Teaching notes

Show your students the trailer for the 2011/2012 West End production of An Inspector Calls:

http://www.aninspectorcalls.com/#/video/

or

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7jGR61PM6k

You may need to show this clip more than once.

The questions that follow are based on de Bono’s six thinking hats and colour-coded accordingly. Students could be given just one colour so that they ‘wear’ a specific hat, or you could get them to answer just a couple of questions for each colour to expand their thinking. If you’re feeling brave, you could ask them all to answer all of the questions!
De Bono’s detective skills

White hat

What evidence can you find for the historical period in which the play is set?

What can we predict about the play’s setting?

What lighting effects were used in this production?

What can we assume about the play’s characters?

What clues are there about the events in the play?

Red hat

What do the lighting effects suggest about the emotions in the play?

How does the music make you feel?

What can you predict about the play’s themes?

Black hat

What difficulties might the characters face?

What, if anything would put you off watching a production of *An Inspector Calls* based on this trailer?

Are there any characters or events that make you feel uneasy?
De Bono’s detective skills

Yellow hat

What do you like the look of based on your viewing of this trailer?

What, if anything, would make you want to watch a production of *An Inspector Calls*, based on this trailer?

What do the reviews suggest about this particular production?

Green hat

How else could you inspire theatre-goers to see this production?

What questions do you have about the play from viewing just this trailer?

How would this trailer be different if the lighting and music were changed?

Have you got any ideas about what you would use instead?

Blue hat

How does the director combine different elements to have an effect on you?

What key words are spoken by the actors? What could you guess about their significance?

What stands out most for you from watching this trailer?