These terms could be applied to the Inspector at various stages in the play. Read the definitions, then decide how his words from Act Two fit each role. Use the Venn diagram to sort the quotations into the relevant category, and remember that you can use the space between the categories for any that fit more than one category.

**Humanist philosopher:** concerned for the welfare, values and dignity of human beings, and who believes that reason and strong moral values can be guiding principles for life.

**Social commentator:** expresses opinions on the state of society, usually with the intention of rebelling against popular thought.

**Story-teller:** hooks the audience’s interest; introduces characters; establishes a sense of place; suggests the themes and ideas the play will explore; sets up the story or the structure around which the play will progress.

**Quotations:**

1. And you think young women ought to be protected against unpleasant and disturbing things?


3. Miss Birling has just been made to understand what she did to this girl. She feels responsible.

4. You see, we have to share something. If there’s nothing else, we’ll have to share our guilt.

5. No, he’s a young man. And some young men drink far too much.

6. At the end of January last year, this girl Eva Smith had to leave Milwards, because Miss Birling compelled them to discharge her, and then she stopped being Eva Smith, looking for a job, and became Daisy Renton, with other ideas.

7. She was a woman. She was lonely. Were you in love with her?

8. Your daughter isn’t living on the moon. She’s here in Brumley too.
9. I think she went away – to be alone, to be quiet, to remember all that had happened between you.

10. She felt there would never be anything as good again for her – so she had to make it last longer.

11. You’re not telling me the truth.

12. Public men, Mr Birling, have responsibilities as well as privileges.

13. You’ll remember that Mr Croft told us – quite truthfully, I believe – that he hadn’t spoken to or seen Eva Smith since last September. But Mrs Birling spoke to and saw her only two weeks ago.

14. I think you did something terribly wrong – and that you’re going to spend the rest of your life regretting it.

15. ... this girl was going to have a child.

16. ... she’d been turned out and turned down too many times. This was the end.

17. She came to you for help, at a time when no woman could have needed it more. And you not only refused it yourself, but saw to it that the others refused it too.

18. She was here alone, friendless, almost penniless, desperate. She needed not only money but advice, sympathy, friendliness.

19. You’ve had children. You must have known what she was feeling. And you slammed the door in her face.

20. Her position now is that she lies with a burnt-out inside on a slab.

When you have finished sorting the quotations into the relevant parts of the Venn, answer the question below, using the evidence you have gathered to help explain your answer.

To what extent is the Inspector actually the voice of Priestley himself, in terms of being a story teller, a social commentator and a humanist philosopher?