

English Literature Paper 2: 'An Inspector Calls' and poetry anthology - Vocabulary List

Word	Definition	In a sentence	Synonyms
1. Abhorrent	Adjective: something that provokes disgust or loathing.	<i>To watch someone being hurt and purposely do nothing about it is abhorrent.</i>	Detestable Despicable
2. Altruistic	Adjective: a person unselfishly concerned for or devoted to the welfare of others.	<i>It is very rare that a large corporation behaves altruistically.</i>	Selfless Philanthropic
3. Apathetic	Adjective: a lack of interest, enthusiasm, or concern	<i>He condemned the apathetic society that was unwilling to change.</i>	Indifferent Disinterested
4. Callous	Adjective: showing or having an insensitive and cruel disregard for others.	<i>His callous comments about the murder made me shiver.</i>	Heartless Cruel
5. Culpable	Adjective: considered responsible for something bad that had happened/ deserving to be blamed.	<i>He was held culpable for what had happened in the house on that fateful night.</i>	Guilty Responsible
6. Disempowered	Adjective: describing someone whose confidence and feeling of control has been taken away by someone or something else.	<i>By not letting them speak, the leader left his workers feeling disempowered.</i>	Eroded Thwarted
7. Disparage	Verb: to regard or treat a person or people as if they are insignificant and of little worth to society.	<i>He never missed an opportunity to disparage anyone he viewed as weak.</i>	Belittle Marginalise
8. Egocentric	Adjective: thinking only of oneself, without regard for the feelings or desires of others.	<i>The egocentric attitude of the politician angered his constituents.</i>	Self-centred Self-absorbed
9. Emblematic	Adjective: representing a particular person, group or idea.	<i>A sword is emblematic of power.</i>	Symbolic Indicative
10. Exploitation	Noun: the act of using someone unfairly for your own advantage.	<i>The ruthless exploitation of the workers did not go unnoticed.</i>	Manipulation Victimisation
11. Feign	Verb: pretending to be affected by something i.e. a feeling.	<i>She feigned enthusiasm at the very disappointing film.</i>	Pretend Act

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12. Hostile	Adjective: showing or feeling opposition or dislike.	<i>The writer behaved in a hostile manner towards her critics.</i>	Antagonistic Aggressive
13. Impoverished	Adjective: very poor.	<i>The impoverished young actor relied on the help of others to support his career.</i>	Destitute Poverty-stricken
14. Influential	Adjective: having a lot of power on someone or something.	<i>It cannot be underestimated how influential their music has been to so many people.</i>	Powerful Instrumental
15. Narcissistic	Adjective: having too much interest in and admiration for yourself.	<i>She was self-absorbed and narcissistic, according to people who knew her.</i>	Vain Conceited
16. Omniscient	Adjective: all knowing/ having or seeming to have unlimited knowledge.	<i>The character's omniscience made him seem invincible.</i>	All-knowing Almighty
17. Penitent	Adjective: feeling regret for something you have done, and showing a desire to put it right.	<i>"I'm sorry," she said, in a penitent voice.</i>	Regretful Rueful
18. Persecuted	Verb: to subject (someone) to hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of their race or political or religious beliefs.	<i>Those who fought against the regime were ruthlessly persecuted.</i>	Punished Tormented
19. Remorseful	Adjective: to be sorry for something you have done or said.	<i>She was genuinely remorseful for her actions after she understood the damage they had done.</i>	Contrite Repentant
20. Repugnant	Adjective: extremely distasteful; unacceptable.	<i>His selfishness is utterly repugnant.</i>	Repulsive Repellent
21. Submissive	Adjective: allowing yourself to be controlled by others.	<i>He expected the children to be submissive and obey his every word.</i>	Compliant Acquiescent
22. Supercilious	Adjective: behaving in a superior way towards others.	<i>The supercilious teacher refused to help the children in class.</i>	Condescending Disdainful
23. Transcend	Verb: to surpass somebody or something.	<i>She was able to transcend her own suffering and help others.</i>	Surpass Eclipse
24. Unabashed	Adjective: not embarrassed, disconcerted or ashamed.	<i>The girls were unabashed by the shocked reaction to their poor behaviour.</i>	Unashamed Unrepentant

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