**Plot sequence – in order**

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| **Storyline event** | **Key word/phrase to use to remember it** |
| The story begins with Arthur Birling, a wealthy, self-made man, hosting an **engagement party** for his daughter, Sheila. | Engagement party |
| Arthur tells Gerald that he knows that his daughter isn’t the same class as him, but he expects to be **knighted** soon, which will fix that. | Expects knighthood |
| Arthur then gives a speech with lots of **incorrect predictions** about no-one wanting a war, the Titanic being unsinkable and there being no danger of any strikes happening. | Incorrect predictions |
| The **Inspector arrives** and Arthur is surprised not to have heard of him because of how he has been Lord Mayor and a magistrate | Inspector arrives |
| The Inspector announces Eva Smith has died and Arthur eventually admits to having **employed her and sacking her** for striking 2 years ago. Arthur doesn’t feel guilty. | Arthur sacked Eva |
| Sheila then admits to having got **Eva sacked** from Milwards. She regrets her actions. | Sheila gets Eva sacked |
| Gerald admits to having had an **affair with Daisy** Renton, which is another name Eva used.  | Gerald’s affair with Daisy (Eva) |
| Mrs Birling admits to **refusing to help Eva** with her charity’s money, before realising she was carrying her own grandchild | Mrs Birling refused Eva help |
| Eric also admits to having had an **affair with Eva** and having a drinking problem | Eric’s affair with Eva |
| The Inspector delivers his **final speech** about responsibility, socialism and treating each other well and then leaves. | Inspector’s final speech |
| The family wonder whether he actually was a **real police officer**. | Inspector real? |
| Arthur calls the hospital who confirm they have had **no suicide** for weeks | No suicides |
| Sheila and Eric still feel guilty and have learned their lesson, but Mr and Mrs Birling celebrate as if they have done nothing wrong, with a clear **divide emerging within the family** | The family is divided |
| Arthur answers the telephone and discovers a **police inspector is on his way** to ask some questions.  | Police inspector coming |