

A Scandal in Bohemia

Book key

- 1 Bohemia was in the area of the present-day Czech Republic.
- 2 Open answers
- 3 a inspector, lawyer, priest
b count, duke, lord
c diamond, ring
d bomb, scandal / Open answers
- 4 a Sherlock Holmes
b the King of Bohemia
c Irene Adler
d the daughter of the King of Scandinavia
e Irene Adler
f Godfrey Norton
g Sherlock Holmes
h Dr Watson
i Sherlock Holmes
- 5 a Irene Adler
b Irene Adler and the King of Bohemia together
c The King of Scandinavia is afraid of any scandal. He will stop the King of Bohemia's marriage to his daughter if he sees the photograph.
d No. Irene Adler leaves the country and takes the photograph with her. While she has it, the King of Bohemia will not hurt her.
- 6 a Holmes dresses as a driver to watch Irene Adler's house. He talks to another driver about Irene Adler and learns a lot about her. Then he follows her carriage and is the witness at her marriage to Godfrey Norton.
b Holmes dresses as a priest to get into Irene Adler's house after a street fight. He learns where Irene keeps the photograph.
- 7 Irene Adler beat Sherlock Holmes because she took the photograph of her and the King of Bohemia with her. Holmes could not give the photograph to the King. She beat Holmes because she followed him, as the old priest, to Baker Street. She learned who he really was.
- 8 a Irene Adler: I am happy because I have a good husband. He is a better man than the King of Bohemia. I also have the photograph so the King cannot hurt me.
b the King of Bohemia: I am happy because I married the King of Scandinavia's daughter. Nobody will ever see the photograph because Irene Adler has it. She promised to keep it secret.
- 9 Open answers
- 10 a 8 b 5 c 7 d 2 e 9 f 3 g 1 h 4 i 6
- 11 a To catch the bank robbers.
b Dr Watson, Inspector Lestrade and Mr Merryweather
c John Clay and Duncan Ross
d No. Sherlock Holmes stops the crime.
- 12 a Vincent Spaulding spends a lot of time in the underground room of Mr Wilson's shop. Spaulding shows Mr Wilson the notice about the Red-Headed League. The Red-Headed League pays its men very well. Mr Wilson gets a place in the League because his hair is very bright red. The League gives Mr Wilson the strange job of copying a dictionary. The League closes suddenly. Nobody in the building knows about the League or about Duncan Ross. Vincent Spaulding works for half the usual pay. The City Bank is behind Mr Wilson's shop. There are 30,000 gold pieces in boxes in an underground room there. Spaulding is alone in Mr Wilson's shop every morning. Holmes hits the ground near the shop. Then he knows there is a hole under it. Holmes sees earth on Spaulding's trousers. Spaulding's real name is John Clay. Holmes knows that he is a famous thief.
- b The Red-Haired League was a strange idea. It didn't seem real. Mr Wilson's job of copying a dictionary was also strange. They closed the League suddenly and before they finished their job at the City Bank. People saw Spaulding with earth on the knees of his trousers.
- 13 Open answers
- 14 a ✓ b ? c ✗ d ✓ e ? f ✓ g ✗ h ✓
i ✓ j ✗ k ✗ l ?
- 15 a He was a criminal in Australia, and he gets very rich. He murders Charles McCarthy. He is Alice's father.
b He is the dead man. He hates John Turner. He doesn't want his son, James, to marry Alice Turner.
c He is Charles McCarthy's son. The police think that he killed his father.

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- d She is John Turner's daughter. She loves James McCarthy and asks Sherlock Holmes to help him.
- e James McCarthy thinks that he married her. But she was already married.
- 16 a** Sherlock Holmes sees the marks of these shoes near the murder.
- b** This is used to kill Charles McCarthy.
- c** It belongs to the murderer. James sees it, but it disappears after the murder.
- d** This is part of Charles McCarthy's last word: Ballarat. It ties John Turner to the murder.
- e** Charles McCarthy often shouts this at an Australian or at his son.
- 17** He probably makes it because John Turner is going to die soon.
- 18** Open answers
- 19 a** hotel doorman
- b** hotel worker/repairman
- c** hotel waiter
- d** unemployed
- e** hotel owner
- f** market seller
- g** farmers (they keep and sell chickens)
- h** works for Lady Morcar
- 20** Lady Morcar has the blue diamond with her at the Cosmopolitan Hotel. James Ryder steals the diamond and puts it in a chicken at the farm of his sister (Mrs Oakshott). Then he takes the wrong chicken when he leaves the farm. The chicken with the diamond is sold to Mr Breckenridge at Covent Garden market. He sells it and about twenty more to Mr Windigate at the Alpha Hotel. Henry Baker buys the chicken from Mr Windigate. Then Henry Baker is attacked at three o'clock in the morning. He runs away and Peterson gets his hat and chicken. Mr and Mrs Peterson eat the chicken and find the diamond. Peterson takes it to Sherlock Holmes. Holmes returns it to Lady Morcar.
- 21–22** Open answers
- 23 a** LS **b** HD **c** LS **d** HD **e** LS **f** LS
g LS **h** HD **i** HD **j** LS **k** HD **l** HD
m HD **n** LS
- 24 a** the Duke of Balmoral
- b** a rich Californian/Mr Aloysius Doran
- c** Frank Moulton
- d** California
- e** dead
- f** St George's Church
- g** a white dress, a pair of white shoes and some flowers
- h** the country/England
- 25–26** Open answers
- 27 a** poor, no job
- b** a lot of money, his son
- c** short, blue
- d** dangerous
- e** second, isn't, is
- f** window, funny
- g** small, grey
- h** a dangerous dog
- i** similar to, locked, a frightening noise
- j** Alice Rucastle
- k** Mr Rucastle
- l** Mr Fowler, Australia
- 28 a** Before: She was a teacher for five years for Mr Munro's children. It was difficult for her to find a new job. She was poor and hungry. During: She works for Mr Rucastle and discovers many strange things at Copper Beeches. After: She becomes a well-loved teacher in London.
- b** Before: He had a first wife and a daughter, called Alice. He didn't want Alice to marry Mr Fowler. He didn't want to give her the money from her mother. He wanted to keep it. He locked her in a room at the top of Copper Beeches. During: He gives Miss Hunter a job. She has to teach his son and has to cut her hair. He tells her funny stories when she sits near a window in a blue dress. Carlo, the dog, almost kills him. After: He is never very well.
- c** Before: no information
During: She is not ill, but she is sad. She gives Miss Hunter a blue dress to wear.
After: No information
- d** Before: Her mother died. She wanted to marry Mr Fowler but her father said no. She was locked in a room in Copper Beeches. She became ill. Her father and his wife cut her hair.
During: Miss Hunter hears her in the room upstairs. She escapes with Mrs Toller's and Mr Fowler's help.
After: She marries Mr Fowler and lives happily with him in Australia.

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- e** Before: He met Alice Rucastle, fell in love with her and wanted to marry her.
During: He watches Miss Violet Hunter sitting near a window in Copper Beeches. He thinks she is Alice. With Mrs Toller's help, he helps Alice escape.
After: He marries Alice and moves to Australia with her.
- f** Before: Mrs Toller tried to help Alice.
During: They work for Mr Rucastle. They are not very nice to Miss Hunter. Only Mr Toller can do anything with Carlo, the dangerous dog. Mrs Toller helps Alice to escape because Mr Fowler gives her money.
After: no information

29–39 Open answers

Discussion activities key

1–16 Open answers

Activity worksheets key

- 1** Suggested answers:
- Because he walks past his house and sees him at the window. He is thinking about something, so Watson decides to visit him.
 - Because he needs Sherlock Holmes's help.
 - She is very beautiful. She lives quietly and sings at concerts. She goes for a drive every day at five o'clock and always returns at seven o'clock for dinner. Only one man visits her. He is a lawyer and visits her every day. On the day that Sherlock Holmes watches her house, she gets married to the lawyer, Godfrey Norton.
 - He wants him to stand by the sitting room window. When Sherlock Holmes lifts his hand, Watson must throw a smoke bomb into the room, shout 'fire, fire!', then go to the end of the street and wait there.
 - He is dressed as a priest.
- 2** He has a beautiful carriage; he is rich; he tells Holmes to tell no one about his visit; he talks about a request from a King; he is from Bohemia; the newspapers say the King of Bohemia is in London.
- 3** a 2 b 4 c 1 d 6 e 3 f 5
- 4** Open answers
- 5** a Vincent Spaulding b Ezekiah Hopkins
c Jabez Wilson d Duncan Ross
- 6** a surprised b dictionary c both laughed
d in a carriage
- 7** a a gun / the men were dangerous criminals.
b that there was going to be a crime.
c because when he saw him he remembered who he was, a dangerous criminal.
d the police inspectors were waiting for him at the other end of the Square.
e digging a hole towards the City Bank.
- 8** Suggested answers:
- Mr Wilson, when he is offered a lot of money to work only a few hours a day to copy a dictionary.
 - Holmes, or Watson, after hearing about the Red-Headed League.
 - Holmes when he listens to the description of Spaulding, actually John Clay.
 - Spaulding, actually John Clay, when Holmes and Watson knock on the door of Mr Wilson's shop very late at night.
- 9** a He had a card game
b He knew it would happen at the City Bank
c Watson did
d
- 10** a Because a man saw him following his father with a gun under his arm. A girl saw him and his father. They seemed to be fighting. Later, James McCarthy arrived at the girl's house, without his hat or gun and with blood on his shirt. The gun and hat were found near his father's body.
b No, he says that he didn't kill his father.
c He saw something grey. Perhaps it was a coat.
d Because Charles McCarthy wanted his son to marry Alice. James was already married, but couldn't tell his father.
e She tells him that they were never really married. She already had a husband when they married.
- 11** a Because the grass was growing under it, so it was only put there a few days ago. And the shape of the stone fits the mark on McCarthy's head.
b Because he stood behind McCarthy and hit him on the left side of his head.
c Because his left foot made a deeper mark in the mud, as he puts less weight on his right foot. He does this because he has a bad right leg.
d Because he takes long steps when he walks.
- 12** a
b by the lake
c the son did not know anything
d
e

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13 Suggested answers:

- a already married.
- b 'cooee' and 'rat'.
- c he had a bad right foot.
- d he had about a month to live.
- e he signed a letter telling what he did, his daughter would never know his secret.

14 a 2 b 7 c 6 d 4 e 1 f 5 g 3

15 Suggested answers:

- a Lady Morcar / Cosmopolitan Hotel.
- b he had stolen something before.
- c he looked really frightened.

16 Robert Simon is the son of the Duke of *Balmoral*. He is *forty-one* years old and plans to marry Hatty, the *only* daughter of a rich *American*. On the day of the wedding, Hatty *disappears*.

17 a ✓ b ? c ✗ d ✓ e ✓

- 18 a Violet Hunter to Mr Rucastle, because he wants her to cut her hair.
- b Holmes to Watson, because he knows Violet Hunter will need their help soon.
- c Mr Rucastle to Miss Hunter, asking her to put a blue dress on.
- d Mrs Rucastle to Mr Rucastle, because Violet has seen the man in her mirror.

- 19 a Because she goes to the top floor of the house. Mr Rucastle is very angry with her. He tells her not to go there again.
- b They see nobody in the room. The window is open. There are some wooden steps resting against the roof.
- c He shoots the dog.
- d Because Mr Rucastle wants to keep the money that her mother left her.

Progress test key

- 1 a When the King visits Sherlock Holmes, he is wearing a mask.
- b Irene Adler was a singer.
- c The King needs Irene to give him back a photograph of them together.
- d Irene falls in love with Godfrey Norton and marries him.
- e Irene decides to keep the photograph but promises not to show it to anybody.
- 2 a ✗ There were many men.
- b ✓
- c ✗ Every day during the first month and only on Saturdays afterwards.
- d ✓
- e ✗ He was the cheapest.
- 3 a 1 b 2 c 1 d 1
- 4 a friends
- b gun
- c hit him
- d 'Cooee'
- e badly hurt
- f were driven in a carriage
- 5 a ✓ b ✗ c ✗ d ✓ e ✗ f ✓
- 6 a ✗ b ✓ c ✗ d ✓ e ✓ f ✗
- 7 a 1 b 2 c 5 d 4 e 3