***An Inspector Calls***

*You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this question.*

**You should use the extract below and your knowledge of the whole play to answer**

**this question.**

Write about the character of Mr Birling and the way he is presented in *An Inspector Calls*.

In your response you should:

refer to the extract and the play as a whole;

show your understanding of characters and events in the play.

[40]

*5 of this question’s marks are allocated for accuracy in spelling, punctuation and the use of*

*vocabulary and sentence structures.*

**BIRLING:** (taking it in the same manner) **Yes, you don't know what some of these boys get up to nowadays** . More money to spend and time to spare than I had when I was Eric’s age. They worked us hard in those days and kept us short of cash. Though even then – we broke out and had a bit of fun sometimes.

**GERALD:** I’ll bet you did.

**BIRLING: (solemnly)** But this is the point. I don't want to lecture you two young fellows again. **But what so many of you don't seem to understand now**, when things are so much easier, is that **a man has to make his own way - has to look after himself** - and his family too, of course, when he has one – and so long as he does that he won't come to much harm. But the way some of these cranks talk and write now, you'd think everybody has to look after everybody else, **as if we were all mixed up together like bees in a hive - community and all that nonsense**. But take my word for it, you youngsters - and I've learnt in the good hard school of experience - that a man has to mind his own business and look after himself and his own - and -

**WE HEAR THE SHARP RING OF A DOOR BELL. BIRLING STOPS TO LISTEN.**

**ERIC:** Somebody at the front door.

**BIRLING: Edna'll answer it**. Well, have another glass of port, Gerald - **and then we'll join the ladies**. That'll stop me giving you good advice.

**ERIC:** Yes, you've piled it on a bit tonight, father.

**BIRLING:**Special occasion. And feeling contented, for once, I wanted you to have the benefit of my experience.