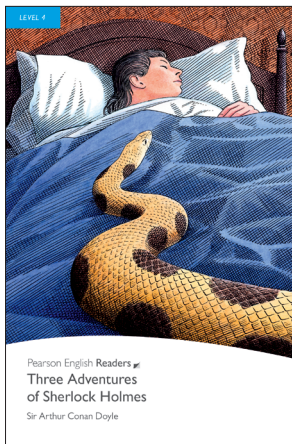


Three Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle



About the author

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was born in Edinburgh in 1859. He studied medicine in Edinburgh and practised until 1890, when he became a full-time writer. He first introduced the character of Sherlock Holmes to the public in 1888 in *A Study in Scarlet*. He published stories involving Holmes in *The Strand* magazine, and Holmes quickly became famous. He published many Holmes stories in the magazine but wanted to be considered as a serious writer, so he decided to kill off Holmes. The last Sherlock Holmes story ends with Holmes apparently falling to his death with his enemy, Moriarty. But Conan Doyle was offered large amounts of money to write more stories, which he did. Arthur Conan Doyle died in 1930, but his hero is still very much alive today.

Summary

The Speckled Band

What is the speckled band? A headscarf? A group of gypsies? Whatever it is, it killed Helen's twin sister Julia just before her marriage. Now Helen herself, also on the verge of marriage, fears for her life. She calls in Sherlock Holmes, who discovers that her stepfather, Dr Roylott, recently of India, enjoys his modest income from the will of his late wife only until each of the daughters marries. He therefore had a strong motive for Julia's death and may also be plotting against Helen too. But how could he have killed Julia? She died in a locked and barred bedroom, with no apparent signs of violence. The only peculiar facts are the bell rope, which goes nowhere, the fixing of the bed beneath it and a ventilator which only connects with another room. Oh, and the low whistle and sound of metal that was heard at the time of Julia's death.

Holmes and Watson lie in wait in Helen's room and suddenly, there it is – the speckled band – in fact, a deadly snake, slithering down the bell rope onto the bed. Holmes beats it with his stick and it returns from whence it came, through the ventilator into Dr Roylott's room, where it fatally bites its master.

The Five Orange Pips

Why should Elias Openshaw, an ex-planter from the southern states of America, now living in Horsham, England, be afraid of five orange pips which arrive one day in an envelope marked KKK? Whatever the reason, his fears are justified as, within ten weeks, he is dead following an apparent accident. His brother, Joseph, inherits the house and eventually also receives five orange pips. This time it is only four days before he dies, again apparently accidentally. Now it is John Openshaw's turn to inherit the house and, it seems, the danger, as he too receives a letter with five orange pips. He goes to Sherlock Holmes but it is too late. On his way home, he also meets with an 'accident'.

Holmes does some research and discovers that KKK means Ku Klux Klan, a secret organisation against black people in the southern United States. He also realises that each letter with the pips was posted from a seaport, and the distance from the port to Horsham equates to the time before the letter and the death.

Therefore, the sender was on board ship, and only one ship from America matches the dates at each seaport. Holmes sends a letter to the ship, warning the murderers that he is on their trail, but the ship goes down and a higher authority exacts revenge.

The Crown of Diamonds

Alexander Holder lives with his son, Arthur, his niece, Mary, and a small team of servants including Lucy Parr. He is a respected banker with a reasonably happy home life, but then tragedy strikes and, in his own words, he stands to lose his good name, his diamonds and his son, all in one night. Mr Holder has lent money to an important personage and as security, he has been given a crown of diamonds. He takes the crown home and locks it away in a cupboard in his dressing room. Then he ensures that all doors and windows of his house are locked, but, that same night, he wakes to discover his son holding the damaged crown. A part of the crown, with three diamonds in it, is missing, and when accused of stealing the missing diamonds, Arthur refuses to explain his actions.

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Mr Holder turns him over to the police and goes to Sherlock Holmes for help.

Holmes feels that Arthur must be innocent. Why steal the crown, hide part of it then return to be discovered? And how could he break off the piece anyway? His suspicions fall on Holder's other relative, Mary, and he is able to prove that she stole the crown and passed it out of the window to her lover. Arthur realised what was happening and gave chase to the fleeing man. He managed to grab the crown and, in the struggle, a piece broke off. He was returning the crown to its rightful place when he was discovered. The thief presumably picked up the broken piece and sold it because Holmes is able to track it down and buy it back. But in the meantime, Mary has disappeared, probably to join her lover, the thief. Knowing the man for what he truly is, Holmes thinks this will be sufficient punishment for Mary.

Background and themes

Nowadays, in the English-speaking world at least, the detective story is one of the most popular forms of fiction, appearing as novels, plays and films. Yet the detective story is a relatively recent invention. In the 1840s, the American writer, Edgar Allen Poe, wrote three stories, including *The Murders in the Rue Morgue*, which are considered to be the predecessors of the detective story. There are, however, earlier fictional instances of the use of deductive processes, which lie at the heart of the detective story. The genre appeared in England with the detective in the Dickens novel *Bleak House* and more completely in 1868 with the mystery *The Moonstone* by Dickens's friend, Wilkie Collins. But in all these cases the detective was a policeman, a professional.

Conan Doyle's detective, created in the 1880s, was an amateur with, apparently, an unlimited stock of knowledge about all manner of arcane subjects, such as tobaccos of the world and undetectable South American poisons. The Holmes stories also set the pattern of the witless sidekick – an extremely useful literary device – as it always gives someone who, like the reader in most cases, has not a clue what is going on and needs to be led like a child through the process of deduction.

The genre came to be known as whodunit (who has done it) because all the effort of the detective, and the readers, is to discover the perpetrator. But the television character

Columbo turned even that on its head, with cases in which the viewer knows who has done it from the first scene, but becomes enthralled in the manner in which the shambling detective traps the murderer.

Discussion activities

The Speckled Band

Before reading

- Discuss:** Ask students if they have read or seen any Sherlock Holmes stories. If any have, ask them what they can remember of the plot and the way that Holmes solves the crime.
- Guess:** Get students to speculate about the title of this short story. Ask them to check the meaning of the words 'speckled' and 'band' in the dictionary if necessary.

While reading

- Pair work:** (page 4) The twin sisters did not have a happy life after their mother died. Ask students to find the reasons why.
- Discuss:** (page 7) Get students to discuss what the police and the doctors didn't find after Julia's death?
- Discuss:** (page 8) Helen's situation now is similar to Julia's at the time of her death. Ask students to discuss the following: What are the similarities?
- Role play:** (page 12) Get students to act out the conversation between Sherlock Holmes and Helen when he tells her about her stepfather's visit to his place.
- Write:** Holmes finds a number of clues (on pages 13–17). Get students to complete his notes:
 - shutters that no-one could ...
 - building work which is ...
 - bell ropes which ...
 - ventilators which ...
 - a large iron box with a ... on top of it
 - a small dog lead with the end ...
 - a bed that is ..., near the bell rope and under the ventilator

After reading

- Discuss:** Ask students to imagine that Dr Roylott did not die from the snake bite but was arrested and interviewed by the police. Put them in pairs to role play the conversation between Roylott and the policeman, in which Roylott confesses everything.
- Group work:** Put students into groups to write a short 'locked room' story. A person dies in a room that is locked and barred. There are no signs of violence. How was the murder committed? Each group gives clues to the other students and they have to try to solve the murder.

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The Five Orange Pips

Before reading

- 10 Research:** Divide students into four groups. Tell them that these phrases appear in the story. Ask them to find information about the following:
- the KKK (Ku Klux Klan)
 - the American Civil War
 - planters in Florida
 - Jackson's Army
- Then they present a summary of their findings to the rest of the class.

While reading

- 11 Role play:** (after reading page 28) John Openshaw tells Holmes that the police listened to his story with a smile. Ask students to role play the conversation between John and a police detective after he received the letter from London.
- 12 Discuss:** (page 35) Holmes says he will find the murderers, and then the police can have them. Ask students to discuss the following: Where should he start his work? Why? What information must he find?

After reading

- 13 Write:** Ask students to work in groups and make up a story about how Elias Openshaw came to have the list of KKK members. They must write a paragraph about the events.
- 14 Group work:** Put students into groups and ask them to work out how John Openshaw was tricked into going down beside the river.

The Crown of Diamonds

Before reading

- 15 Guess:** Ask students to read the title of the story and the title of part on page 38. In groups, they discuss what this case might be about. Then have a class vote for the most interesting case.

While reading

- 16 Pair work:** (after reading page 49) Holmes assumes the man who brings the vegetables has a wooden leg. How did he work this out? Ask students to answer the question in pairs.

- 17 Discuss:** (After the end of part I on page 51) Ask students to discuss the following questions: What is Holmes thinking? What questions does he need to answer?
- 18 Role play:** (page 59) Holmes says he bought the diamonds back after some discussion. Ask students in pairs to role play the conversation between Holmes and the man who had the diamonds.

After reading

- 19 Group work:** Ask students to work in groups of four and act out the theft of the crown, the fight, the return of the damaged crown and the waking of Alexander. Each group must contain the following:
- Alexander Holder
 - Arthur
 - Mary
 - Sir George Burnwell
- 20 Role play:** The crown is damaged but the broken piece has been recovered. Put students into pairs to role play the conversation between Alexander Holder and the famous person, when he returns the £50,000 and gets his crown back. Does Alexander explain exactly what happened? How does the famous person react?

Extra activities

- 21 Discuss:** Ask students to discuss these questions: Which of the three stories in this book has meant the most interesting case for Holmes? Which did you enjoy the most? Why?
- 22 Discuss:** Point out to students that many Holmes stories have the basic problem as the title of the story e.g. *The Speckled Band* and *The Five Orange Pips*. Put students into groups to think of a strange title for a story, then give their title to another group, who must make up a story around the title.
- 23 Discuss:** Ask students in pairs to discuss the following question: What must a successful detective be like? What must he do to solve the extraordinary cases that people bring him? Then they share their opinions with the rest of the class.

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While reading

The Speckled Band

1 Match each name with one of the descriptions.

- a Sherlock Holmes
 - b Dr Watson
 - c Baker Street
 - d Mrs Hudson
 - e Mrs Farintosh
 - f Helen Stoner
 - g Dr Roylott
 - h Stoke Moran
 - i Calcutta
 - j Julia Stoner
- 1) a person who Holmes helped in the past
 - 2) a servant to Holmes and Watson
 - 3) a detective
 - 4) Helen Stoner's stepfather
 - 5) Helen's twin sister
 - 6) Holmes's friend and helper
 - 7) the woman who came to see Holmes early in the morning
 - 8) where Helen Stoner and Dr Roylott live
 - 9) where Dr Stoner worked in the past
 - 10) where Holmes and Watson live

2 Helen says (page 4) 'But our stepfather changed at about this time.'

Complete these sentences about Dr Roylott.

Use a verb from the box in each case.

allowed argued ended be controlled
 became shut liked made went
 threw was not reported

- a He himself away in the old house.
- b He with everyone.
- c His temper was worse by his time in prison.
- d Two terrible fights in the police court.
- e He the terror of the village.
- f He cannot when he is angry.
- g Last week he a man off a bridge into a stream.
- h This to the police because Helen paid money.
- i He travelling people to camp on his land.

- j Sometimes he away with them for several weeks.
- k He Indian animals which were sent over to him by a friend.

3 Put in order these events from the night of Julia's death.

- a Helen called loudly for her stepfather.
- b Helen heard a low whistle.
- c Helen heard a noise like metal falling.
- d Helen heard her sister scream.
- e Helen opened her bedroom door.
- f Helen ran down the passage.
- g Helen threw her arms round her sister.
- h Julia came out of her bedroom.
- i Julia fell to the ground.
- j Julia locked her bedroom door.
- k Julia pointed in the direction of the doctor's room.
- l Julia screamed, 'The speckled band!'
- m Julia went into her bedroom.

4 Match the word or words in each column to make phrases from the final part of the story.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| a bright | 1) band |
| b middle | 2) bird |
| c dark | 3) box |
| d long, thin | 4) candle |
| e box | 5) chair |
| f end | 6) clock |
| g terrible | 7) cry |
| h night | 8) face |
| i church | 9) hours |
| j burning | 10) knees |
| k heated | 11) lamp |
| l small | 12) lead |
| m gentle | 13) light |
| n steam | 14) matches |
| o bell | 15) metal |
| p low, clear | 16) oil |
| q pale | 17) pot |
| r horrible | 18) road |
| s iron | 19) rope |
| t wooden | 20) snake |
| u dog | 21) sound |
| v terrible | 22) spots |
| w strange | 23) stare |
| x brown | 24) stick |
| y most dangerous type | 25) whistle |
| z dead man's | 26) window |

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Photocopiable

The Five Orange Pips

- 5 Match the statements (a–f) and replies (1–6) from pages 22 and 23.
- a Who would come tonight?
 - b I have come for advice.
 - c And help.
 - d I heard from Captain Prendergast how you saved him in that business at the Tankerville Club.
 - e He said that you could solve anything – that you are never beaten.
 - f Tell me some details of your case.
 - 1) Ah, of course. They said that he cheated at cards.
 - 2) I have been beaten – three times by men and once by a woman.
 - 3) If someone needs my help, it must be a serious case.
 - 4) It is not an ordinary one.
 - 5) That is easy.
 - 6) That is not always so easy.
- 6 Match the statements (a–h) and replies (1–8) from the conversation between John and Holmes on pages 28–30.
- a What have you done?
 - b Has he (the policeman) come with you tonight?
 - c So why did you come to me? And why did you not come immediately?
 - d Have you anything else than can help us?
 - e You must go home immediately, and act.
 - f Do you understand?
 - g How will you go home?
 - h Remember to guard yourself well.
 - 1) By train from Waterloo Station.
 - 2) Completely.
 - 3) I am carrying a gun.
 - 4) I only spoke to Captain Prendergast about my problem today, and he told me to come and see you.
 - 5) No, he was ordered to stay in the house.
 - 6) Nothing.
 - 7) There is one thing.
 - 8) What shall I do?

The Crown of Diamonds

- 7 Match each verb with one of the sentence endings to make the actions of the man who came to see Holmes.
- a He ran
 - b He waved
 - c He shook
 - d He rushed
 - e He moved
 - f He pulled
 - 1) his head.
 - 2) at his hair.
 - 3) at the door.
 - 4) from side to side.
 - 5) his arms up and down.
 - 6) along the street.
- 8 Who said each of the following things (pages 42 to 45)? Write the name of the character.
- a 'Where have you put it?'
.....
 - b 'I have been too generous with you already.'
.....
 - c 'Did you give Lucy permission to go out tonight?'
.....
 - d 'What are you doing with the crown?'
.....
 - e 'It would be to your advantage if I could leave the house for five minutes first.'
.....
 - f 'I have lost my good name, my diamonds and my son in one night.'
.....
- 9 How does Alexander reply to these questions and statements on pages 45 and 46. Give the answers.
- a Do you have many guests in your house?
.....
 - b Do you go out much?
.....
 - c That is unusual for a young girl.
.....
 - d This business was a shock to her too.
.....
 - e And you both believe that your son is guilty?
.....
 - f Was the rest of the crown damaged?
.....

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Photocopiable

The Speckled Band

1 Write the names next to the person who says or thinks this.

Dr Watson Sherlock Holmes Helen Stoner
Julia Stoner Dr Roylott

- a 'It's not the cold that makes me shake.'
.....
- b 'Stay away from my business. I know that Miss Stone has been here.'
- c 'Have you heard anyone whistle in the middle of the night?'
- d 'You must lock away from him tonight.'
.....
- e 'We must stop a clever and horrible crime.'
.....

2 What happened first? Number the sentences.

- a This was followed by a strong smell of burning oil: someone in the next room had lit a small lamp.
- b Then the two men heard a low clear whistle.
- c The two men rushed into Dr Roylott's room.
- d Twelve o'clock passed and one, and two and three.
- e Holmes and Watson sat silently, waiting for something to happen.
- f Round the doctor's head there was a very dangerous snake.
- g After half an hour a very gentle sound like steam escaping from a pot was heard.
- h Next Holmes and Watson heard a loud scream of pain and anger.
- i Suddenly a light shone in the direction of the ventilator.
- j Holmes jumped from the bed, lit the candle and struck with his stick at the bell rope.

The Five Orange Pips

3 Match a sentence from a–e to one from 1–5.

- a Elias Openshaw left Florida and came back to England.
- b Uncle Elias was found face down in a small lake at the bottom of the garden.
- c John's father fell into a deep hole and died soon afterwards.
- d The letters come from places which are all ports.

- e John's body was found near Waterloo Bridge.
- 1) The police thought it was an accident.
 - 2) The police thought he had fallen into the river by mistake in the dark.
 - 3) The police thought he killed himself because he had been acting strangely.
 - 4) He had a very strong reason.
 - 5) The writers must be on a ship.

The Crown of Diamonds

4 Choose the correct option.

- a A very important man wanted the bank to lend him fifty thousand pounds because
- 1) he wanted to make it a matter of business.
 - 2) he couldn't borrow that sum from his friends.
 - 3) he had lost the money playing cards.
- b Mr Holder took the crown of diamonds home because
- 1) he wanted his son to see it.
 - 2) several banks had been robbed.
 - 3) he had been asked not to lose sight of it.
- c Mary refused to marry Arthur because
- 1) they were cousins.
 - 2) he always lost money at horse races.
 - 3) she was in love with another man.
- d Mr Holder wrote a cheque
- 1) to pay Holmes for his work.
 - 2) to get his son out of prison.
 - 3) to allow Holmes to buy the diamonds back.
- e Mary wrote a letter saying
- 1) she would kill herself.
 - 2) she was leaving.
 - 3) she was marrying Sir George.

5 What happened the night the crown disappeared? Choose the right name to complete the sentences.

- Boots Wooden leg Arthur Mary Mr Holder
- a was the man who brought the vegetables. He came to see Lucy, the young servant.
- b talked to her lover through the window and gave him the crown.
- c was a dangerous man. He was hurt in the fight for the crown. His blood was on the snow.
- d found his son in the room with the crown. When he did not answer his questions, the banker thought he was the thief.
- e kept his cousin's secret and went to prison for it.

Three Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

Book key

- 1 Open answers
- 2 a lawyer, stepfather b crown, veil
c revolver, snake, (poker) d shutters, ventilate
- 3 c, d
- 4 a B b DR c DR d B e B f HS g HS
h DR i HS j DR
- 5 a 5 b 9 c 7 d 2 e 4 f 8 g 1 h 3 i 6
- 6 a The police found no marks of violence on the body, and doctors found no signs of poison. People believe that she died of fear.
b No, because he is rude, violent and noisy.
c No, because if she marries, he will lose 250 pounds a year.
- 7 Open answers
- 8 a DR b HS c EB d HS e HS f HS, DR
g DR h HS i EB j DR
- 9 a The noise of the building work makes Helen move her bedroom next to his.
b He keeps his snake inside the iron box.
c His medical knowledge gives him information about poisons that cannot be discovered.
d The bell rope helps the snake to pass from the ventilator to Helen's bed.
e The snake passes through the ventilator into Helen's bedroom.
f The snake returns to its box when it hears his whistle.
- 10 a He knows that nobody from outside can get in, so the band of travellers cannot be guilty.
b It is the sound of the snake coming through the ventilator.
c It is strange that it does not open to the outside air.
d It is not connected to a bell.
e It is fixed to the floor. The murderer wants to know exactly where Helen is at night.
f It has often been stood on. Roylott uses it to reach the ventilator with his snake.
g It is the sound of Dr Roylott closing the metal box after the snake has returned.
- 11 a Open answers
b No. (Possible answer: to protect Mary)
c Open answers
- 12 a The war between the North and South of the country.
b An important officer in the southern states' army.
- 13 a X b X c ✓ d X e ✓ f ✓ g X h ✓
i ✓ j ✓
- 14 a The postmarks on the envelopes show that the orange pips were posted from different seaports.
b The piece of light blue paper is from Elias Openshaw's private diary. It shows that he had connections with the K.K.K.
c The book gives Holmes information about the connection between orange pips and the K.K.K. It also shows that the power of the K.K.K. ended in the same year that Elias left the USA with the society's papers.
d Holmes goes to the port of London to study the lists of ships for Pondicherry and Dundee. This information helps him to discover the importance of the *Lone Star*.
e One of the workers at the port tells Holmes that three officers were not on the *Lone Star* when John Openshaw was murdered.
- 15 a Because they did not return the K.K.K.'s papers.
b The K.K.K.
c Possible answer: He is probably unhappy, because he could not save John Openshaw's life and the three murderers died before they were caught.
- 16–17 Open answers
- 18 a worried b six c dislikes d dressing room
e angry f outside g is not h Lucy i another
j outside
- 19 a He is studying the footprints and other marks in the snow.
b He was standing outside the kitchen door on the night that the diamonds were stolen.
c He wants to see how the cupboard was opened, and how noisy the lock is.
d It has a bent, broken edge, which shows it was not easy to take the diamonds off.
e If it broke, it would make a 'noise like a gunshot'. Mr Holder was not woken by a loud noise, so the crown was not broken inside the house.
f He wants to know whether Arthur was wearing shoes (because some of the footprints in the snow were of a man without shoes).

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20 Mr Holder told Arthur and Mary about the crown while they were having *coffee*. Arthur thought that the crown would *not* be safe in the cupboard in the dressing room. Later, Arthur asked his father for some money, but his father *angrily* refused. Mr Holder checked the crown, spoke to *Mary* and went to bed. He was woken at *two* o'clock in the morning by a *soft* noise. He found Arthur in the next room with crown in his hands. Mary rushed into the room and *fell to the floor*. Arthur *did not tell* his father where the diamonds were and his father insulted him. The police were called and Arthur was taken away.

21–22 Open answers

23 a Holmes b Mr Holder c Mary, Mr Holder
d Arthur, Mary e Mary, Sir George Burnwell
f Arthur, Sir George Burnwell g Arthur
h Sir George Burnwell

24 Mr Holder is happy to get the diamonds back, unhappy about Mary and angry with himself for not believing his son.

Arthur is hurt that Mary loves Sir George Burnwell and that his father insulted him. He will feel happier when his father apologises to him.

Mary feels guilty about causing trouble for Mr Holder and Arthur, but is happy to be with Sir George.

Sir George Burnwell is pleased that he has not been sent to prison and that he has £600 for the diamonds. The man with the diamonds is very happy, because he bought the diamonds for £600 and sold them for £3,000.

25 a He wears old clothes to visit Sir George.
b He finds a lot of footprints in the snow.
c Blood on the snow shows him that there was a fight.
d Mary's face showed shock when she saw Arthur with the crown.
e She believed that Sir George had stolen the crown.
f The wet footprint shows that a man with no shoes (Arthur) climbed in through the hall window.
g Arthur does not tell the truth about the diamonds because of his love for Mary.
h Sir George's old shoes are the same size as the footprints in the snow.
i Holmes pays 3,000 pounds to get the diamonds back. Later, Mr Holder gives him a cheque for the same amount.

26 a Holmes is talking to Mr Holder about Mary's disappearance with Sir George.
b Holmes is talking to Mr Holder about Arthur.
c Mr Holder is talking to Holmes after he hears the truth about the diamonds.
d Sir George is talking to Holmes about the diamonds.
e Holmes is talking to Mr Holder about Mary.

27–37 Open answers

Discussion activities key

1 Open answers

2 Suggested answer:

Speckled:

Band:

3 Suggested answer:

Dr Roylott had a very violent temper: no servants stayed with the family for long, the sisters had to do all the housework; Dr Roylott kept Indian animals in the house, etc.

4 Suggested answer:

They were unable to find the cause of Julia's death. There were no marks of violence on her.

5 Suggested answer:

Helen is getting married soon.

She is sleeping in her sister's bedroom.

She has heard the low whistle her sister heard before her death.

6 Open answers

7 Suggested answer:

- shutters that no one can open if the iron bars are in place.
- building work which is not necessary.
- bell ropes which are not real bells.
- ventilators which go into another room when they could go to the outside air.
- a large iron box with a small bowl of milk on top of it.
- a small dog lead with the end tied in a small circle.
- a bed that is fixed to the floor, near the bell rope and under the ventilator.

8–10 Open answers

Three Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

11 Suggested answers:

John: I need your help.

Police detective: Clam down, sir. What do you need help with?

John: My uncle died some time ago. Everybody believed it was an accident at the time but I don't think so. He had got a letter some time before and got very afraid. Then my father died. He was found in a hole. There was another letter before that.

The letters were the same, with the same message.

And now there is another letter. I am in danger.

Police detective: These letters can be a joke. Someone wants to be funny. Or make you afraid. The deaths of the other men were accidents. You are in no danger.

And we have a lot of work. Goodbye.

12 Suggested answers:

He should start at the port because the letters came from cities with a big port.

He must find a connection between the cities and a person or ship.

13–15 Open answers

16 Suggested answers:

Because he looked at the snow carefully and he saw different prints: heavy boots, a small round mark next to a footprint, near the gate.

17 Suggested answer:

Holmes thinks Arthur is innocent. He did not steal the crown. But why did he have it in his hands? Why doesn't he answer the questions? Then who stole it? The windows were locked. If someone else stole the crown, how did that person get into the house? Is Lucy, the female servant, honest?

Holmes needs to see the house in Streatham, and talk to more people.

18 Suggested answer:

Holmes: I am interested in the stones you bought a short time ago.

Man: Which ones?

Holmes: Three small brilliant stones.

Man: Why do you want them?

Holmes: They are very important for me. They have been in the family for a long time. They used to be my grandmother's. And they are part of a larger piece that I would like to repair. Then I can give it to my wife as a present.

Man: But I paid for them. They are expensive.

Holmes: I can pay you well. A thousand pounds for each.

Man: Done! Here you are.

19–23 Open answers

Activity worksheets key

1 a 3 b 6 c 10 d 2 e 1 f 7 g 4 h 8
i 9 j 5

2 a shut

b argued

c made

d ended

e became

f be controlled

g threw

h was not reported

i allowed

j went

k liked

3 a 13 b 5 c 6 d 3 e 4 f 7 g 9 h 8
i 10 j 2 k 12 l 11 m 1

4 a 13 b 26 c 18 d 24 e 14 f 4 g 9
h 2 i 6 j 16 k 15 l 11 m 21 n 17

o 19 p 25 q 8 r 7 s 3 t 5 u 12

v 23 w 1 x 22 y 20 z 10

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

6 a 6 b 5 c 4 d 7 e 8 f 2 g 1 h 3

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

8 a Arthur

b Alexander

c Mary

d Alexander

e Arthur

f Alexander

9 a None, except for my business partner and his family, and sometimes Arthur's friends.

b Arthur does. Mary and I stay at home.

c She is quiet. And she is not very young. She is twenty-four.

d A terrible shock!

e I saw him with my own eyes with the crown in his hands.

f Yes, it was bent out of shape.

Progress test key

1 a Helen Stoner b Dr Roylott c Julia Stoner
d Sherlock Holmes e Dr Watson

2 a 4 b 7 c 9 d 1 e 2 f 10 g 5 h 8
i 3 j 6

3 a 4 b 3 c 1 d 5 e 2

4 a 1 b 2 c 3 d 3 e 2

5 a Wooden leg b Mary c Boots d Mr Holder
e Arthur