



ENGLISH

Welcome to the English Super Curriculum. Below you'll find a whole host of things to do to stretch yourself beyond the classroom curriculum.

Let's take a look at this month's focus: J.B. Priestley.

READ

J.B. Priestley had a wide range of writing talents and was a highly regarded orator. He later moved into drama, becoming a celebrated playwright.

Dangerous Corner (1932) was the first of many plays that captured the public's imagination. His best-known work, *An Inspector Calls* (1945), is now a GCSE text exploring social injustice in post-war Britain.

Many of his plays were influenced by J.W. Dunne's theory of time, which shaped their plots. Check out these pages for more information:

[Biography](#) - [jbpriestleysociety.com](#)

WATCH

Take a look at this clip of an adaptation of *An Inspector Calls*:

[Scene from An Inspector Calls](#) - YouTube

This is the Inspector's speech which is full of rhetoric (persuasive language).

What techniques can you spot?

How does the Inspector come across as a character?

How do the other characters act towards his speech?

LISTEN

Did you know that Priestley composed regular radio broadcasts during the Second World War called *Postscripts*? He was second only to Churchill in popularity with listeners. Listen to the commentary:

[Archive on 4: Whatever Happened to JB Priestley?](#) - BBC Radio 4

[Archive on 4: Priestley's Postscripts](#) - Imperial War Museums

DO

Write a dialogue between two characters who are exploring something linked to the theme of morality. Consider:

Setting

The characters' backgrounds

Conflict

Think carefully about how you reveal information, and feel free to use stage directions.