option 7	Edna	To a close friend	Informal letter	Working for the Birlings and the Inspector's visit

## Task Cards

### Option One: Mr Birling

*It was a real inconvenience! To be celebrating a special occasion and to be interrupted by an inspector with such a rude and unpleasant manner. He didn't even care that I was once Lord Mayor.*

You are Mr Birling and are writing a formal letter of complaint to the Chief Constable. You wish to inform him about Inspector Goole's interactions with your family members during his visit, which interrupted the family celebration of your daughter's engagement.

**Remember to:**

- Refer to what happened during the Inspector's visit and how you felt about it;
- Write in a familiar style and include the features of a letter (address, date, greeting, sign-off);
- Include descriptive details that outline your feelings and experiences, using a range of literary devices (similes, metaphors, repetition, rhetorical questions, adjectives, etc.).

### Option Two: Mrs Birling

*Sheila is engaged! And to a man of Gerald's manners and standing! Such a clever man too; Sheila will need to ensure she does everything she can to keep him happy...*

You are Mrs Birling and are writing an email correspondence to your friend who lives in another part of the country to update her with news of your family.

**Remember to:**

- Refer to your children, Sheila and Eric, and any relevant domestic news;
- Write in a familiar style and include the features of an email (email address, greeting, sign-off);
- Include descriptive details that outline your feelings and experiences, using a range of literary devices (similes, metaphors, repetition, rhetorical questions, adjectives, etc.).

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### Option Three: Sheila

*I feel dreadful, absolutely dreadful. I can see how my act of anger has done you so much harm, and knowledge of this crushes me and makes my body pulse with shame.*

You are delivering a speech at the funeral of Eva Smith to apologise to her for the role you played in her death.

#### Remember to:

- Refer to your knowledge of your role in her death and your knowledge of her experiences as a worker for Birlings and Company, as well as your shared identity as young women and what that makes you feel;
- Include the features of a speech (initial greeting, direct address, final sign-off);
- Include persuasive literary devices (repetition, rhetorical questions, emotive/descriptive language, inclusive pronouns, etc.).

### Option Four: Eric

*I find family dinners tedious. Father is always talking and talking and talking, and it feels like he doesn't have much concern for what anyone else has to say. I can't help drinking more than I ought to in such situations.*

You are Eric and you are writing a guest post about the challenges of family life for your influencer friend's popular blog.

#### Remember to:

- Refer to family life, your relationships with your family, and the arrival of the inspector, as well as your feelings;
- Write in a familiar style and include the features of a blog post (title, date);
- Include descriptive details that outline your feelings and experiences, using a range of literary devices (similes, metaphors, repetition, rhetorical questions, adjectives, etc.).

### Option Five: Gerald

*Sheila was always very perceptive. Last summer she knew that something odd was going on, and now it is bound to all come tumbling out.*

You are Gerald and you are writing a letter to a newspaper agony column asking for advice about whether or not to tell Sheila about your affair with Daisy Renton.

#### Remember to:

- Refer to where you were last summer, your relationships with both Sheila and Daisy Renton, and your feelings about the Inspector;
- Write in a familiar style and include the features of an agony column letter (date, anonymous sign-off – not using your real name);
- Include descriptive details that outline your feelings and experiences, using a range of literary devices (similes, metaphors, repetition, rhetorical questions, adjectives, etc.).

### Option Six: Inspector Goole

*There seems to be a total absence of empathy for the lives of those less fortunate than yourselves. Your comfort and riches have built up a barrier that has prevented you from understanding the needs of those who are different from you.*

You are Inspector Goole and you are giving a speech to the Birlings and Gerald about social responsibility and the concept of universe of obligation.

#### Remember to:

- Refer to the behaviour of the family members towards Eva Smith and the great disparities that exist in society due to class and wealth;
- Include the features of a speech (initial greeting, direct address, final sign-off);
- Include persuasive literary devices (repetition, rhetorical questions, emotive/descriptive language, inclusive pronouns, etc.).

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### Option Seven: Edna

*I have become quite accustomed to waiting on them, so much so that I often forget who I am and what my needs are. It is a strange life being surrounded by wealth and yet being impoverished.*

You are Edna and you are writing a letter to your friend back in your home town (since you now live with the Birlings), telling her about your life and your working situation in the Birling household, as well as the visit by the mysterious Inspector Goole.

#### Remember to:

- Refer to what it is like working for the Birlings and your life as a servant, and your suspicions about why Inspector Goole is questioning them;
- Write in a familiar style and include the features of a letter (address, date, greeting, sign-off);
- Include descriptive details that outline your feelings and experiences, using a range of literary devices (similes, metaphors, repetition, rhetorical questions, adjectives, etc.).

