**Paragraph 4 – Blunt and Caustic**

**OVERALL** – Can be rude and direct, using emotive language to evoke guilt

- ‘She wasn’t pretty when I saw her today’ ‘The girl’s dead though’
- No attempt to make the Birlings feel comfortable
- Declarative sentence – uses blunt but emotive language
- Somewhat inhumane – seems unaffected by her suffering
- But also level-headed/put together
- Able to separate work and his feelings – Contrast to horror of Birlings (Eric – ‘My God!’ Sheila – ‘Oh – How horrible!’)
- ‘Each of you helped to kill her. Remember that. Never forget it.’
- Talks at length for one of the first times – contrasts mostly monosyllabic inputs earlier on – THIS IS IMPORTANT
- Declarative sentence – very matter-of-fact – No sympathy at all, wants them to feel guilty
- Short phrases and imperatives for impact – EMPHATIC
- ‘It’s my duty to ask questions’ (1) – Shuts down argument quickly
- ‘You needn’t give me any rope’ (2)

**AUDIENCE RESPONSE** – Reinforces the idea of the Inspector as an omniscient and unbiased narrator of the story. Builds up trust between audience and Inspector

**Paragraph 5 - Wryly Sardonic**

**OVERALL** - Mocks characters’ ignorance by turning characters’ actions/words against them

- ‘I know why she needed help...You have no hope of not discussing it’ (2)
- Manipulates Mrs. Birling’s words and uses them against her
- Deeper emphasis on words shows him becoming more forceful
- Priestley insists on this phrasing by italicizing words – Not up for interpretation
- Rather matter-of-fact in how he corrects her
- ‘Make an example of the young man, eh? Public – a man of responsibility – um?’ (2)
- ‘eh’ and ‘um’ are embolalia (verbal fillers) which typically show lack of control or intelligence
- Paired with rhetorical questions, they show mockery of Mrs. Birling’s ignorance
- Dramatic Irony – if the Inspector represents Priestley, does he count as a character? And if he doesn’t then the knowledge is in the mind of Inspector knows the young man is Eric

**AUDIENCE RESPONSE** – Makes Birlings question themselves and, by extension, the audience. They question their own morals as the Inspector reveals the truth behind their professional personas