Re-read the play and summarise the key events from each Act in your own words

**Act1 Scene 1**

**Act 1 Scene 2**

**Act 2 Scene 1**

Act 2 Scene 2

Act 3

**‘Men Should Weep’ - Sample 10 mark questions**

1. **Extract** from Act 1, Scene 1 (starting stage direction, *‘Edie comes in and goes across to the window’* p5*)* to *‘... the teacher taks it in tae her impudent heid tae look the morn.’* p7)

**Explain what differences are established between Maggie and Lily in this scene, and discuss to what extent these differences are maintained in the rest of the play. (10)**

1. **Extract** from Act 1, scene 2 p20 (‘John: *You get intae bed…’*) - p22 *(‘…when they’re needin help.’*)

**By referring to this extract and elsewhere in the play, discuss how the impact of poverty on the family is revealed. (10)**

1. **Extract** from Act Two, sc1 *‘I dinna ken whit wey…’* to *‘I’m crying for Jenny’* pp38-40.

**By referring to this extract and elsewhere in the play, discuss how parent-child relationships are explored in the play. (10)**

1. **Extract** from Act 2, Scene 2, starting Isa *‘Oh ho! Ye’ve done it on yersel noo, Daddy* (p45) … to John *‘Don’t ca me daddy.’* (p47)

**Explain what is revealed about Isa’s attitude towards men in this scene, and discuss to what extent her attitude towards men differs from that of any one other woman in the play as a whole. (10)**

1. **Extract** from Act 3 (from *‘Maggie: Whit aboot Jenny?’* p61 to *‘Lily: Come oan!’* p63).

**By referring to this section and elsewhere in the play, discuss how the relationship between Maggie and Lily is developed. (10)**

**Example 10 Mark Question**

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| **Commonality**  **(2 marks)** | *Maggie and Lily have very different lives. Maggie is a married mother of seven children with an unemployed husband, they are living in dreadful housing and Maggie is desperately struggling to make ends meet at the start of the play. In contrast, Lily is unmarried with no children, has a job and is relatively comfortable, certainly compared to Maggie at the start, although this gap has narrowed by the end of the play and their relationship is closer.* |
| **Extract**  **(2 marks)** | *Lily is critical of Maggie as a home-maker: the children are poorly clothed, somewhat unwashed and she thinks Maggie handles her money badly:*  *‘****Lily*** *(despairing) Maggie, ye’re aye in the same pickle.’*  *Maggie, on the other hand, thinks Lily has no real understanding of the impossibility of her situation: the family is dependent on hand-outs and the simple fact is there is just not enough money to go round:*  *‘****Maggie*** *Lily, money disnae stretch...A ten shillingy note’s no a ten shillingy note ony langer.’*  *Maggie understands, in a way she believes Lily never will, that her situation at the moment is more or less impossible and so she just has to make the best of it.* |
| **Other 1**  **(2 marks)** | *While Lily remains critical of Maggie as a home-maker; as the play progresses Maggie does come to understand that she has to be more proactive and certainly less accepting of her lot in life:*  *‘It’s no fair! Naebody lifts a haun tae help me! I’ve tae go oot charrin a day and then come hame tae this!’ (AII,sc2)*  *Maggie is starting to assert herself more and protests about being expected to do all the housework as well as work outside the home. Lily’s criticisms seem to have spurred her on to stick up for herself.* |
| **Other 2**  **(2 marks)** | *Lily remains highly critical of John throughout the play, but instead of defending him as she did at the start, Maggie’s attitude towards John changes:*  *‘****Maggie*** *(turning on him fiercely) Who earned that money? You or me?’ (AII,sc2)*  *It is clear that Maggie resents John telling her how she can and cannot spend the money she has earned when he is not bringing in any money himself and this is one of the first occasions where she stands up to him and refuses to do as he wants.* |
| **Other 3**  **(2 marks)** | *Lily remains quite a critical, austere, practical figure who often goes aggressively on the attack (for example with John and with Jenny). She is mainly critical and judgmental in the extract, but elsewhere we see the much softer, more sympathetic and caring aspects of her character. For example, she always tries to help the Morrisons out with food and medicine:*  *‘(Lily takes from her shopping bag a tin of baked beans and a bottle of cough mixture)’*  *Despite her harsh, abrupt manner, it is clear that she cares for her sister and her family and she goes out of the way to help and support them.* |
| **TOTAL: 10** |  |

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| **‘Men Should Weep’ Quotations** |
| **Poor quality housing**  Mrs W: It’s the street. Your Alec’s street. The hooses has collapsed.  Jenny: It’s rotten, this hoose. Rotten. Damp. Ye ken yersel. It’s a midden lookin oot on ither middens. It’s got rats, bugs - - |
| **Lack of food and malnutrition**  Maggie: black pudding…on Wednesday, gingerbread on Sunday, forby a the cest-affs and the odd bobs…  Granny: It seems a lang while since I had onythin. There wouldna be a wee drap left in the pot, Maggie?  Lily: Whit’s this ye’re eatin? Bread and jam at this time o night? Are ye no ashamed o yersel?  Maggie: get a ninepenny worth o chips, two pies an a tin o consensed. Then tae the bake an see if there’s any stale tea- breid left.  Maggie – getting rotten fruit / veg from Jenny’s shop |
| **Unsanitary conditions**  *Nappies hang on a string across the fireplace and the table, dresser, etc. are in a clutter.*  *From the back parlour comes the sound of Bertie coughing. It is a TB cough and it continues intermittently throughout the scene.*  *She (M) seizes her (Edie) and examines her head without mercy. …*M: Get oot the soap and flannel and dae yer neck in case the teacher taks it in tae her impudent head tae look the morn.’ |
| **Lack of income**  Maggie: money disnae stretch  Maggie: someday we’ll have a wireless son  Edie: I’ve nae breeks  Maggie: It’s only the rich folks can keep their selves to their selves. Folks like us huv tae depend in their neighbours when they’re needin help. |
| **Extreme poverty**  Maggie: I hate living in poverty  *She wears a miscellaneous collection of cast-off clothing*  **Stage Directions:** *A space has been cleared, centre, for a mattress on the floor with pillows, blankets and old coats.*  **Lily** (talking about Maggie): Livin in a slum an slavin efter a useless man an his greetin weans*.*  **Jenny** talking about her mum waiting at her work for rotten fruit: I had enough o Ma waitin at the shop door every Friday closing time...askin for chipped apples an bashed tomatoes an disgracing me afore the hale shop.  **Maggie:** *“An then rin across tae the baker an see if there’s ony stale tea-breid left.”* |
| **Granny’s living situation**  Granny: It’s awfu tae be aul an kicked aboot frae yin hoose tae the ither.  Lily: Gie her an aspirin and stick her in bed. *They both advance on Granny* Talk aboot a ball and chain!  Granny: I’m no gaun tae ma bed. Lily: Ye’ve nae choice the night.  Maggie (talking about Granny): I wish you could pit yersel tae bed. Ye’re as much bother an anither wean.  Granny: I’m jist an aul nuisance takin up room.  Mrs Wilson**:** old folks is an awfu problem.  Lizzie: I’m no takin in naebody tae feed. Folks that canna pay for their meat’ll find nae room in ma hoose. |
| **Maggie’s role in the household**  Lily (about Maggie): Livin in a slum and slaving efter a uselees man an his greetin weans.  Lily (about Maggie): The way you rin efter they weans is the bloomin limit. Nae wunner y’re hauf-deid  Maggie: Ye cannae help havin a midden o a hoose when there’s kids under yer feet a day. I dae the best I can.  *Maggie comes in. Clearly she is dead beat.*  Maggie: It’s no fair! Naebody lifts a haun tae help me! I’ve tae go oot charrin a day and then came hame tae this!  Maggie: I’ve din a hale copper-fu o washin an scrubbed three floors an the hale lot of yous had naethin tae dae but lie in yer beds! Ye couldna even wash up a dish for me. It’s me that aye has tae dae twa jobs when you get the sack. |