

# A STUDY GUIDE TO SHERLOCK HOLMES

By William S. Dorn

with a foreword by  
Leslie S. Klinger  
and  
illustrations by  
Nancy Beiman



**VOLUME 2**  
The Return  
His Last Bow  
and The Case Book



*A Study Guide to Sherlock Holmes, Volume 1 and Volume 2*

by WILLIAM S. DORN

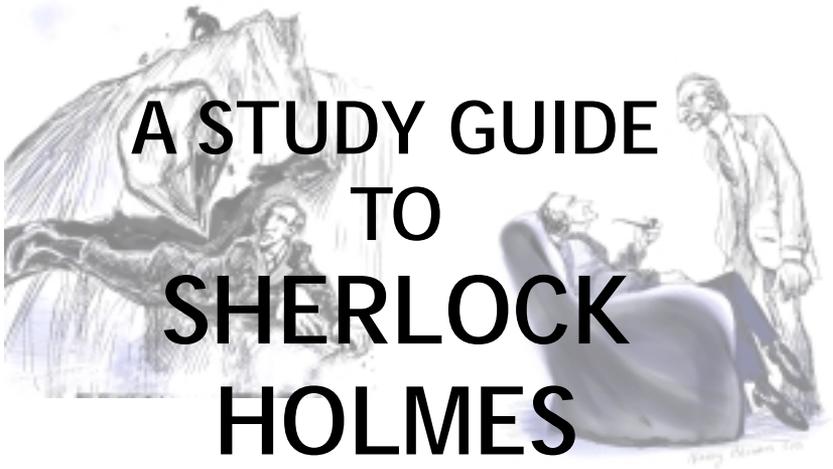
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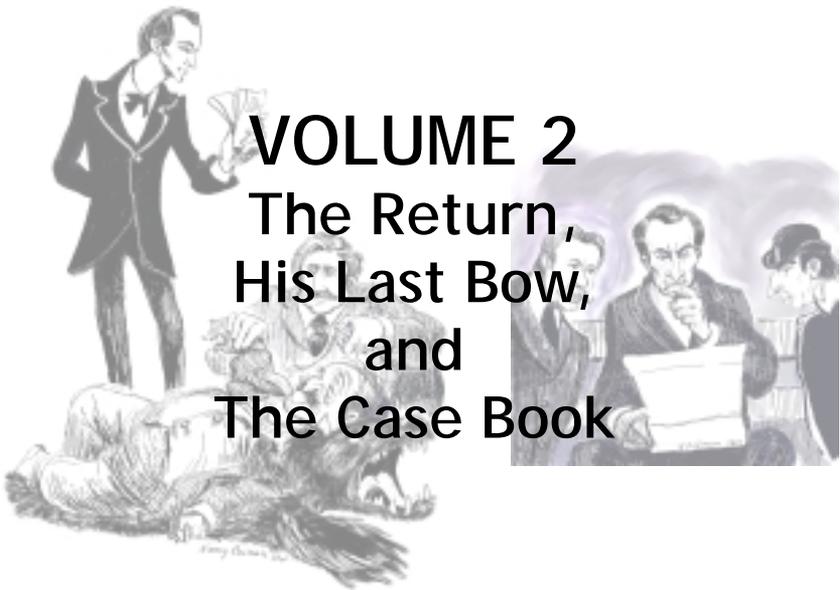
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**A STUDY GUIDE  
TO  
SHERLOCK  
HOLMES**



**VOLUME 2  
The Return,  
His Last Bow,  
and  
The Case Book**

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**A STUDY GUIDE  
TO  
SHERLOCK HOLMES**

**VOLUME 2**

**The Return,  
His Last Bow,  
and  
The Case Book**

**by  
William S. Dorn**

**with a foreword by  
Leslie S. Klinger**



"A huge rock, falling from above boomed past me, ..."

**The Adventure of the Empty House**  
**Artist: Nancy Beiman**

## DEDICATION

This volume is dedicated to the women in my life: Abigail, Claire, Dolores, Emily, Erica, Hannah, Julie, Pamela, and – most especially – Nancy. What more could a man ask for than to be surrounded by nine beautiful, talented, and loving women?

William S. Dorn  
Denver, Colorado  
September 1, 2001

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The author wishes to thank the hundreds of students from the University of Denver who suffered through the classes that are the foundation for this book. Their interest and enthusiasm over the more than 25 years that these classes were held was an inspiration. The comments and criticisms of all of these students, and especially Violet Armour, Bev Bridges, David Von Drehle, Mary Mathiesen, and Mary McGivern, helped shape the material presented here in many ways.

The author also wishes to express his gratitude to two fellow Sherlockians, Ron Lies and John Stephenson. Ron carefully read each and every quiz – there are 180 of them in the two volumes – and found numerous errors and oversights. I can only hope that I corrected most of them. John Stephenson made his extensive library of Sherlockiana available for my use and was most gracious in his hospitality when I visited his library. To both of these distinguished scholars and good friends, there is no way I can adequately express my thanks.

I also would be remiss if I did not acknowledge Dr. George A. Vanderburgh who first suggested this project and provided the author with untold support in its creation. Without his advice and counsel the book certainly would never have seen the light of day.

Finally, the author must acknowledge the substantial contribution made by the illustrations of the distinguished Sherlockian artist, Nancy Beiman, whose talent and patience with a querulous author defy description.

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## FOREWORD

Why teach a class about Sherlock Holmes? According to my wife, the reason was simple: It was a chance to talk about my favourite subject for eighteen hours! (and, in true professorial manner, to require that students buy one or more of my books!) In truth, I wanted an opportunity to present Sherlock Holmes and his world in a fashion which would make students understand why the subject has fascinated scholars for over 100 years. To do that, however, requires a curriculum, an organized approach to the subject.

Bill Dorn's splendid pair of Study Guides provide the would-be instructor (and the would-be student) with exactly that: an intelligent, rounded approach to the Canon. Bill's books encourage the student first, and most importantly, to read the stories. There is no room for fanciful biography in this guide – no “bricks without straw” here. Instead, the student is urged, and tested, to read with careful attention to detail. But make no mistake: This is no book of trivia contests, designed to reward those with near-photographic memories. Instead, the material allows the instructor to push the student to give more and more attention to the characters, major and minor, and the locales, which give the Canon its life.

Where the Guides depart most from the typical quiz books is in Dorn's knowledge and presentation of the scholarship surrounding the Canon. For me, the real fascination of the world of Sherlock Holmes has always been those oh-so-ponderable questions: Where was Watson's wound(s)? To whom was he married? What was that snake? Dorn presents in context many of the classic issues for serious study, adding his own pertinent questions.

## Foreword

How did Watson support himself after moving back to Baker Street? (The Adventure of the Norwood Builder) Why didn't Gennaro Lucca simply write a letter to his wife? (The Adventure of the Red Circle) These "open questions" as Dorn characterizes them, lead the student to read the Canon with a critical eye and, one hopes, to produce original scholarship.

"As to your dates...", the Guides help end the mystification by leading the student through the processes followed by the classical chronologists. Dorn's idea here is not to present an overall chronology of the sixty tales but instead to instruct in the methodology of determining the date of each tale. This is accomplished by assembling "clues" to the date and examining the conclusions suggested by them. Again, while the Guides lean heavily on classical chronological work, Dorn includes his own ideas and hopes to stimulate fresh analysis. And there is more: Dorn provides a story-by-story glossary, with "user-friendly" definitions of words which may be beyond the ken of younger students (and those too young to have heard Victorian English spoken). These glossaries are organized by page numbers to permit the instructor to highlight the unusual words as they appear, rather than require constant reference.

In short, Bill Dorn has produced essential materials for any serious instructor – or self-instructor for that matter – as well as creating books that are a pleasure to look at and read for sheer enjoyment. I hope you find them as useful and enjoyable as I do!

Leslie S. Klinger  
Los Angeles, California  
September 1, 2001

## INTRODUCTION

This study guide is intended for the beginning or intermediate scholar of the Sherlock Holmes stories of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. It may be used for self-study or as notes for a formal class. This second volume is divided into three sections: The Return, His Last Bow, and The Case Book. A previous volume covered The Novels, The Adventures, and The Memoirs.

The entire text including illustrations is available on a CD-ROM. The CD-ROM is in PDF format and includes interactive table of contents and index. The file can be viewed and/or printed using Adobe's Acrobat Reader. That Reader can be downloaded free from <http://www.adobe.com>.

The study guide for each adventure has four parts.

1. An exercise in determining the date of the adventure.
2. A vocabulary list, especially of Victorian terms, in the adventure.
3. Some perplexing puzzles or open questions posed by the adventure.
4. Three short, multiple-choice quizzes of varying degrees of difficulty.

### 1. Exercises in Determining the Date

The reader is given specific clues regarding the date of the adventure and is asked to use Sherlock Holmes's logic to find the date most acceptable in light of the list of clues. The dates, as determined this way, will not lead to a chronology. The latter task requires analyzing all 60 adventures as a body – a much too difficult task for most scholars and certainly beyond the beginning or intermediate scholar.

Introduction

## 2. Vocabulary

The reader is given a list of words or phrases with page references<sup>+</sup> for each. Examples of the vocabulary words and phrases from “The Adventure of the Golden Pince-Nez” are

- palimpsest
- Bath chair
- Nihilists

## 3. Open Questions

Many of Sherlock Holmes’s adventures leave unanswered questions. For example, from “The Adventure of the Red Circle” there is the question

**On page 907 Holmes says, “A single flash – that is A, surely. Now, then. How many did you make it? Twenty. So did I. That should mean T.” However, the Italian alphabet does not include K, so 20 flashes should be U not T. How can you explain this discrepancy?**

and from “The Adventure of the Bruce Partington Plans” there is the question

**On page 923 Sidney Johnson says, “I am always the last man out.” Later on that same page he says, “I had no keys of the doors – only the safe.” How can both of these statements be true?**

## 4. Quizzes

As noted earlier, there are three multiple-choice quizzes for each adventure: a simple quiz, an intermediate quiz, and an advanced quiz.

The simple quizzes are designed to test whether the adventure has been read at all. Even novice Sherlockians will find the simple quizzes easy. Indeed, anyone who has read a story – even cursorily – should get a perfect score on each quiz. A typical simple quiz question, this one taken from “The Problem of Thor Bridge”, is:

- Neil Gibson’s wife was killed by
- a. a pistol shot
  - b. poison
  - c. strangulation
  - d. none of the above

The intermediate quizzes test whether that particular adventure has been read with some degree of care. Serious students of Sherlock Holmes should have little difficulty with these quizzes. A typical intermediate quiz question, this one taken from “The Adventure of the Norwood Builder” is:

- Who purchased Dr. Watson’s Kensington medical practice?
- a. Farquhar
  - b. Jackson
  - c. Verner
  - d. none of the above

Finally, the advanced quizzes will challenge the most careful reader and, indeed, may stump even long-standing Sherlockian scholars.

## Introduction

A typical advanced quiz question, taken from “The Adventure of Wisteria Lodge “ is

Where did Holmes and Watson find comfortable quarters in Esher?

- a. The Dingle
- b. High Gable
- c. The Bull
- d. none of the above

## 5. More on the Finding of the Date

The exercises in finding the date are meant to be lessons in logic – the logic of Sherlock Holmes – for beginning or intermediate scholars of the corpus of the 60 stories written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. The reader’s goal then should not be to arrive at a consistent chronology of the cases – a task that has left even such accomplished scholars as Baring-Gould, Bell, Brend, Christ, Dakin, and Zeisler in disagreement. After all, to construct a chronology requires tackling the entire 60 stories in the Canon simultaneously. This is much too formidable a task for all but the most skilled scholar.

The reader should simply try to arrive at the most acceptable date consistent with the clues given in these notes. All possible clues from the story are not given in the notes. Rather the reader is given the fewest number of clues that lead to a reasonable date.

Some examples of clues and where they lead are:

From “The Adventure of the Dying Detective”

1. Watson says, “ ... she (Mrs. Hudson) came to my rooms in the second year of my married life ... “ (932)<sup>+</sup>
2. Watson was married in late 1888 or early 1889

These two clues lead to the conclusion that

- A. It was late 1890 or early 1891.

Next

3. Watson says that he went to visit Holmes and looked at him, “In the dim light of a foggy November day ... “ (932)

The conclusion from A and 3 is

- B. It was November 1890

What is the purpose of these dating exercises if it is not to create a chronology? Each time the reader performs the logical steps leading to a date for one of the adventures, he or she should become more skilled at finding solutions to real-life problems and, in the process, learn to challenge unsubstantiated claims made by other people or groups. So have some fun and remember that these are exercises in the logic of Sherlock Holmes – nothing more, nothing less.

# Introduction

# The Return of Sherlock Holmes

The Return



“Absolute exhaustion - possibly mere hunger and fatigue,” said I, with my finger on the thready pulse ...

**The Adventure of the Priory School**  
**Artist: Nancy Beiman**

**THE EMPTY HOUSE**  
**DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date of the capture of Colonel Moran)

**CLUES:**

1. Watson says, "It was the spring of the year 1894 ... " (483)
2. Ronald Adair was murdered on March 30, 1894 (484)
3. On the night Col. Moran was captured, Watson says, "It was a bleak and boisterous night ... " (490)
4. The only bleak and boisterous night in early April of 1894 was April 5.
5. In 1894 the first day of April was on Sunday.

**CONCLUSIONS:**

- A. 1 implies it was spring of 1894
- B. 2 implies it was shortly after March 30, 1894
- C. 3 and 4 imply it was April 5, 1894
- D. C and 5 imply it was Thursday, April 5, 1894

**Colonel Moran was captured on  
Thursday, April 5, 1894**

---

\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## THE EMPTY HOUSE VOCABULARY WORDS

whist (484) – **card game, a predecessor to bridge, played by two teams of two players, in which the last card dealt indicates trump; tricks of four cards are played, and a point is scored for each trick over six won by each team.**

bibliophile (485) – **lover of books**

wizened (485) – **withered, shriveled**

inexorable (486) – **relentless, inflexible**

baritsu (486) – **selected methods of ju-jitsu**

abyss (487) – **deep gulf or chasm**

sardonic (488) – **disdainful, sneering, bitter**

ascetic (488) – **one who practices self-denial or leads an austere life**

garroter (490) – **strangler**

jew's harp (490) – **small metal instrument consisting of a lyre-like shaped frame and metal tongue, plucked while holding against the teeth; now called a mouth harp**

asperity (490) – **sharpness of tone**

sibilant (491) – **hissing**

shikari (492) – **sportsman or hunter**

gibes (492) – **mocking words, jeers**

## THE EMPTY HOUSE OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Colonel Moran had seen Holmes at the Reichenbach Falls and therefore knew that Holmes was still alive. Moran must have told all of criminal London. Why then did Holmes vanish for three years?

**Perhaps Holmes thought that Moran would no longer have any influence after Moriarty's death or perhaps he was trying to discredit Moran among the rest of criminal London.**

2. What difference would it make if the public thought that Holmes was dead?

**Perhaps no difference at all.**

3. Was the later Holmes an imposter?

**Many people think he was. After all, the 'new' Holmes never used drugs as the earlier one did.**

4. On page 469 (The Final Problem) there is a reference to Colonel James Moriarty. On page 494 (The Empty House) we see the name Professor James Moriarty. What was the Professor's name? (HINT: See the name Norman Neruda on pages 34 and 36 of "A Study in Scarlet".)

**On a previous occasion, Watson forgot to hyphenate a last name when he wrote Norman Neruda (34) which should have been Norman-Neruda. The last name of the colonel and the professor was James Moriarty and should have been hyphenated as James-Moriarty.**

5. On page 487 Holmes says "There were at least three others whose desire for vengeance upon me would only be increased by the death of their leader." However, at the time all Holmes knew was the news in the wire from the London police saying that "They have secured the whole gang with the exception of him (Moriarty)." (see page 476). Who then were the three?

**Moran and two others.**

6. On page 487 Holmes says, "I might... have reversed my boots ...". How would he do that? Have you ever tried to put on your shoes with the toes at the back?

**Perhaps Holmes did not mean 'putting your feet in backwards' but merely walking backwards.**

## THE EMPTY HOUSE SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. At the beginning of the story Holmes was disguised as
  - a. a Scotland Yard detective
  - b. a priest
  - c. a bibliophile
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Who moved the bust of Sherlock Holmes every quarter of an hour?
  - a. Mycroft Holmes
  - b. one of the Baker Street Irregulars
  - c. Mrs. Hudson
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What did Colonel Moran use to try to kill Holmes?
  - a. a brick thrown from a rooftop
  - b. a horse drawn carriage careening down the street
  - c. an air-gun
  - d. none of the above

---

\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE EMPTY HOUSE INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What type of wrestling did Holmes say he had “ ... some knowledge of ... “?
  - a. baritsu
  - b. jujitsu
  - c. hand-to-hand
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Who was the one confidant that Holmes had during his three year absence?
  - a. Mrs. Hudson
  - b. Mycroft
  - c. Lestrade
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What name did Holmes use during his three year absence?
  - a. Altamount
  - b. Parker
  - c. Sigerson
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Which one of these four places did Holmes NOT visit during his three year absence?
  - a. France
  - b. Khartoum
  - c. Switzerland
  - d. Tibet

---

<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE EMPTY HOUSE ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. To whom was the Honourable Ronald Adair engaged?
  - a. Violet de Merville
  - b. Grace Milner
  - c. Edith Woodley
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Which one of the following was NOT playing whist with Ronald Adair on the afternoon of his death?
  - a. Lord Balmoral
  - b. Sir John Hardy
  - c. Colonel Moran
  - d. Mr. Murray
  
3. Who made the air gun that Colonel Moran used to kill Ronald Adair?
  - a. a blind German mechanic
  - b. a French inventor
  - c. an ex-British spy
  - d. none of the above
  
4. In what year was Colonel Moran born?
  - a. 1820
  - b. 1840
  - c. 1860
  - d. none of the above

---

<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**THE NORWOOD BUILDER  
DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date when Jonas Oldacre was flushed  
from his hiding place)

**CLUES:**

1. Watson says, “ ... Holmes had been back for some months, ... “ (496)
2. Holmes returned in “The Adventure of the Empty House” in April 1894.
3. Holmes says, “I crawled about the lawn with an August sun on my back, ... “ (504)
4. Holmes may not have meant literally an August sun; he may merely have meant a hot summer sun.
5. Holmes says, “ ... it had not rained for a month.” (504)
6. The summer of 1894 was generally quite wet except for June 11 to July 6 when there was practically no rainfall.
7. On the day the case opened Holmes says, “The weather has been very warm these last few days.” (497)
8. From June 28 through July 2 of 1894 the temperature in England was above 80° every day.
9. On the day the case opened Holmes was “ ... unfolding his morning paper ... “ (496) which turned out to be the *Daily Telegraph* (497).
10. The *Daily Telegraph* is not published on Sunday.
11. July 1, 1894 was Sunday.
12. Watson says, “ ... when I came down to breakfast (the next morning) ... An open telegram lay upon the table.” (505)
13. Holmes responded to the telegram and went to Norwood that day where he flushed Oldacre from his hiding place.

---

\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 and 2 imply it was 1894 after April
- B. A, 3 and 4 imply it was summer of 1894
- C. B, 5 and 6 imply it was early July of 1894
- D. C, 7 and 8 imply the case opened on July 1 or July 2 of 1894
- E. D, 9, 10, and 11 imply the case opened on Monday, July 2, 1894
- F. E, 12 and 13 imply that Oldacre was discovered on Tuesday, July 3, 1894

**Jonas Oldacre was flushed from his hiding place on  
Tuesday, July 3, 1894**

## THE NORWOOD BUILDER VOCABULARY WORDS

deprecation (496) – **belittling**

demur (496) – **hesitate because of doubts or scruples**

palpitating (496) – **trembling, shaking**

solicitor (497) – **attorney who is not a member of the bar and who may be heard only in the lower courts**

Freemason (497) – **member of the Free and Accepted Masons, an international fraternal and charitable organization with secret rites and signs**

indorsed papers (498) – **papers with signatures on the back as evidence of the legal transfer of its ownership**

conflagration (498) – **large, destructive fire**

E. C. (498) – **East Central postal district in London that includes The City and the financial district**

French windows (498) – **pair of windows extending to the floor and opening in the middle**

scrip (500, 505) – **an interim document to be exchanged for a more formal certificate when payments have been made on stocks or bonds**

frugal (500) – **meager**

points (501) – **details or distinguishing features**

flurried (502) – **confused or agitated**

frockcoat (502) – **double-breasted coat with knee-length skirts**

blackguard (503) – **scoundrel**

aviary (503) – **enclosure for holding birds in confinement**

villa (503) – **house in a middle-class suburb**

treasure-trove (503) – **hidden treasure**

privet hedge (503) – **hedge formed by green-leaved plant that has clusters of white flowers**

fiasco (504) – **complete failure**

close as wax (504) – **tight-lipped**

tinder (504) – **readily combustible material, such as dry twigs, used to start fires**

paroxysm (504) – **sudden outburst of emotion**

inanity (505) – **exhaustion**

insolence (506) – **being presumptuous and insulting in manner or speech; arrogant**

equanimity (507) – **quality of being calm and even-tempered**

outhouse (507) – **building separated from the main building**

conjurer (508) – **someone who performs magic tricks; a magician**

chaffed (508) – **made fun of or teased in a good natured way**

withered (508) – **dried up; withered or shriveled**

odious (508) – **offensive or disgusting**

foolscap (509) – **sheet of writing paper measuring approximately 13 by 16 inches with a watermark of a fool's cap with bells**

## THE NORWOOD BUILDER OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Watson says, “ ... I had at his (Holmes’s) request sold my practice and returned to share the old quarters in Baker Street.” (496) Where did Watson get the money to support himself after moving back to Baker Street?

**Watson’s income could have consisted of (a) royalties from his published stories of Holmes’s adventures, (b) interest on the investment of the money he received from the sale of his practice, and/or (c) a stipend from Holmes in exchange for Watson’s assistance in succeeding cases.**

2. MacFarlane says, “The will was duly finished, signed, and witnessed by my clerk.” (500) However, a will must have two witnesses. Was Oldacre’s will illegal?

**If there were only one witness, then the will was illegal. Perhaps, however, the will was witnessed by a second person – a clerk in a neighboring office – and MacFarlane never thought to mention that fact. It also is possible that MacFarlane was not a very good lawyer.**

3. When Lestrade says, “You are aware that no two thumb-marks are alike?”; Holmes replied, “I have heard something of the kind.” (506) The subsequent activities show that Holmes had heard and knew much more than he implied with his statement. Why then did Holmes reply to Lestrade as he did?

**Holmes probably was either (a) pulling Lestrade’s leg or (b) was intentionally vague to assure that Lestrade didn’t solve the case before he (Holmes) solved it.**

4. Holmes says, “Well, well, I daresay that a couple of rabbits would account both for the blood and for the charred ashes.” (510) Were the Scotland Yard detectives so incompetent that they could not see the difference between human and rabbit bones? And why didn’t Holmes ask for an analysis of the bones as further evidence of his client’s innocence?

**The Scotland Yard detectives were either incompetent or not thorough. Holmes, of course, didn’t come to the conclusion that the bones were rabbit bones until after his client had been cleared by the discovery of Jonas Oldacre.**

## THE NORWOOD BUILDER SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. Where was Jonas Oldacre hiding?
  - a. in his lumber yard
  - b. in the cellar
  - c. in a hidden room
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What clue did Holmes immediately recognize as a fake clue?
  - a. a thumb print
  - b. a forged signature
  - c. a torn photograph
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What was the connection between Jonas Oldacre and John Hector McFarlane's mother?
  - a. they were brother and sister
  - b. Oldacre had been a suitor of Mrs. McFarlane
  - c. Mrs. McFarlane had been Oldacre's housekeeper
  - d. none of the above

---

\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE NORWOOD BUILDER INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What was Jonas Oldacre's business?
  - a. builder
  - b. land speculator
  - c. lawyer
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was the location of Graham and McFarlane, John Hector McFarlane's place of business?
  - a. the Gresham Buildings
  - b. King Edward Street
  - c. Lyon Place
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Where did Jonas Oldacre write his will?
  - a. in a hansom
  - b. in a train
  - c. in McFarlane's office
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Who purchased Dr. Watson's Kensington medical practice?
  - a. Farquhar
  - b. Jackson
  - c. Verner
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE NORWOOD BUILDER ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. Early in the story Watson mentions the Friesland. What was the Friesland?
  - a. a Dutch steamship
  - b. a past case of Sherlock Holmes
  - c. a city in Denmark
  - d. none of the above
2. How old was Jonas Oldacre?
  - a. 52
  - b. 63
  - c. 70
  - d. none of the above
3. Where did John Hector McFarlane spend the night after visiting Jonas Oldacre?
  - a. the Anerly Arms
  - b. the Crown Inn
  - c. the Northumberland Hotel
  - d. none of the above
4. What was the name of Jonas Oldacre's housekeeper?
  - a. Mrs. Dixon
  - b. Mrs. Lexington
  - c. Mrs. Warren
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

## THE DANCING MEN DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\*

(Date of Hilton Cubitt's first visit to 221B Baker Street)

### CLUES:

1. Hilton Cubitt says "Last year I came up to London for the Jubilee ... " (512)
2. Queen Victoria celebrated two Jubilees, a Golden Jubilee in 1887 and a Diamond Jubilee in 1897.
3. Hilton Cubitt says " ... about a month ago, at the end of June ... " (513)
4. Hilton Cubitt says "About a week ago ... it was Tuesday of last week." (513)
5. Hilton Cubitt says "None (no messages) did come for a week, and then yesterday morning I found this paper ... " (513)
6. It is unlikely that the message referred to in 5 appeared on Sunday
7. In 1888, July 25 and August 1 were on Wednesday, while in 1898, July 27 and August 3 were on Wednesday.
8. Cubitt says "When I got back from my visit to you ... the next morning" a second message appeared (514)
9. Cubitt says "... two mornings later ... " he saw a third message (515)
10. Cubitt says "Three days later a message ... " appeared (515)
11. Hilton Cubitt says "About two in the morning ... all being dark save for the moonlight outside" (515). This was said early in the morning on the 7th day after the first message.

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

12. The moon set at the following times on the dates shown:

Tuesday, July 31, 1888	well before midnight
Tuesday, August 7, 1888	well before midnight
Tuesday, August 2, 1898	well after 4 am
Tuesday, August 9, 1898	shortly before 2 am

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 and 2 imply 1888 or 1898
- B. 3 implies late July or very early August
- C. Because in 4 Cubitt says about a week ago, 4 implies that his visit was on Monday or Wednesday
- D. 5 and 6 imply Cubitt's visit was not Monday
- E. C and D imply Cubitt's visit was on Wednesday
- F. E and 7 imply Cubitt's visit was one of
  - July 25, 1888
  - August 1, 1888
  - July 27, 1898
  - August 3, 1898
- G. 8, 9 and 10 imply that last of three new messages appeared six days after Cubitt's visit.
- H. G and 11 imply that there was moonlight early in the morning following the 6th day after Cubitt's visit
- I. H and 12 imply that 6th day after Cubitt's visit was August 2, 1898
- J. I implies that Cubitt's visit was July 27, 1898

**Hilton Cubitt's first visit to 221B Baker Street was on  
Wednesday, July 27, 1898**

## THE DANCING MEN VOCABULARY WORDS

- malodorous (511) – **having a bad odor**
- inference (511) – **process of arriving at a logical conclusion from known premises**
- meretricious (511) – **showily attractive, based on insincerity**
- nettled (511) – **irritated**
- conundrum (512) – **riddle whose solution involves a play on words or a pun**
- florid (512) – **ruddy; rosy colored**
- the Jubilee (512) – **celebration of either the 50<sup>th</sup> or 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Queen Victoria's reign as Queen of Great Britain**
- vicar (512) – **priest of a parish in the Church of England who receives a stipend or salary but does not receive the tithes of a parish**
- parish (512) – **area served by one particular church of the Church of England**
- registry office (512) – **office where legal documents were recorded; registrars could perform civil marriages and carry out some other legal proceedings**
- allude, allusion (513, 514, 523) – **to make an indirect reference; such a reference**
- squire (513, 517, 519) – **courtesy title of a chief landowner, usually the lord of the manor**
- copper (513) – **a penny**
- comely (513) – **pleasing in appearance; attractive**
- watering places (514) – **drinking establishments**
- fortnight (514) – **two weeks**

The Return

hansom (514) – **two-wheeled, one horse carriage seating two with the driver mounted behind and reins going over the roof of the hood; invented by J. A. Hansom, a Yorkshire architect who patented the cab in 1834**

convulsive strength (515) – **strength beyond normal for that person**

skulking (516) – **stealthily sneaking about**

hiding (516) – **beating**

frieze (517) – **decorative horizontal strip along the upper part of a wall in a room**

haggard (517) – **worn and exhausted**

singular (517, 522) – **beyond what is ordinary or usual; remarkable**

surgeon (517, 518, 519) – **physician**

German Ocean (517) – **the North Sea**

gable (517) – **triangular section of wall at the end of a peaked roof in the space between the two sloping lines of the roof**

portico (517) – **roof supported by columns**

dapper (517) – **neatly or stylishly dressed**

dog-cart (518) – **a cart with two seats placed back-to-back; name is derived from box under rear seat originally used to carry dogs**

constable (518, 519) – **lowest rank of police officer**

inexorable (518) – **inflexible, relentless**

stolid (519) – **showing little emotion**

groom (519) – **man or boy employed to take care of horses**

draught (520) – **current of air in an enclosed area**

guttered (520) – **with the wax melted away through the side of the hollow formed by a burning wick**

consigned (521) – **given over to; in this context ‘addressed to’**

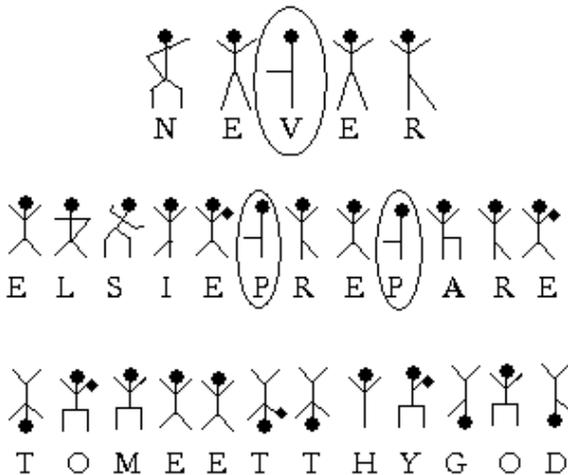
drawing-room (521) – **large room in which guests are entertained**

- atonement (521) – **apology for a wrong**  
recapitulated (522) – **repeated in concise form; summarized**  
hypothesis (522) – **tentative explanation that accounts for a set of facts**  
swarthy (524) – **having a dark complexion**  
swaggered (524) – **walked arrogantly; strutted**  
deftly (524) – **quickly and skillfully**  
settee (524) – **small or medium-sized sofa**  
the Joint (525) – **meeting place for persons engaged in illegal activities**  
reparation (525) – **something done to repair an injurious act**  
wrought (525) – **brought about; past participle of the verb ‘to work’**  
the cross (525) – **anything dishonest or illegal**  
heeled (525) – **armed**  
like a jay (526) – **like a stupid person or a simpleton**  
assizes (526) – **trial sessions, civil or criminal, held periodically in specific locations by a judge or court which moves from place to place**

## THE DANCING MEN OPEN QUESTIONS

1. What is peculiar about the code used by Abe Slaney and Elsie? Examine particularly the code for the word "NEVER" on page 515 and the code for "ELSIE PREPARE TO MEET THY GOD" on page 516. Recall that on page 522 Holmes said "... this (the code) is entirely new to me."

**The dancing man for V in NEVER is identical with the dancing men for the two Ps in PREPARE (see ovals in figure below). Moreover, the O in TO and GOD are identical with the M in MEET. Evidently when Holmes said "... this (the code) is entirely new to me", he meant that it was not a simple substitution code as he said it was. That raises the question, why did Holmes lead Watson to believe that it was a simple substitution code? Could it be that Holmes thought Watson incapable of understanding the real code?**



## THE DANCING MEN SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. The dancing men were
  - a. a troop of gypsies who camped at Riding Thorp Manor
  - b. a secret code used by criminals in Chicago
  - c. a joke played on Elsie Cubitt by a friend from America
  - d. none of the above
  
2. At the end of the story, Hilton Cubitt
  - a. presents Holmes with a check
  - b. is dead
  - c. is recovering from a gun shot wound
  - d. none of the above
  
3. The man who fired a shot at Hilton Cubitt was
  - a. an American
  - b. previously married to Elsie Cubitt
  - c. a British soldier
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE DANCING MEN INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What relative of Elsie Cubitt had been in the same gang with Abe Slaney?
  - a. her brother
  - b. her father
  - c. her former husband who was now dead
  - d. none of the above
  
2. The encryption of what one word was the key to Holmes unlocking the secret of the dancing men?
  - a. Elsie
  - b. the
  - c. never
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What was the name of the farm where Abe Slaney was staying?
  - a. Elrige's
  - b. Parker's
  - c. the Myrtles
  - d. none of the above
  
4. How serious were Elsie Cubitt's injuries?
  - a. serious but not fatal
  - b. fatal
  - c. superficial
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE DANCING MEN ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. Who was the only person with whom Watson played billiards?
  - a. Parker
  - b. Thurston
  - c. Walker
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was the name of the vicar of the Hilton Cubitt's parish?
  - a. Acton
  - b. Parker
  - c. Thurston
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What was the name of the Cubitts' cook?
  - a. Mrs. King
  - b. Mrs. Parker
  - c. Mrs. Walker
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What was Elsie Cubitt's maiden name?
  - a. Adams
  - b. Patrick
  - c. Venucci
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**THE SOLITARY CYCLIST**  
**DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date when Holmes rescued Violet Smith)

**CLUES:**

1. Watson says, “On referring to my notebook for the year 1895, I find that it was upon Saturday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April, ...” that Violet Smith visited Baker Street(527)
2. April 23, 1895 was Tuesday.
3. Violet Smith says, “Last December – four months ago.”
4. It was the following Saturday that Holmes and Watson went to Farnham to spy on the two cyclists (533)

**CONCLUSIONS:**

- A. 1 and 2 contradict each other.
- B. 1 and 3 imply that April is the correct month.
- C. A, B and 2 imply that it must have been Saturday, April 13, 1895.
- D. C and 4 imply it was Saturday, April 20, 1895.

**Holmes rescued Violet Smith on Saturday, April 20, 1895**

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## THE SOLITARY CYCLIST VOCABULARY WORDS

- abstruse (527) – **difficult to understand**
- spatulate (527) – **shaped like a kitchen tool that has a broad, flat, flexible blade**
- odious (528, 533) – **arousing strong dislike or intense displeasure**
- sallow (528, 535) – **sickly yellowish complexion**
- heath (529, 530, 533) – **extensive tract of uncultivated open land; a moor**
- ménage (530) – **persons who occupy one house**
- yew hedge (530) – **evergreen shrubs**
- lichen (530) – **a fungus that forms a crustlike growth on rocks or tree trunks**
- gorse (530, 533) – **spiny shrubs having fragrant yellow flowers; also called furze**
- furtive (531) – **shifty**
- deigning (531) – **condescending, thinking inappropriate to one's dignity**
- public-house (532) – **pub; tavern; drinking establishment**
- scullery-maid (532) – **dish washer**
- ignominious (532) – **marked by shame or disgrace**
- unecclesiastical (532) – **inappropriate to a church**
- audacity (533) – **fearless daring**
- publican (533) – **keeper of a public house or tavern**
- duns (533) – **dingy colors**
- drab (533) – **dull light brown color**
- sedentary (534) – **taking little exercise**
- cantering (534) – **smooth gait that is slower than a gallop but faster than a trot**
- dog-cart (534) – **a cart with two seats placed back-to-back; name is derived from box under rear seat originally used to carry dogs**

The Return

blackguard (534, 538) – **a scoundrel**

ostler (534, 538) – **someone who is employed to tend horses**

corde (534) – **laces**

gaiters (534) – **heavy cloth or leather covering for the legs  
extending from the instep to the ankle or knee**

bowling-alley (535) – **green used for bowling on the green**

Jingo! (535) – **used for emphasis or to express surprise [from  
the phrase *by jingo*, used in the refrain of a  
bellicose 19th-century English music-hall song,  
from alteration of Jesus.]**

greensward (535) – **ground that is green with grass; turf**

akimbo (535) – **hands on the hips with the elbows bowed  
outward**

surplice (535, 537) – **loose-fitting, white church gown with wide  
sleeves, worn over a cassock**

swing for it (535) – **be hanged for it**

mottled pallor (535) – **extreme or unnatural paleness marked  
with spots or blotches of different shades  
or colors**

glade (536) – **open space in a forest**

bleat (537) – **a whining, feeble complaint**

round (537) – **turn traitor**

## THE SOLITARY CYCLIST OPEN QUESTIONS

1. How did Williamson think that the wedding could have been legal? After, all he was no longer an ordained minister, the 'bride' had a handkerchief round her mouth (535) and so could not make the required responses, and the ceremony was held in a place that was not licensed for weddings.

**Perhaps he thought he could frighten Violet Smith into thinking her marriage was legal and use that to bribe her into signing away some of her inheritance.**

2. If Violet Smith had a handkerchief around her mouth when Holmes, Watson and Carruthers arrived at the scene (535), how could she have screamed earlier (535)?

**The handkerchief wasn't placed round her mouth until after she screamed.**

3. What caused the 'choke and gurgle' that suddenly ended Violet Smith's scream (535)?

**A 'choke and gurgle' sound often results when death is near. She must have been nearly killed by the gag.**

4. If blood spurted from the front of Woodley's waistcoat (535) when Carruthers shot him, how could Watson blithely say just a few moments later, "He will live" (536)?

**The bullet must have missed his heart and perhaps only punctured a lung but that still would leave Woodley's life in a precarious state.**

## THE SOLITARY CYCLIST SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. Who was the cyclist who followed Violet Smith?
  - a. Carruthers
  - b. Woodley
  - c. Williamson
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Why did one of the men want to marry Violet Smith?
  - a. as revenge against her mother
  - b. to get part ownership in her father's business
  - c. to get their hands on her inheritance
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What did Carruthers do to Woodley after the supposed wedding?
  - a. stabbed him
  - b. punched him
  - c. shot him
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE SOLITARY CYCLIST INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. Where did Holmes say Watson should have gone to get information on his visit to Farnham?
  - a. the village hotel
  - b. the nearest pub
  - c. the local house agent
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Why didn't Violet Smith's uncle have a will?
  - a. for the last ten years he had been isolated in the gold fields of South Africa
  - b. he had a fear of attorneys
  - c. he couldn't read or write
  - d. none of the above
  
3. When Holmes and Watson finally encountered Bob Carruthers, what were they doing?
  - a. hiding behind some bushes on the heath
  - b. riding bicycles
  - c. riding in a horse drawn trap
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What injury did Holmes suffer in his fight with Woodley?
  - a. bruised knuckles
  - b. a cut lip
  - c. a bloodied nose
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE SOLITARY CYCLIST ADVANCED QUIZ <sup>&</sup>

1. What was the occupation of Violet Smith's father, James?
  - a. common laborer
  - b. orchestra conductor
  - c. green grocer
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was the name of Violet Smith's fiancé?
  - a. Jack Bennett
  - b. Horace Harker
  - c. Cyril Morton
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What did Holmes give to Carruthers at the end of the story?
  - a. his card
  - b. a note to give to the police inspector
  - c. a letter of recommendation
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Woodley was convicted of abduction and assault. How many years was his sentence?
  - a. five years
  - b. seven years
  - c. ten years
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

## THE PRIORY SCHOOL DATE OF ADVENTURE\*

(Date when the Duke of Holderness wrote a check to Holmes)

### CLUES:

1. Holmes's encyclopedia reports that the Duke of Holderness was 'Lord Lieutenant of Hallamshire since 1900'. (539)
2. Dr. Huxtable says, "He (Lord Saltire) was last seen on the night of May 13<sup>th</sup> ... last Monday ..." (540)
3. The years in which May 13 was Monday include 1901, 1907, and 1912.
4. Holmes retired from active practice in 1903. (1071, 1080)
5. Dr. Huxtable says, "... now, on Thursday morning, we are as ignorant as we were on Tuesday." (541)
6. Holmes and Watson arrived at the Priory School on the same evening that Dr. Huxtable visited 221B Baker Street.
7. The night when Holmes and Watson arrived at the Priory School Holmes says, "... I will call you early to-morrow morning ..." (547)
8. Watson says, "At eleven o'clock next morning my friend and I were walking up ... (to) ... Holderness Hall." (553)

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 implies the year was 1901 or later.
- B. A, 2 and 3 imply Lord Saltire disappeared on Monday, May 13, 1901 or 1907 or 1912
- C. B and 4 imply Lord Saltire disappeared on Monday, May 12, 1901
- D. 5 and 6 imply that Holmes and Watson arrived at the Priory School on Thursday
- E. 7 and 8 imply that the Duke of Holderness wrote the check on the following Saturday
- F. C and E imply that the Duke of Holderness wrote the check on Saturday, May 18, 1901

**The Duke of Holderness wrote the check for Holmes on  
Saturday, May 18, 1901**

## THE PRIORY SCHOOL VOCABULARY WORDS

- pompous (539) – **excessive self-esteem or exaggerated dignity**
- hearthrug (539, 543) – **rug laid on a floor in front of a fireplace**
- dolorously (539) – **exhibiting sorrow, grief, or pain**
- Eton jacket (540) – **waist-length black jacket that has wide lapels and is cut square at the hips**
- morose (541, 550) – **melancholy, gloomy**
- red herring (543) – **something that draws attention away from the central issue**
- waistcoat (543) – **a vest**
- incisive (543) – **penetrating, clear, and sharp**
- sonorous (544) – **producing a full, deep, or rich sound**
- plover (546) – **a wading bird with a rounded body, short tail, and short bill**
- curlew (546) – **a brownish, long-legged shore bird**
- watercourse (547) – **natural or artificial channel through which water flows**
- pallid (547) – **abnormally pale**
- morass (547, 548, 550, 551) – **area of low-lying, soggy ground**
- gorse (548) – **spiny shrub with fragrant yellow flowers and black pods; also called furze**
- squalid (550, 551) – **dirty and wretched**
- sovereign (550) – **a gold coin worth one pound**
- corn-chandler (550) – **retail dealer in corn**
- publican (551) – **keeper of a public house or pub**
- dog-cart (553) – **a cart with two seats placed back-to-back; name is derived from box under rear seat originally used to carry dogs**
- inexorable (554) – **not capable of being persuaded by entreaty; relentless**
- cadaverous (554) – **emaciated; gaunt**
- niggardly (554) – **scantly or meagerly**

The Return

avidity (554) – **eagerness**

cross [as a check] (554) – **draw two vertical, parallel lines on the face of the check to signify that the check must be paid into the recipient's bank account as opposed to being cashed**

entail (557) – **specified succession of heirs**

circumlocution (557) – **unnecessarily wordy and indirect language**

culpable (557) – **deserving of blame or censure**

cloven foot (558) – **divided or cleft hoof**

## THE PRIORY SCHOOL OPEN QUESTIONS

1. On page 554, Watson says, “After an hour’s delay, the great nobleman appeared.” Why did Holmes not become impatient?

**The Duke, after all, was nobility, and it was not unusual for most people to be kept waiting by the nobility. Moreover, Holmes knew that the Duke was under a severe emotional strain right at that time.**

2. The original reward was to be £6,000 (540). Yet on page 555 the Duke of Holderness says to Holmes, “I think twelve thousand pounds is the sum I owe you, is it not?” How can you explain this discrepancy?

**It might have been a less than subtle bribe attempt. Or it might have meant that the Duke intended to reward both Holmes and Watson £6,000 each.**

3. On page 558 Holmes says, “What he (Reuben Hayes) will divulge I cannot tell, but I have no doubt that your Grace could make him understand that it is to his interest to be silent.” Hayes would undoubtedly have been charged with the murder of Heidigger, the German master, and be sentenced to be hanged. What could the Duke have possibly done to dissuade a man under sentence of death from revealing the entire sordid story? After all, Hayes has said earlier, “I’ve less reason to wish the Dook well than most men for I was his head coachman once, and cruel bad he treated me. It was him that sacked me without a character on the word of a lying corn-chandler.” (551)

**The Duke could offer Hayes a large sum of money that he (Hayes) could then give to his family. However, Hayes does not appear to be the sort of man who would put his family ahead of his own revenge.**

## THE PRIORY SCHOOL SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. What did Thorneycroft Huxtable do upon entering the sitting room at 221B Baker Street?
  - a. slump into a chair
  - b. faint
  - c. pace back and forth
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was the relationship between the Duke of Holderness and James Wilder?
  - a. father and son
  - b. uncle and nephew
  - c. grandfather and grandson
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What happened to Heidegger?
  - a. he was asked to leave the Priory School
  - b. he was severely injured
  - c. he was killed
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE PRIORY SCHOOL INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What did Thorneycroft Huxtable ask for when he had been revived in the sitting room at 221B Baker Street?
  - a. a glass of brandy
  - b. some water
  - c. a glass of milk and a biscuit
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was the name of the Duke of Holderness's secretary?
  - a. Henry Wilder
  - b. James Wilder
  - c. John Wilder
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What was the name of the place where Lord Saltire was held captive?
  - a. Fighting Cock Inn
  - b. Red Bull Inn
  - c. Lower Gill Pub
  - d. none of the above
  
4. For how much money was the check that the Duke of Holderness wrote to Holmes?
  - a. six thousand pounds
  - b. twelve thousand pounds
  - c. twenty thousand pounds
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE PRIORY SCHOOL ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. Which one of the following titles did the Duke of Holderness NOT hold?
  - a. Baron Beverley
  - b. Earl of Carston
  - c. Lord Lieutenant of Hallamshire
  - d. Earl of Maynooth
2. What was the architecture of the door at Holderness Hall?
  - a. Elizabethan
  - b. Georgian
  - c. Jacobean
  - d. none of the above
3. How far from the Priory School was Heidegger when he met his death?
  - a. nearly a mile
  - b. two miles
  - c. five miles
  - d. none of the above
4. What type of tires were on Heidegger's bicycle?
  - a. Dunlops
  - b. Palmers
  - c. Turners
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**BLACK PETER**  
**DATE OF ADVENTURE\***  
(Date when Patrick Cairns was arrested)

**CLUES:**

1. Watson says, "In this memorable year '95" (559)
2. Watson says, "during the first week of July, ... " when Stanley Hopkins called upon Holmes (559)
3. Stanley Hopkins says, "... the crime was done upon the Wednesday" (561)
4. Holmes says, "It would have been an easier task (for Holmes) a week ago." (563)
5. July 1, 1895 was Monday
6. Watson says, "... we travelled back (to London) next morning." (567)
7. Holmes wired to Stanley Hopkins to "Come to breakfast to-morrow at nine-thirty" (568)
8. Patrick Cairns was arrested at the nine-thirty meeting. (569-571)

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 and 2 imply Hopkins called upon Holmes the first week of July 1895.
- B. A, 3, and 4 imply the murder was Wednesday of the last week in June 1895.
- C. B and 5 imply the murder was on Wednesday, June 26, 1895
- D. C and 4 imply Hopkins called upon Holmes on Wednesday, July 3, 1895
- E. D and 6 imply Holmes and Watson returned to London on Thursday, July 4, 1895
- F. E, 7 and 8 imply Patrick Cairns was arrested on Friday, July 5, 1895

**Patrick Cairns was arrested on Friday, July 5, 1895**

## BLACK PETER VOCABULARY WORDS

- capricious (559) – **impulsive and unpredictable**  
swarthy (561) – **having a dark complexion**  
outhouse (561, 564) – **a building separated from the main building**  
high road (561) – **a main road; a highway.**  
public-house (561) – **a tavern or bar that is licensed to sell alcoholic beverages; a pub**  
droning (561) – **making a continuous low, dull humming sound**  
harmonium (561) – **organlike keyboard instrument that produces tones with free metal reeds actuated by air forced from a bellows**  
brindled (561) – **grayish with streaks or spots of a darker color**  
tantalus (562) – **stand holding three cut-glass decanters that cannot be removed until a bar that restricts the stoppers is raised**  
drab (562) – **dull light brown**  
weald (564) – **woodland**  
smelt (564) – **melt or fuse ores to separate the metallic constituents**  
furtive (564) – **surreptitious; shifty**  
skulking (565) – **lying in hiding; lurking**  
knickerbockers (565) – **breeches gathered and banded just below the knee; knickers**  
absconding (566) – **leaving quickly and secretly**  
anaemic (568) – **listless and weak**  
hobnobbed (568) – **associated with familiarly**  
Ribston pippen (569) – **variety of winter apple**  
side-whiskers (569) – **side burns**  
sovereign (569) – **gold coin worth one pound**

lank (569) – **long, straight, and limp**

sallow (569) – **sickly yellowish color**

dinghy (570) – **small rowboat**

Shetland Lights (570) – **the numerous lighthouses surrounding  
the Shetland Islands, the most northerly  
of the British Isles**

## BLACK PETER OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Young Neligan's father was lost at sea in August 1883 (567) which was 12 years before the adventure took place. Since young Neligan was searching for the securities, apparently nothing had been done about the missing securities during all those years. Why?

**Perhaps something had been done about the securities, and young Neligan was looking for something else. That is, young Neligan was lying.**

2. Holmes says, "I spent three days in wiring to Dundee ..." (571) to get the names of the crew of the *Sea Unicorn* in 1883. The police had access to telephones in 1895, so why didn't Holmes ask Hopkins to use the telephone to call the Dundee police?

**Holmes didn't like to rely on the police; they were supposed to rely in him.**

3. Why did Holmes ask the first two seamen who called at Baker Street to wait in another room while he was interviewing subsequent applicants (569)?

**Holmes was concerned that one of them might tell Cairns that the berth was full and that as a result Cairns would leave before his interview.**

4. What happened to Patrick Cairns? Was he tried for murder? If so, what was the jury's verdict?

**The story ends before we know Cairns fate, but it is certain that he was tried. However, it seems likely that he would not be convicted of murder because his actions were in self-defense. On the other hand, he might be convicted of manslaughter because he was engaged in blackmail at the time of Peter Carey's death.**

5. At the end of the story (572) Holmes says, "If you want me for the trial, my address ... will be somewhere in Norway ... ". Why were Holmes and Watson going to Norway?

**The only clue is that is where the older Neligan was headed some 12 years earlier, and that is not much of a clue.**

## BLACK PETER SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. What was Holmes doing in Allardyce's back shop at the start of the story?
  - a. looking for information on sailing vessels
  - b. stabbing at a dead pig with a harpoon
  - c. thawing out a frozen animal
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What name did Sherlock Holmes use when he was disguised as a seaman?
  - a. Captain Basil
  - b. Peter Carey
  - c. John Neligan
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What was John Hopley Neligan's father carrying with him when he sailed for Norway?
  - a. cash
  - b. stolen jewels
  - c. securities
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## BLACK PETER INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What did the initials P.C. on the inside flap of the tobacco pouch stand for?
  - a. Peter Carey
  - b. Patrick Cairns
  - c. Paul Captains
  - d. none of the above
2. What was the name of the Scotland Yard detective in the case?
  - a. Lestrade
  - b. Gregory
  - c. Hopkins
  - d. none of the above
3. Why was Holmes convinced that the initials P.C. on the inside flap of the tobacco pouch were not those of the murdered man?
  - a. the pouch was found on top of the body
  - b. the murdered man seldom smoked
  - c. the tobacco in the pouch was not the type smoked by seamen
  - d. none of the above
4. Why wasn't the murder discovered until midday although the victim had been murdered at about 2 a.m.?
  - a. there was nobody at home during the morning
  - b. it rained heavily in the morning
  - c. everybody was terrified of the murdered man
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## BLACK PETER ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. How old was Peter Carey at the time of his death?
  - a. 45
  - b. 50
  - c. 56
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Which one of the following cases was NOT mentioned in this story?
  - a. the case of Wilson, the notorious canary-trainer
  - b. the case of the sudden death of Cardinal Tosca
  - c. the adventure of the Cardboard Box
  - d. the adventure of the Priory School
  
3. What was the occupation of the man named Slater who was passing Woodman's Lee and saw a square of light shining among the trees with the shadow of a man's head clearly visible?
  - a. a green grocer
  - b. a stone mason
  - c. a farmer
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Which one of the following men was not one of the ones who Holmes – as Captain Basil –interviewed for a fictitious post on a ship?
  - a. Patrick Cairns
  - b. James Lancaster
  - c. Hugh Pattins
  - d. George Sumner

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**CHARLES AUGUSTUS MILVERTON**  
**DATE OF ADVENTURE\***  
(Date of Milverton's murder)

**CLUES:**

1. Watson says, "... I saw the gleam of an electric switch ..." (578)
2. Electric lights were first introduced in Hampstead in 1894
3. "It is years since the incidents of which I speak took place ..." (572)
4. The story was first published in 1904
5. The 4<sup>th</sup> was "... a cold, frosty winter's evening ..." (574)
6. Church marriages were not possible in Advent (December) nor in Lent (March)
7. Months of February in 1895 to 1899 were not cold
8. Milverton says, "... there certainly will be no marriage on the 18<sup>th</sup> ..." (574)
9. Church marriages were not possible on Sunday
10. January 18, 1896 was Sunday
11. The burglary and murder took place on the 13<sup>th</sup>
12. Holmes and Watson went to the theater on the evening of the burglary, the 13<sup>th</sup>
13. There were no theater performances on Sunday
14. January 13, 1895 was Sunday
15. January 4 was not frosty in 1897 nor in 1898

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 and 2 imply it was after 1894
- B. 3 and 4 imply it was long before 1904 probably 1899 or earlier
- C. A and B imply it was 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, or 1899
- D. 5 implies it was December, January, February or March
- E. D and 6 imply it was January or February
- F. C, E and 7 imply it was January
- G. F, 8, 9, and 10 imply it was not 1896
- H. 11, 12, 13, and 14 imply it was not 1895
- I. C, G, and H imply it was 1897, 1898, or 1899
- J. I and 15 imply it was 1899

**Milverton was murdered on Friday, January 13, 1899**

CHARLES AUGUSTUS MILVERTON  
VOCABULARY WORDS

- diffidence (572) – **shyness**  
reticence (572) – **reluctance to speak**  
niggard (572) – **stingy**  
impecunious (573) – **poor**  
boggling (575) – **hesitating**  
rakish (575) – **dashing, jaunty**  
goatee (575) – **beard trimmed to a soft point**  
ante-room (577) – **waiting room**  
plethoric (577) – **overfull, inflated**  
truculent (577) – **cruel, savagely brutal**  
veranda (577) – **open porch, usually roofed**  
portière (578) – **curtain hung in a doorway to replace a door  
or as a decoration**  
maw (578) – **mouth, crop, stomach**  
indolent (579) – **inclined to avoid exertion**  
pinion (579) – **to bind a person's arms**  
languid (579) – **drooping from weakness or fatigue**  
tiara (582) – **crown like head ornament, a frontlet or coronet**

## CHARLES AUGUSTUS MILVERTON OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Why didn't Holmes suggest that Lady Eva Brackwell deny the letters as he did when he advised the King of Bohemia in "A Scandal in Bohemia"?

**A woman, even a lady, wouldn't be believed but a man, especially a king, would.**

2. Is not the happiness of a housemaid (Agatha) – to whom Holmes falsely became engaged – as important as that of a society lady (Lady Eva)?

**Apparently not to Sherlock Holmes. This is more evidence of the British class system especially in Victorian times.**

3. Why didn't one of the women who Milverton exposed later expose Milverton?

**Nobody would believe a woman (see answer to 1 above)**

4. Why didn't Holmes seize the envelope that Milverton showed to him and thus save one more life? (574)

**Was he trying to deceive Milverton into thinking that this was his best chance?**

5. How did the murderess escape?

**Not over the wall. Perhaps she disguised herself as a servant and slipped back into the house.**

6. Why was Holmes so sure that nobody would break in while he was destroying the papers?

**Was Milverton's butler part of the plan?**

7. What four crimes did Holmes commit (575, 576, 577, 581)?

**Attempted unlawful detention (575)**

**Breach of promise (576)**

**Breaking and entering (577)**

**Malicious damage (581)**

8. What crime did Watson commit (576)?

**Blackmail**

9. Was Holmes's behavior that of 'the best and wisest man I have ever known' (The Final Problem, 480)?

**That depends upon whom Watson met.**

## CHARLES AUGUSTUS MILVERTON SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. Charles Augustus Milverton was
  - a. a connoisseur of fine wines
  - b. a blackmailer
  - c. a wealthy socialite
  - d. none of the above
  
2. At the end of the story Milverton
  - a. is dead
  - b. has had his face disfigured by acid
  - c. is in jail
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What did Holmes do with the papers he removed from Milverton's safe?
  - a. he burned them
  - b. he returned them to their rightful owners
  - c. he gave them to the police
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## CHARLES AUGUSTUS MILVERTON INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. To whom did Holmes become engaged to marry?
  - a. the grocery clerk near Milverton's house
  - b. the post office caretaker
  - c. Milverton's housemaid
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was the name of Milverton's house?
  - a. Appledore Towers
  - b. Dovercourt Manor
  - c. Hampstead Hall
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Who was Holmes's client in the case?
  - a. Lady Eva Brackwell
  - b. the Duchess of Dovercourt
  - c. Lady Hilda Trelawney Hope
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Which character from Dickens did Watson say Milverton looked like?
  - a. Scrooge
  - b. Mr. Pickwick
  - c. Fagin
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## CHARLES AUGUSTUS MILVERTON ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. How many letters did Milverton's lady visitor on the night of his death say that she had compromising the Countess d'Albert?
  - a. two
  - b. five
  - c. seven
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Which one of the following particulars did Lestrade NOT use in describing the second criminal who happened to be Watson?
  - a. square jaw
  - b. thick neck
  - c. slight limp
  - d. strongly built
  
3. Where was the electric light switch in Milverton's study?
  - a. in the corner between the bookcase and the wall
  - b. near the corridor door
  - c. just behind the desk
  - d. none of the above
  
4. How many miles did Watson estimate that he and Holmes had run after escaping from Appledore Towers?
  - a. two miles
  - b. more than three miles
  - c. four and one-half miles
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

## THE SIX NAPOLEONS DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\*

(Date when Holmes recovered the Black Pearl of the Borgias)

### CLUES:

1. Beppo was “ ... paid last on May 20<sup>th</sup>.” (589)
2. Paydays were usually every Saturday.
3. The only years between Holmes’s active career, that is 1881 to 1903, when May 20 was on Saturday were 1882, 1893, and 1899.
4. Beppo’s manager says, “ ... he (Beppo) got off with a year.” (589)
5. Holmes says, “If ever I permit you (Watson) to chronicle any more of my little problems.” (593)
6. *A Study in Scarlet* was published at the end of 1887.
7. Holmes says, “I myself was consulted upon the case (the disappearance of the Pearl of the Borgias) ... “ (594)
8. The Pearl of the Borgias was stolen just before Beppo was arrested.
9. Holmes vanished at Reichenbach Falls in May 1891 and returned in April 1894.
10. The stabbing for which Beppo was jailed was after his last payday but before the next one would have occurred.
11. It is likely that Beppo’s trial was delayed for a week to see if the victim survived so that at the trial the fate of the victim would be known.
12. Beppo’s sentence would have been passed on the Monday of the week following the start of the trial.
13. Beppo would have started to serve his sentence the day after the sentence was made.

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## The Return

14. Beppo was released one year after his sentence started. (589)
15. Beppo would have broken the first bust on the day after he was released.
16. Lestrade says, "The first case (of a broken bust) was reported four days ago." (583)
17. "... the next morning ..." after the narrative began, a telegram was received from Lestrade. (585)
18. Holmes asked Lestrade to appear at Baker Street "... at six o'clock the next morning ...". (593)

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1, 2, and 3 imply the year Beppo was last paid was 1882, 1893, or 1899.
- B. A and 4 imply that the year the case took place was 1883, 1894, or 1900.
- C. 5 and 6 imply that the case did not take place in 1883.
- D. 7 and 8 imply that Holmes was in active practice the year before the case took place.
- E. D and 9 imply that the case did not take place in 1894.
- F. B, C and E imply the case took place in 1900.
- G. 1 and 10 imply the stabbing took place between Sunday, May 21 and Friday, May 26.
- H. G and 11 imply Beppo's trial started between Monday, May 29 and Friday, June 2.
- I. H and 12 imply that sentence was passed on Monday, June 5.
- J. I and 13 imply that Beppo started to serve his sentence on Tuesday, June 6.
- K. J and 14 imply that Beppo was released from prison on Wednesday, June 7, 1900.
- L. K and 15 imply that the first bust was broken on Thursday, June 8, 1900.

- M. L and 16 imply that the narrative began on Monday, June 11, 1900.
- N. M and 17 imply that Holmes received the telegram from Lestrade on Tuesday, June 12, 1900
- O. N and 18 imply that the case ended on Wednesday, June 13, 1900.

**Holmes recovered the Black Pearl of the Borgias on  
Wednesday, June 13, 1900.**

## THE SIX NAPOLEONS VOCABULARY WORDS

surgery (584) – **doctor's office**

iconoclast (584) – **someone who attacks and seeks to overthrow  
traditional or popular ideas or institutions**

monomania (584) – **pathological obsession with one idea or  
subject**

*idée fixe* (584) – **obsession**

horn-handled clasp knife (586) – **pocketknife with a folding  
blade and a handle made of  
dark plastic or ceramic**

simian (586) – **resembling an ape or a monkey**

foolscap (586) – **sheet of writing paper measuring approxi-  
mately 13 by 16 inches with a watermark of a  
fool's cap with bells**

shards (587) – **pieces of broken pottery**

red lamp (587) – **night time sign of a doctor's consulting room**

rates (588) – **locally assessed property taxes**

Nihilist (588) – **participant in a revolutionary movement of  
mid 19th-century Russia that advocated scorn  
for authority and tradition**

gild (588) – **to cover with a thin layer of gold**

Teutonic (589) – **Germanic**

cruet-stand (589) – **stand holding small glass bottles which hold  
a condiment, such as vinegar or oil**

emporium (590) – **place where various goods are bought and  
sold**

lumber-rooms (591) – **rooms for storing bulky or cumbersome  
household items**

impunity (591) – **free from punishment or penalty**

lithe (592) – **effortlessly graceful**

dark lantern (592) – **a lantern with a sliding door to shut off the  
light**

sallow (592) – **sickly yellowish**

wont (593) – **accustomed to**

grizzled side-whiskers (593) – **side burns flecked with gray**

carpet-bag (593) – **traveling bag made of carpet**

wrought (594) – **constructed; past participle of the verb ‘to work’**

aperture (595) – **an opening, such as a hole, gap, or slit**

## THE SIX NAPOLEONS OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Horace Harker says, “If I had come in here as a journalist I should have interviewed myself and had two columns in every evening paper.” (585) A newspaper column requires about 1,000 words and there were 7 evening newspapers which were on the street by late afternoon. The above statement was made in mid-morning, so it would be quite a challenge to accomplish the feat Harker claimed he could accomplish. How do you suppose Mr. Harker proposed to carry out his boast?

**Perhaps Harker overestimated the length of the story he would write. And remember he did manage to get some material in his paper including a remark made by Holmes (589-590).**

2. Holmes says, “Until then I should like to keep this photograph (of Beppo) found in the dead man’s pocket.” (588) Why would Lestrade allow Holmes to carry away such important and useful evidence?

**Holmes must have had an understanding with Lestrade that in exchange for his (Holmes’s) help on cases, he (Holmes) would be granted certain liberties.**

3. The manager of Gelder & Company says, “Beppo was his name – his second name I never knew” (589) and later quite quickly locates Beppo’s name in the pay-list. How could he do that without knowing Beppo’s last name?

**Beppo must have been listed on the pay-list only as ‘Beppo’.**

4. Holmes asks Mr. Sandeford to sign a paper that he 'transferred every possible right he (Sandeford) had in the bust to (Holmes)' (594) Later Holmes says, "Put the pearl in the safe, Watson" (595). What did Holmes plan to do with the pearl? The only person who had any rightful claim to the pearl was the owner, the Prince of Colonna.

**The pearl was placed in the safe only temporarily for safe-keeping. One supposes that Holmes planned to extract a substantial reward for its return to the Prince and wanted to assure himself that he, not Sandeford, received the reward.**

## THE SIX NAPOLEONS SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. What was the name of the man who destroyed the busts of Napoleon?
  - a. Beppo
  - b. Gorgianno
  - c. Alphonse
  - d. none of the above
  
2. How was Pietro Venucci killed?
  - a. he was shot
  - b. he was struck on the head with a blunt instrument
  - c. his throat was slit
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Who had the black pearl of the Borgias at the end of the story?
  - a. Horace Harker
  - b. Lestrade
  - c. Sherlock Holmes
  - d. none of the above

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## THE SIX NAPOLEONS INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. Which one of the following did NOT own one of the six busts of Napoleon?
  - a. Josiah Brown
  - b. Mr. Devine
  - c. Horace Harker
  - d. Dr. Barnicot
2. What was the name of the Scotland Yard detective in the case?
  - a. Gregory
  - b. Lestrade
  - c. Altheney Jones
  - d. none of the above
3. What was hidden in one of the six busts of Napoleon?
  - a. the Crown diamond
  - b. the Great Sapphire of India
  - c. the Black Pearl of the Borgias
  - d. none of the above
4. How did Holmes gain possession of the missing jewel?
  - a. he removed it from Beppo's pocket
  - b. he bought the final bust from Mr. Sandeford
  - c. he searched through the shards of the last bust broken by Beppo
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE SIX NAPOLEONS ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. Which one of the following was not found in Pietro Venucci's pockets?
  - a. an apple
  - b. a map of London
  - c. a knife
  - d. a photograph
2. For whom did Horace Harker work?
  - a. the Central Press Syndicate
  - b. the Daily Telegraph
  - c. the London Times
  - d. none of the above
3. Who was the sculptor who created the original bust of Napoleon that was the model for the plaster copies?
  - a. Devine
  - b. Rodin
  - c. Sandeford
  - d. none of the above
4. In which hotel was the Black Pearl of the Borgias stolen from the Prince of Colonna's bedroom?
  - a. Atheneum
  - b. Dacre
  - c. Langham
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**THE THREE STUDENTS  
DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date when Holmes entered the case)

**CLUES:**

1. Watson says “It was in the year ‘95 ...” (596)
2. Holmes says “This young fellow (Gilchrist) had employed his afternoon at the athletic grounds ... “ (606)
3. Soames says “At four-thirty .. I left (my room). I was absent rather more than an hour.” (597)
4. After inspecting his rooms, Soames says “...I came straight round to put the matter into your hands” (598)
5. Watson says “... our visitor (Soames) in hurried words ... poured forth his story.” (596)
6. Holmes and Watson walked to Soames’s rooms.
7. Watson says “ ... it was already twilight” when they reached Soames’s rooms (598)
8. In 1895 the sun set later than 6:30 pm on all days after April 1.
9. Watson says it was “ .. in one of our great university towns.” (596)
10. Soames says “ ... to-morrow is the first day of the examination for the Fortesque Scholarship.” (596)
11. Such an examination would start on the first day after the end of the Lent term.
12. In 1895 the Lent term ended at Cambridge University on March 27 and at Oxford University on April 6.

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 implies that it was 1895
- B. A and 2 imply that it was Spring of 1895
- C. 3, 4, 5, and 6 imply that they arrived at Soames's rooms about 6:30 pm
- D. C and 7 imply that the sun was setting at 6:30 pm
- E. D and 8 imply that it was before April 1
- F. 9 implies that it was Cambridge or Oxford
- G. 10 and 11 imply that it was the last day of Lent term
- H. F, G, and 12 imply that it was March 27 and the university was Cambridge

**Holmes entered the case on Wednesday, March 27, 1895**

## THE THREE STUDENTS VOCABULARY WORDS

baize (597) – **green cotton or woolen material imitating felt**

his Blue (600) – **equivalent of an athletic letter in the United States**

grizzly-haired (601) – **hair flecked with gray**

flaxen-haired (602) – **light, blond hair**

## THE THREE STUDENTS SOME OPEN QUESTIONS

1. If the examination was the next day, why were the examination papers still only in proof form?

**Perhaps the printer would have printed the examination over night. After all, only three copies were needed.**

2. Thucydides is well read by all serious students of Greek. The chapters of Thucydides are rather short, a few paragraphs in general. How then could a scholarship examination consist of half a chapter of Thucydides? And why would Gilchrist need to copy it? Couldn't he simply note the chapter and look it up later?

**There must have been more to the examination than a few chapters of Thucydides.**

## THE THREE STUDENTS SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. The Fortesque Examination required the students to translate from
  - a. French
  - b. German
  - c. Greek
  - d. Latin
  - e. None of the above
  
2. The wood shavings found in Soames's room were from
  - a. a wooden pencil
  - b. a wooden carving
  - c. a cricket bat
  - d. none of the above
  
3. The guilty student was
  - a. Daulat Ras
  - b. Bannister
  - c. McLaren
  - d. Gilchrist
  - e. None of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE THREE STUDENTS INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. In which one of the following athletic activities did Gilchrist NOT participate?
  - a. football (soccer)
  - b. hurdles
  - c. long jump
  - d. rugby
  
2. Who had Bannister worked for previously?
  - a. Soames' bankers
  - b. Gilchrist's father
  - c. the rival university
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Which of the three students said, "I don't care who you are. You can go to blazes!" when Soames knocked on his door?
  - a. Gilchrist
  - b. Daulat Ras
  - c. Miles McLaren
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What was on the top of the red-leather writing-table in Soames' rooms when he returned to find the examination papers scattered about?
  - a. a pair of gloves
  - b. a ball of black dough
  - c. a writing pen
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE THREE STUDENTS ADVANCED QUIZ <sup>&</sup>

1. What color were Gilchrist's gloves?
  - a. black
  - b. tan
  - c. black
  - d. none of the above
  
2. In which college of the university were the three students enrolled?
  - a. St. Anne's
  - b. St. George's
  - c. St. Luke's
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What was Gilchrist's father's name?
  - a. Jabez Gilchrist
  - b. Hilton Gilchrist
  - c. Geoffrey Gilchrist
  - d. none of the above
  
4. How old was Bannister?
  - a. 43
  - b. 50
  - c. 57
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**THE GOLDEN PINCE-NEZ  
DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date when Anna committed suicide)

**CLUES:**

1. Watson says, as the story opened it was “ ... the year 1894, ...” (607)
2. Watson also says, it was “ ... towards the close of November.” (607)
3. Finally Watson says, “It was a wild, tempestuous night ... “ (607)
4. Holmes says to Hopkins, “It must be something important which has brought you out in such a gale.” (608)
5. In November 1894, the latest date on which there was strong wind and rain was Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup>.
6. The case was solved the day after it opened.

**CONCLUSIONS:**

- A. 1 and 2 imply it was towards the end of November, 1894.
- B. 3 and 4 imply there were strong winds (gale force) and rain
- C. A, B, and 5 imply the case opened on Wednesday, November 14, 1894
- D. C and 6 imply the case ended on Thursday, November 15, 1894

**Anna committed suicide on Thursday, November 15, 1894**

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## THE GOLDEN PINCE-NEZ VOCABULARY WORDS

barrow (607) – **large mound of earth or stones placed over a burial site**

palimpsest (607, 608, 611) – **manuscript, typically papyrus or parchment, that has been written on more than once, with the earlier writing incompletely erased and often legible**

pavement (608) – **sidewalk**

cravat (608) – **scarf**

goloshes (608) – **waterproof boots**

Bath chair (609) – **three-wheeled invalid's chair either pushed by an attendant or pulled by a pony; named for the resort town where it originated**

carotid artery (610) – **one of the two large arteries which carry blood from the aorta to the head and brain**

sealing-wax knife (610) – **letter opener used when a letter is sealed with a resinous preparation of shellac and turpentine that is soft and fluid when heated but solidifies upon cooling**

pince-nez (612) – **eyeglasses clipped to the bridge of the nose**

slatternly (612) – **slovenly; untidy**

dogmatic (612) – **authoritative, arrogant assertion of unproved or unprovable principles**

spirit lamp (613) – **Bunsen burner; a vertical metal tube connected to a gas source and producing a hot flame**

Chubb's key (614) – **key for a type of lock invented by Charles Chubb**

aquiline (615) – **eagle-like**

The Return

fetid (615) – **having an offensive odor**

magnum opus (615) – **Latin got ‘great work’; greatest single work of a writer**

Coptic (615) – **relating to Egyptians belonging to or descended from the people of ancient or pre-Islamic Egypt**

distract (616) – **inattentive or preoccupied, especially because of anxiety**

Nihilists (619) – **members of a revolutionary movement of mid 19th-century Russia that advocated scorn for authority and tradition and believed in reason, materialism, and radical change in society and government through terrorism and assassination**

phial (621) – **vial**

dun colour (621) – **brownish gray to dull grayish brown**

## THE GOLDEN PINCE-NEZ OPEN QUESTIONS

1. The floor plan for the Yoxley Old Place (610) is rather unusual.
  - a. Are there no other rooms leading from the curved corridor that goes to the Professor's bedroom?

**There don't appear to be any. Perhaps the Professor's bedroom was separate from the main part of the house, and this corridor was more of a covered walkway.**

- b. Two corridors meet at right angles at the Professor's study. Is the door set at 45 degrees? Or are there two doors to the study from those corridors?

**It is very unlikely that there would be two doors abutting each other; it is more likely that there was a single door set at 45 degrees, although that also seems strange.**

2. Which corridor did the maid, Susan, run down to the study? And from which direction did she run?

**It must have been the corridor on the other side of the study from the double corridors, and presumably Susan came from the left. However, that corridor is rather unusual too. What, if anything, is on the lower side of the corridor (the side towards the study)? There is a window from the study facing whatever is there. Does the corridor run along side the outdoors?**

The Return

3. There certainly was gas for lighting at 221 Baker Street. Why then did Holmes say (613), “I’ll light my spirit lamp, and give you a cup of coffee before we start”?

**Probably because he (Holmes) did not want to invade Mrs. Hudson’s kitchen to make a cup of coffee.**

## THE GOLDEN PINCE-NEZ SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. Who discovered Willoughby Smith after he had been fatally stabbed?
  - a. Susan Tarlton, the maid
  - b. Willoughby Smith's mother
  - c. Mrs. King, the cook
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Where was Anna hiding?
  - a. in the cellar
  - b. behind the bookcase
  - c. in the attic
  - d. none of the above
  
3. How did Anna die?
  - a. she took poison
  - b. she was stabbed
  - c. she had a heart attack
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE GOLDEN PINCE-NEZ INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What was the name of the Scotland Yard detective in this case?
  - a. Inspector Lestrade
  - b. Altheney Jones
  - c. Stanley Hopkins
  - d. none of the above
2. What was the name of Professor Coram's home?
  - a. Stoke Moran
  - b. Riding Thorp Manor
  - c. Yoxley Old Place
  - d. none of the above
3. What covered the floor on both corridors leading from the Professor's study?
  - a. well worn carpet
  - b. tile
  - c. coconut matting
  - d. none of the above
4. What did Holmes leave in front of the bookcase to verify that Anna was hiding there?
  - a. cigarette ashes
  - b. flower petals
  - c. bits of paper
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE GOLDEN PINCE-NEZ ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. In what century was the palimpsest that Holmes was attempting to decipher written?
  - a. 12<sup>th</sup>
  - b. 15<sup>th</sup>
  - c. 16<sup>th</sup>
  - d. none of the above
  
2. How old was Anna when she married Professor Coram?
  - a. 17
  - b. 20
  - c. 22
  - d. none of the above
  
3. With what was Willoughby Smith stabbed?
  - a. a pair of sharp scissors
  - b. an ivory letter opener
  - c. a sealing wax knife
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What was the name of Professor Coram's gardener?
  - a. Muller
  - b. Morgan
  - c. Mortimer
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**THE MISSING THREE-QUARTER  
DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date when Cyril Overton first visited Holmes)

**CLUES:**

1. The story was first published in August 1904.
2. Watson says, "... I have a recollection of one (this case) which reached us ... some seven or eight years ago ..." (622)
3. The Varsity Match (Oxford vs. Cambridge) was held on the second Wednesday of December except in 1903.
4. December 1, 1896 was on Tuesday.
5. December 1, 1897 was on Wednesday.
6. The evening paper said, "The defeat of (Cambridge) may be ... attributed to ... the lack of combination in the three-quarter line ..." (633)
7. Whitaker's Almanack says that in the 1897 Varsity Match " ... the Cambridge three-quarter line did not come off."
8. When Cyril Overton came to visit Holmes, he said, "To-morrow we play Oxford." (623)

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 and 2 imply the case was in 1896 or 1897
- B. 3 implies it was December
- C. A and B imply it was December 1896 or December 1897
- D. C, 4, and 5 imply the Varsity Match in question was December 9, 1896 or December 8, 1897
- E. D, 6 and 7 imply the Varsity Match in question was December 8, 1897
- F. E and 8 imply Overton's visit was Tuesday, December 7, 1897.

**Cyril Overton visited Holmes on Tuesday, December 7, 1897**

## THE MISSING THREE-QUARTER VOCABULARY WORDS

ascetic (622, 629) – **A person who renounces material comforts and leads a life of austere self-discipline**

inscrutable (622) – **difficult to understand; impenetrable**

enigmatic (622) – **puzzling**

sixteen stone (622) – **one stone equals 14 pounds, so 16 stone would be 224 pounds**

the pack (622) – **rugby players who participate in a scrum**

touchline (623) – **out of bounds line**

drop (623) – **a drop-kick, that is, where the player drops the ball and kicks it just after it touches the ground**

porter (623) – **door keeper**

marrow (624) – **soft, fatty, vascular tissue that fills most bone cavities**

gout (624) – **painful inflammation of the joints, especially of the feet and hands**

grizzled (625) – **flecked with grey**

hieroglyphic (625) – **difficult to read or decipher**

counterfoil (626) – **part of a check or other commercial paper retained by the issuer as a record of a transaction.**

hack (626) – **cough**

querulous (626) – **grumbling**

plate (627) – **household articles covered with a precious metal such as silver or gold**

dour (629) – **silently ill-humored**

sardonic (631) – **scornfully or cynically mocking**

acumen (632) – **keenness of judgment**

publicans (632) – **keepers of public houses or taverns**

the Cam (633) – **the river that flows through the town of Cambridge**

impunity (634) – **exemption from punishment, penalty, or harm**

compunction (635) – **strong uneasiness caused by a sense of guilt**

virulent (635) – **extremely infectious**

## THE MISSING THREE-QUARTER OPEN QUESTIONS

1. On page 623 Holmes says, "... amateur sport ... is the best and soundest thing in England." Later on page 628 Holmes also says, "... a good deal of betting (on amateur sport) goes on among the public ... " and adds "... it might be worth someone's while to get at a player ... " and then finally "... it is not impossible that a plot to hold (Godfrey Staunton) for ransom might be concocted." This last contains the implication that someone else, connected with the Cambridge side, would pay such a ransom. How can you reconcile the characterization of amateur sport as 'best and soundest' with the later accusations?

**Holmes might have meant that the amateur athletes and their coaches and sponsors were 'the best and soundest thing in England' especially compared with the professional athletes. However, he also must have known that people outside the sports often placed bets on the sports and were not above criminal activity to assure their bets.**

2. What crime was Holmes guilty of in this case?

**Invasion of privacy**

## THE MISSING THREE-QUARTER SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. The missing three-quarter was
  - a. a cricket player
  - b. a rugby player
  - c. a jail breaker
  - d. none of the above
  
2. When the missing three-quarter was found he was
  - a. being held for ransom
  - b. with his wealthy uncle
  - c. with his dead wife
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Leslie Armstrong, who was a friend of the missing three-quarter, was
  - a. a coach of the team
  - b. a physician
  - c. a detective
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE MISSING THREE-QUARTER INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What was the name of Godfrey Staunton's uncle?
  - a. Lord Armstrong-Stevenson
  - b. Lord Mount-James
  - c. Lord Morton-Johnson
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was the name of Godfrey Staunton's friend to whom he sent a telegram asking the friend to "Stand by us for God's sake"?
  - a. Leslie Armstrong
  - b. Cyril Overton
  - c. Jeremy Dixon
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Why did Godfrey Staunton keep his marriage a secret?
  - a. he would no longer be able to play rugby for his university
  - b. his uncle would disinherit him
  - c. his scholarship money would be discontinued
  - d. none of the above
  
4. How was Holmes able to follow Dr. Armstrong's carriage?
  - a. he perched on the back of Dr. Armstrong's carriage
  - b. he watched Dr. Armstrong's carriage from the top of a nearby hill
  - c. he put aniseed on the wheels of Dr. Armstrong's carriage
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE MISSING THREE-QUARTER ADVANCED QUIZ <sup>&</sup>

1. Who advised Cyril Overton to consult Holmes?
  - a. Stanley Hopkins
  - b. Mrs. Farintosh
  - c. the rector of Trinity College
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What breed of dog was Pompey, the dog Holmes used to track Dr. Leslie Armstrong's carriage?
  - a. something between a bulldog and a spaniel
  - b. a cross between a blood hound and a mastiff
  - c. something between a beagle and a foxhound
  - d. none of the above
  
3. In what college and university was Cyril Overton a student?
  - a. Magdalene College, Oxford University
  - b. Trinity College, Cambridge University
  - c. St. Luke's College, Cambridge University
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Where were Godfrey Staunton's teammates staying in London?
  - a. Bentley's private hotel
  - b. a private hotel near Trafalgar Square
  - c. the Northumberland Hotel
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

## THE ABBEY GRANGE DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\*

(Date when Holmes confronted Captain James Crocker)

### CLUES:

1. Watson says, “ It was on a bitter cold night and frosty morning, towards the end of the winter of '97 ...” (635)
2. Lady Brackenstall says, “ ... when we first met him (Sir Eustace Brackenstall) – only eighteen months ago ... it was July” (645)
3. Hopkins says, “The crime was committed before twelve last night.” (636)
4. Theresa Wright says, “I saw three men in the moonlight<sup>#</sup> ... It was more than an hour after that I heard my mistress scream ...” (639)
5. In January 1897 the moon rose before 11 pm from January 23 to the end of the month.
6. January 1897 was cloudy on all nights in January up to and including January 21.
7. Holmes entered the case on the day following the murder.
8. Watson says, “ ... we could dimly see the occasional figure of an early workman as he passed us, ...” (636) on the day Holmes entered the case.
9. January 24, 1897 was on Sunday.
10. Holmes confronted Captain Crocker on the evening of the day he (Holmes) entered the case.

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

<sup>#</sup> While Theresa Wright lied and did not see any men, her lie would have been discovered by the police if there has not been any moonlight on the night in question.

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 and 2 imply it was January of 1897.
- B. 3 and 4 imply that the moon was visible before 11 pm on the night of the murder.
- C. B and 5 imply that the murder was committed in 1897 on January 23 or earlier.
- D. B and 6 imply the murder was in 1897 on January 22 or later.
- E. C and D imply the murder was on January 22 or 23, 1897.
- F. E and 7 imply Holmes entered the case on either January 23 or 24, 1897.
- G. 8 implies the date Holmes entered the case was not Sunday.
- H. 9 and G imply the date Holmes entered the case was not January 24, 1897.
- I. F and H imply the date Holmes entered the case was Saturday, January 23, 1897.
- J. I and 9 imply Holmes confronted Captain Crocker on Saturday, January 23, 1897.

**Holmes confronted Captain Crocker on  
Saturday, January 23, 1897**

## THE ABBEY GRANGE VOCABULARY WORDS

- opalescent (636) – **having a milky iridescence like that of an opal**
- fashion of Palladio (637) – **style of architecture characterized by arches supported by small columns which are framed between larger columns and named after the Italian architect, Andrea Palladio (1518 – 1580)**
- fortnight (637, 642) – **two weeks**
- assiduously (637) – **diligently**
- French window (638, 639, 641, 646) – **pair of windows extending to the floor and opening in the middle**
- blackthorn cudgel (638) – **short, heavy stick made from the branch of a thorny, deciduous shrub that sprouts white flowers and small, bluish-black, plumlike fruits**
- sideboard (639, 641) – **piece of dining room furniture having drawers and shelves for linens and Tableware; a buffet**
- abstruse (639) – **difficult to understand**
- hearthrug (640) – **rug laid on a floor in front of a fireplace**
- aquiline (640) – **eagle-like**
- foppish (640) – **like a man who is preoccupied about his clothes and manners**
- decanter (640, 641, 644) – **vessel into which wine is poured into so that the sediment is not disturbed**
- plate (641) – **household articles covered with a precious metal such as silver or gold**

beeswing (641, 643) – **shining, filmy crust formed in port and some other wines and named for its resemblance to bees' wings**

*de novo* (642) – **anew**

edifices (643) – **buildings of imposing appearance or size**

baronet (643) – **hereditary knight, title invented by James I to pay for the settlement of Ulster: lowest hereditary British title**

Waterloo (644) – **battle in which Napoleon was defeated (June 18, 1815) and which led to Napoleon's downfall**

Marengo (644) – **battle in which Napoleon soundly defeated the Austrians (June 14, 1800)**

taciturn (644) – **almost always silent**

amiability (644) – **friendliness; easy to get along with**

morning-room (645) – **room used as a sitting room in the early part of the day**

foment (645) – **apply warm liquids to**

impudent (645) – **impertinent**

pith (646) – **essential or central part**

welted (649) – **lashed or struck in a way that produced a ridge or bump on the skin**

*Vox populi, vox Dei* (650) – **The voice of the people is the voice of God**

## THE ABBEY GRANGE OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Holmes says, "Hopkins has called me in seven times, ..."  
" (636) Watson has recorded only three of those cases.  
What are they?

**"The Adventure of Black Peter"**

**"The Adventure of the Golden Pince-Nez"**

**"The Adventure of the Missing Three-Quarter"**

2. On page 644 Holmes give us two clues about his own height.  
What height was Sherlock Holmes?

**Holmes says the killer was, "Six foot three in height, ... ".  
Later Holmes says, " ... he (the killer) is at least three inches  
a bigger man than I." Therefore, Holmes was at most six  
feet tall.**

3. After Holmes has accused Watson of sensationalizing his  
(Holmes's) cases, Watson replies, "Why do you not write  
them yourself?" To which Holmes responds, "I will, my dear  
Watson, I will." (636) What are the cases that Holmes him-  
self wrote?

**"The Adventure of the Blanched Soldier"**

**"The Adventure of the Lion's Mane"**

4. Holmes allowed Captain Jack Crocker to go free. In addition to Captain Crocker, there were three other offenders that Holmes allowed to go free. Can you name these three men or the three adventures in which they appeared?

**James Ryder in “The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle”**

**James Wilder in “The Adventure of the Priory School”**

**Dr. Leon Sterndale in “The Adventure of the Devil’s Foot”**

## THE ABBEY GRANGE SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. Who killed Sir Eustace Brackenstall?
  - a. James Crocker
  - b. the Randall gang
  - c. Theresa Wright, Lady Brackenstall's maid
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was the Abbey Grange?
  - a. an organization
  - b. a town
  - c. a residence
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What happened to Captain James Crocker at the end of the story?
  - a. he was arrested for murder
  - b. he married Lady Brackenstall
  - c. he was acquitted by Holmes
  - d. none of the above

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## THE ABBEY GRANGE INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. How was Sir Eustace Brackenstall killed?
  - a. he fell against an iron fireplace fender
  - b. he was shot at close range
  - c. he was hit on the head with a poker
  - d. none of the above
  
2. How many wine glasses were found in the dining room?
  - a. two
  - b. three
  - c. four
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What was Lady Brackenstall's maiden name?
  - a. Mary Hunter
  - b. Mary Fraser
  - c. Theresa Wright
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What was the name of Lady Brackenstall's maid?
  - a. Mary Hunter
  - b. Mary Fraser
  - c. Theresa Wright
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE ABBEY GRANGE ADVANCED QUIZ <sup>&</sup>

1. Where was the Abbey Grange?
  - a. Farnham, Surrey
  - b. Marsham, Kent
  - c. Donnithorpe, Norfolk
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What monogram appeared on the letter Stanley Hopkins wrote to Holmes?
  - a. S. H.
  - b. E. B.
  - c. A. G.
  - d. none of the above
  
3. At the time of the story, how long had the Brackenstalls been married?
  - a. about a year
  - b. a year and one-half
  - c. a little more than two years
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What did Sir Eustace Brackenstall do to his wife's dog?
  - a. beat it to death
  - b. set it on fire
  - c. tortured it by sticking needles into its ears
  - d. none of the above

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**THE SECOND STAIN**  
**DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date when Holmes returned the missing letter  
to the despatch-box)

**CLUES:**

1. In “The Naval Treaty” Watson says, “The July which immediately succeeded my marriage was made memorable by three cases ... recorded in my notes under the headings of ‘The Adventure of the Second Stain’ ... “(447)
2. Watson was married late in 1888 or early in 1889
3. Watson says, “It was, ... one Tuesday morning ... “ (650)
4. Watson says, “So for three mornings the mystery remained ... “ (658)
5. On the day of the announcement of Eduardo Lucas’s murder, Holmes went to the site of the murder and then immediately to Trelawney Hope’s residence to confront Lady Hilda Trelawney Hope. (659 to 664)
6. Holmes returned the letter to the despatch-box when he visited Lady Hilda. (664)
7. Lucas had “Sometimes ... visited Paris for three months on end ... “ (658)
8. Lucas was married to Mme. Fournaye and lived with her in Paris. (659)
9. On July 15, 1889 the French Chamber of Deputies voted 58 million Francs to increase the French naval forces.<sup>#</sup>
10. July 15, 1889 was Monday

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

<sup>#</sup> Source: Christ, Jay Finley, *An Irregular Chronology of Sherlock Holmes of Baker Street* (The Fanlight House, Chicago, 1947) [Reprinted by Magico Magazine, P O Box 156, New York, NY 1983] p. 55

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 and 2 imply that the case took place in July of 1889
- B. 3 implies that the case began on Tuesday
- C. B and 4 imply that the next actions took place on Friday following the opening of the case
- D. C, 5 and 6 imply Holmes returned the letter to the despatch-box on Friday
- E. 7 and 8 imply that Lucas had dealings and might have sold secrets to the French government.
- F. E and 9 imply that the French government increased its naval force because of warnings that Lucas had something to sell to them that might precipitate a conflict with Britain.
- G. F, 9 and 10 imply that the case started on Monday, July 15, 1889
- H. D and G imply that Holmes returned the letter to the despatch-box on Friday, July 19, 1889

**Holmes returned the letter to the despatch-box  
on Friday, July 19, 1889**

## THE SECOND STAIN VOCABULARY WORDS

- betaken (650) – **caused himself to go or move**  
peremptorily (650) – **without allowing contradiction or refusal**  
settee (651, 654) – **small or medium-sized sofa**  
gaunt (651) – **haggard or drawn**  
ascetic (651) – **showing a life of self-discipline and self-denial**  
ferment (653) – **state of agitation or of turbulent change**  
transpired (655) – **became known**  
frou-frou (657) – **rustling sound, as of silk**  
tenacity (657) – **being exceptionally persistent**  
caste (657) – **social class separated from others by distinctions  
of hereditary rank**  
curling tongs (657) – **tongs used to curl the hair**  
reveries (657) – **daydreams**  
indefatigable (658) – **incapable of being fatigued; tireless**  
Creole (659) – **of European descent but born in the West  
Indies or Latin America**  
drugget (660, 661, 665) – **coarse rug of heavy felted fabric (wool  
or wool and cotton) and made in  
India**  
sumptuous (660) – **suggesting great expense; lavish**  
paroxysm (661) – **sudden outburst of emotion**  
languidly (661) – **showing little or no spirit; listless**  
sidled (661) – **advanced in a furtive way**  
Queer Street (662) – **imaginary place where people in financial  
difficulty lived**  
genteel (662) – **well-bred and polite**  
mantle (662) – **loose, sleeveless coat worn over outer garments;  
a cloak**  
morning-room (662) – **sitting room used in the early part of the  
day**

The Return

forborne (663) – **held back; refrained**

ingenious (663) – **inventive or cunning**

supplication (663-664) – **humbly and earnestly begging**

farcical (666) – **ludicrous or absurd**

## THE SECOND STAIN OPEN QUESTIONS

1. During the initial discussion with Lord Bellinger, the Prime Minister, and Trelawney Hope, Holmes “ ... wrote a name (of the supposed writer of the missing letter) upon a slip of paper and handed it to the Premier” (653) Why didn’t Holmes simply say the name aloud? After all, the only one in the room who didn’t know the name was Watson?

**Holmes probably did say the name aloud. Writing on a slip of paper might have been a literary device used by Watson to avoid giving the name in the story.**

2. Lord Bellinger says to Trelawney Hope, “ ... No one can blame you (for the theft of the letter). There is no precaution which you have neglected.” (653) But Hope had put the incriminating letter in his despatch-box in his bedroom – hardly a secure hiding place compared to the safes in the Prime Minister’s office. What could the Prime Minister have meant?

**The British must have had preciously little confidence in the security of their safes. Not only did Hope take this letter home, but Alexander Holder took a precious coronet home for safekeeping (“The Adventure of the Beryl Coronet”).**

3. Holmes says, “The odds are enormous against its (Lucas’s murder) being coincidence.” (655) But it was a coincidence as the events as related by Lady Hilda Trelawney Hope on page 665 show. Was Holmes wrong in his estimate of the odds?

**Holmes was right about the odds against it being a coincidence, but he was wrong in dismissing coincidence as a possibility. It was a good thing Holmes acted on his supposition that the murder was not a coincidence, otherwise he would not have solved the case.**

4. When she had recovered the missing letter, why didn't Lady Hilda Trelawney Hope replace it in the despatch-box herself?

**Lady Hilda was out of her element becoming involved in the exchange with Lucas. She was acting in a heightened state of anxiety and unable to think clearly.**

5. Holmes asks Lestrade, " ... has that constable (McPherson) ... been in charge of the place all the time?" To which Lestrade replies, "Yes, he has." (661) Was Scotland Yard so strapped for help that they could not relieve McPherson of that boring duty for even one day?

**One possibility is that Lestrade didn't have much help to call upon. Another is that McPherson wasn't capable of much more responsibility. As a matter of fact, McPherson wasn't even up to the responsibility that Lestrade had given him in this case.**

6. When the British government first received the incriminating letter, why wasn't it simply destroyed – by burning it for example – rather than risk it being stolen by a foreign agent as it was?

**Destroying the letter would have been a good option, but the British government either didn't think of it or thought that destroying the letter didn't fit in with the British sense of fair play.**

## THE SECOND STAIN SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. Where was the first stain?
  - a. on the carpet
  - b. on the drapes
  - c. on the table cloth
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Where was the missing letter hidden?
  - a. in a secret compartment under the floor
  - b. in a secret safe hidden behind a picture
  - c. in the pages of a book in the bookcase
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Who took the missing letter from the despatch-box?
  - a. the Hope's butler
  - b. Lady Trelawney Hope
  - c. Eduardo Lucas
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE SECOND STAIN INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. Where had Trelawney Hope put the letter for safekeeping before it was discovered to be missing?
  - a. in a drawer of his bedroom dresser
  - b. in the right-hand drawer of the desk in his bedroom
  - c. in a despatch-box in his bedroom
  - d. none of the above
2. What was the name of the foreign agent who had the missing letter?
  - a. Eduardo Lucas
  - b. La Rothiere
  - c. Oberstein
  - d. none of the above
3. Where did Trelawney Hope finally find the missing letter?
  - a. on his desk at the Admiralty
  - b. in his despatch-box
  - c. under a cushion on his sofa
  - d. none of the above
4. Who retrieved the missing letter from its hiding place in the foreign agent's house?
  - a. Sherlock Holmes
  - b. Dr. Watson
  - c. Lady Trelawney Hope
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE SECOND STAIN ADVANCED QUIZ <sup>&</sup>

1. What did Watson say he intended to be the last exploit of Sherlock Holmes that he would write?
  - a. The Adventure of the Abbey Grange
  - b. The Adventure of the Copper Beeches
  - c. The Final Problem
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What government position did Trelawney Hope hold?
  - a. Secretary of the Navy
  - b. Secretary of European Affairs
  - c. Private secretary to the Prime Minister
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What was the name of the Prime Minister?
  - a. Lord Bellinger
  - b. Lord Damery
  - c. Lord Holdhurst
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What was Eduardo Lucas' address in London?
  - a. 3 Brixton Road
  - b. 13 Caulfield Gardens
  - c. 16 Godolphin Street
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

## ANSWERS TO QUIZZES FOR THE RETURN

QUESTION	1	2	3	4
<b>Empty House</b>				
Simple	c	c	c	xx
Intermediate	a	b	c	c
Advanced	c	a	a	b
<b>Norwood Builder</b>				
Simple	c	a	b	xx
Intermediate	a	a	b	c
Advanced	a	a	a	b
<b>Dancing Men</b>				
Simple	b	b	a	xx
Intermediate	b	c	a	a
Advanced	b	b	a	b
<b>Solitary Cyclist</b>				
Simple	a	c	c	xx
Intermediate	b	c	c	b
Advanced	b	c	a	c
<b>Priory School</b>				
Simple	b	a	c	xx
Intermediate	c	b	a	b
Advanced	d	a	c	b
<b>Black Peter</b>				
Simple	b	a	c	xx
Intermediate	b	c	b	c
Advanced	b	c	b	d
<b>Charles Augustus Milverton</b>				
Simple	b	a	a	xx
Intermediate	c	c	a	b
Advanced	b	c	b	a

QUESTION	1	2	3	4
<b>Six Napoleons</b>				
Simple	a	c	c	xx
Intermediate	b	b	c	b
Advanced	c	a	a	b
<b>Three Students</b>				
Simple	c	a	d	xx
Intermediate	a	b	c	b
Advanced	b	c	a	b
<b>Golden Pince-Nez</b>				
Simple	a	b	a	xx
Intermediate	c	c	c	a
Advanced	b	b	c	c
<b>Missing Three-Quarter</b>				
Simple	b	c	b	xx
Intermediate	b	a	b	c
Advanced	a	c	b	a
<b>Abbey Grange</b>				
Simple	a	c	c	xx
Intermediate	c	b	b	c
Advanced	b	b	a	b
<b>Second Stain</b>				
Simple	a	a	b	xx
Intermediate	c	a	b	c
Advanced	a	b	a	c



# His Last Bow



“... Lestrade and I, bending forward on each side of him, glanced ... at these dreadful relics ...”

**The Adventure of the Cardboard Box**

Artist: Nancy Beiman

**WISTERIA LODGE**  
**DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date when Miss Burnet escaped)

**CLUES:**

1. Watson says, “ ... it was a bleak and windy day toward the end of March in the year 1892.” (869)
2. Mr. Baynes says, “There was rain about that time (1 am) ...” (875)
3. Watson says, “It was a cold, dark March evening (when he and Holmes arrived in Wisteria Lodge) with a sharp wind and a fine rain ...” (877)
4. Monday, March 21, 1892 produced rain, wind, and a temperature of 27°. <sup>§</sup>
5. On the day the case opened Gregson says, “ ... the events which led up to the death last night of Mr. Aloysius Garcia ...” (871)
6. Watson says, “ ... some five days after the crime, I opened my morning paper (to find the story of the arrest of the mulatto servant on the day before) ...” (880)
7. Watson says, “It was about five o’clock (on the day when he had read the report of the mulatto’s arrest) ... when an excited rustic rushed into our room.” (883)
8. The rustic (John Warner) reported that, “She (Miss Burnet) fought her way out (of the carriage) again. I ... got her into a cab, and here we are.” (884)

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

<sup>§</sup>Source: Christ, Jay Finley, *An Irregular Chronology of Sherlock Holmes of Baker Street* (The Fanlight House, Chicago, 1947) [Reprinted by Magico Magazine, P O Box 156, New York, NY 1983] p. 57

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 implies it was March of 1892
- B. A, 3 and 4 imply that the case opened on Monday, March 21, 1892
- C. B and 5 imply that Garcia was murdered on Sunday, March 20, 1892
- D. C and 6 imply that it was on Friday, March 25, 1892 that Watson read the account of the mulatto's arrest
- E. D, 7 and 8 imply that Miss Burnet escaped on Friday, March 25, 1892.

**Miss Burnet escaped on Friday, March 25, 1892**

## WISTERIA LODGE VOCABULARY WORDS

- audacity (870, 880) – **fearless daring**  
pompous (870) – **excessive self-esteem or exaggerated dignity**  
spats (870) – **cloth or leather gaiters covering the upper part of the shoes and the**  
**flurried (870) – confused**  
toilet (870) – **grooming**  
waistcoat (871) – **a vest**  
rueful (871) – **expressing sorrow or regret**  
swarthy (872) – **dark complexioned**  
tête-à-tête (872) – **private conversation between two persons**  
taciturn (872) – **untalkative**  
distract (872) – **inattentive or preoccupied**  
villa (873) – **house in a middle-class suburb**  
quarter-day (873) – **first day of each quarter, the day when rents were customarily due**  
amiable (873) – **friendly and agreeable**  
dog-grate (873) – **detached fire grate standing in a fireplace on supports that are called dogs**  
baize (874) – **green cotton or woolen material imitating felt;**  
querulous (874) – **complaining or fretful**  
five-shilling (875) – **one-quarter of a British pound**  
goggle eyes (878) – **bulging eyes**  
wattles (878) – **fleshy, wrinkled, often brightly colored fold of skin hanging from the neck or throat of certain birds, such as chickens or turkeys**  
*au revoir* (879) – **farewell**  
spud (879) – **sharp spade-like tool used to dig out weeds**  
abstraction (880) – **removal**  
mulatto (880, 884, 887) – **person of mixed white and Black ancestry**  
ambuscade (880) – **ambush**  
remand (880) – **an order to send back to custody**

- Jacobean (882) – **built during the reign of James I of England**  
prosaic (882) – **straightforward or unimaginative**  
sapless (882) – **without spirit or energy**  
whipcord (882) – **strong twisted or braided cord**  
dog-whip (883) – **whip used for training dogs**  
citadel (883) – **stronghold or fortified place**  
nefarious (883) – **extremely wicked**  
outhouse (883) – **building separated from the main building**  
ardour (883) – **passion**  
rustic (883) – **a crude or simple person**  
aquiline (884) – **eagle-like**  
emaciated (884) – **extremely thin as if starved**  
emissary (884) – **agent sent on a mission to represent the  
interests of someone else**  
odious (884) – **deserving hatred or disgust**  
insurgents (885) – **persons who oppose those in control**  
blanched (885) – **turned pale**  
pittance (885) – **extremely small amount of money**  
despot (885) – **ruler with absolute power**  
gorse bushes (886) – **bushes with fragrant yellow flowers and  
black pod; also called furze**  
assizes (887) – **trial sessions, civil or criminal, held periodically  
in specific locations by a judge or court which moves  
from place to place**  
Nihilism (887) – **revolutionary movement of mid 19th-century  
Russia that advocated the scorn of authority and  
tradition and believed in changing society and  
government through terrorism and assassination**  
fetish (887) – **object believed to have magical or spiritual  
powers**  
reconnoitring (887) – **making an inspection of in order to  
gather information**  
piety (887) – **devotion and reverence**  
astuteness (887) – **shrewdness**  
propitiate (887) – **appease**

## WISTERIA LODGE OPEN QUESTIONS

1. On page 874 Holmes said, “It (the note to Garcia) is a woman’s writing, ... but the address is either done with another pen or by someone else.” As it turns out, the address was written by one of the villains. Why didn’t Murillo and Lopez simply wait until Miss Burnet had written the address on the envelope before they bound and gagged her?

**Murillo and Lopez made a mistake. The different handwriting on the envelope might have made Garcia suspicious and put him on his guard. Fortunately for them, and unfortunately for Garcia, it did not arouse Garcia’s suspicions.**

2. Holmes says, “Their governess is a Miss Burnet, an English-woman of forty or thereabouts.” (882) On the next page, Holmes also says, “ ... Miss Burnet’s age and character make it certain that my first idea that there might be a love interest in our story is out of the question.” (883) Why did Holmes draw this last conclusion? Did he think that a 40-year-old English-woman could not be involved in a romance? Or did he have some other reason?

**Holmes might have thought that romance was out of the question for a 40-year-old English woman. After all, Holmes had no experience in romance and left that to Watson. On the other hand, Holmes might have thought that romance was not a factor because Miss Burnet was English and the rest of the household was not.**

3. On page 886 Miss Burnet says, “They had gagged me, ... until I gave him (Murillo) the address (of Wisteria Lodge)”. How did Miss Burnet manage to give Murillo the address while she was gagged?

**Perhaps Miss Burnet was gagged with the hand of one of the men. The hand might have been periodically removed to give her a chance to speak. If she tried to cry out for help, the hand gag was returned.**

4. On page 886 Miss Burnet also says, “ ... he might have twisted it (my arm) off had I understood what it would mean to Garcia.” What did Miss Burnet think they wanted Garcia’s address for if not to murder him?

**At the time her arm was being twisted, Miss Burnet was obviously under great strain, both physical and emotional, and therefore might not have fully realized the consequences of revealing Garcia’s address. She is not the first person to reveal a secret under torture and later regret having done so.**

## WISTERIA LODGE SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. What happened to Aloysius Garcia in the story?
  - a. he was arrested for attempted murder
  - b. he was murdered
  - c. he disappeared
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What did Inspector Baynes show Holmes in the kitchen sink at Wisteria Lodge?
  - a. the limbs and body of a large, white bird
  - b. the inner organs of a slaughtered lamb
  - c. the skin of a snake
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What was the final fate of Don Murillo?
  - a. He and his secretary were murdered in Madrid
  - b. He was imprisoned for life
  - c. He was hanged at the Old Bailey
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

**WISTERIA LODGE  
INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>**

1. What was Senor Garcia's first name?
  - a. Aloysius
  - b. Jose
  - c. Manuel
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was the English name used by Don Murillo?
  - a. Downing
  - b. Henderson
  - c. Walters
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What was the name of Don Murillo's children's governess?
  - a. Miss Burnet
  - b. Violet Hunter
  - c. Grace Dunbar
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What was Don Murillo once called?
  - a. The Beast of Santa Domingo
  - b. The Tiger of San Pedro
  - c. The Lion of Central America
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE ADVENTURE WISTERIA LODGE ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. What was Scott Eccles address?
  - a. Albermarle Mansion, Kensington
  - b. Popham House, Lee
  - c. Wisteria Lodge, Esher
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Where did Holmes and Watson find comfortable quarters in Esher?
  - a. The Dingle
  - b. High Gable
  - c. The Bull
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What was the name of the constable that Inspector Baynes left in charge of Wisteria Lodge?
  - a. Bradstreet
  - b. Downing
  - c. Walters
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What was the name of the Don Murillo's ex-gardener?
  - a. John Warner
  - b. Hynes Hynes
  - c. Joshua Stone
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

## THE CARDBOARD BOX DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\*

(Date when Susan Cushing received two severed ears)

### CLUES:

1. "It was a blazing hot day in August." (888)
2. Watson was living with Holmes in Baker Street.
3. Watson was married in late 1888 or early 1889
4. From Wednesday, August 7, 1888 to Saturday, August 10, 1888 it was very hot in England.
5. Holmes says, "Today is Friday." (892)
6. The newspaper report says, "At two o'clock yesterday afternoon a small packet ... was handed in by the postman". (890)
7. The newspaper report was published on the same day that Holmes made that statement in Clue Number 5.

### CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1, 2, and 3 imply the case was in August 1888.
- B. A and 4 imply the case opened between Wednesday, August 7, 1888 and Saturday, August 10, 1888
- C. B and 5 imply the case opened on Friday, August 9, 1888
- D. C, 6, and 7 imply the packet arrived on Thursday, August 8, 1888

**Susan Cushing received the two ears on  
Thursday, August 8, 1888**

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## THE CARDBOARD BOX VOCABULARY WORDS

shingle of Southsea (888) – **pebble beach at Southsea**

filaments (888) – **long, slender projections**

General Gordon (889) – **Charles “Chinese” Gordon**

**(1833-1885), British general sent to Khartoum in the Sudan in 1884 to rescue English garrisons that were under attack by the Mahdi, Mohammed Ahmed. Gordon himself was besieged for 10 months. A relief expedition arrived on January 28, 1885 to find that Khartoum had been captured, and Gordon killed two days before.**

Henry Ward Beecher (889) – **US Congregational minister and militant opponent of slavery; he traveled to Britain and helped turn British sentiment against the South**

our boots (890) – **our servant**

placid-faced (891, 893) – **calm faced**

grizzled hair (891, 893) – **hair flecked with grey**

antimacassar (891, 893) – **a cover to protect the arms or back of a chair**

outhouse (891) – **building that is separated from the main building**

steward (893) – **ship’s employee who attends to the passengers’ wants**

tenacious (895) – **holding fast with fury**

pinna of the ear (896) – **projecting portion of the ear**

upper lobe of the ear (896) – **top part of ear**

cartilage (896) – **elastic tissue**

elucidate (897) – **shed light on the meaning**

sanguine (897) – **optimistic**

obtuse (897) – **dense**

- foolscap (897) – **A sheet of writing paper measuring approximately 13 by 16 inches with a watermark of a fool's cap with bells**
- swarthy (897) – **dark complexioned**
- darbies (897) – **handcuffs**
- block (898) – **a pulley or a system of pulleys set in a casing**
- blue ribbon (898, 899) – **not drinking, named for the Blue Ribbon Army, a teetotaler organization founded in 1878**
- flint (898) – **a very hard, fine-grained quartz that sparks when struck with steel**
- besotted (899) – **muddled or stupefied**
- rows (899) – **arguments**
- curled (899) – **handsome**
- poop (899) – **part of ship towards the rear**
- forecastle (899) – **part of ship in front of the main mast**
- hogshead (900) – **a large cask**
- footpath (900) – **sidewalk**
- docker's hammer (900) – **dock worker's hammer**
- booking-office (900) – **ticket office**
- the Parade (900) – **the walk along the shore**
- stove (901) – **knocked out a plank**

## THE CARDBOARD BOX OPEN QUESTIONS

1. The thought reading episode with which the story begins appeared earlier in *The Strand* edition of “The Adventure of the Cardboard Box”. However, that latter adventure was omitted from the book, *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*. “The Resident Patient” was included in the book, and Doyle lifted the thought reading episode and put it in “The Adventure of the Cardboard Box”. Why do you suppose the “Adventure of the Cardboard Box” was omitted from *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*?

(HINT: “The Cardboard Box” was first published in *The Strand* magazine in January 1893. When the book, *The Memoirs*, was published in 1894, that story was omitted although “The Resident Patient” was included in the book. “The Cardboard Box” was included in a later volume, *His Last Bow*, published in 1917.)

**“The Cardboard Box” was not published in *The Memoirs* because Doyle thought it would not be proper to use a story about marital infidelity in a book that would be widely read, more widely read than the magazine in which the story first appeared. However, he (Doyle) was loath to omit the thought reading episode, so he lifted it and inserted it verbatim in “The Resident Patient”. “The Cardboard Box” was later included in the volume *His Last Bow* published in 1917. By that time, Doyle thought including such a story in a book would be acceptable to the general public.**

2. This story contains the only clue to Inspector Lestrade’s first name? What is the clue?

**On page 898, Lestrade signs a letter as G. Lestrade.**

## THE CARDBOARD BOX SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. The package that Susan Cushing received contained
  - a. a severed thumb
  - b. two severed ears
  - c. a dead rat
  - d. none of the above
  
2. How many Cushing sisters were there?
  - a. two
  - b. three
  - c. four
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Jim Browner was
  - a. the murderer
  - b. the murdered man
  - c. the detective who Holmes helped solve the case
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE CARDBOARD BOX INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. How did Jim Browner kill his wife, Mary, and her lover, Alec Fairbairn?
  - a. he capsized their boat
  - b. he struck them with his stick
  - c. he drowned them
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Why had the packet containing the severed ears been delivered to the wrong person?
  - a. the correct addressee had recently moved
  - b. the sender had misspelled the name
  - c. there were two people whose first names began with the same letter of the alphabet
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What were the two severed ears packed in?
  - a. formaldehyde
  - b. cotton saturated in iodoform
  - c. rock salt
  - d. none of the above
  
4. How did the case end?
  - a. Jim Browner confessed
  - b. Jim Browner was tried and convicted
  - c. Jim Browner committed suicide
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE CARDBOARD BOX ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. From where was the cardboard box mailed?
  - a. Belfast
  - b. Dublin
  - c. Liverpool
  - d. none of the above
  
2. At the time of this story, for how long had Susan and Sarah Cushing not lived together?
  - a. about two weeks
  - b. about two months
  - c. about four months
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Where had Tom Browner followed his wife, Susan, and Alec Fairbairn on the train and then hired a boat from which he murdered both of them?
  - a. Liverpool
  - b. New Brighton
  - c. Southampton
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Where did Susan Cushing, who received the packet containing the two severed ears, live?
  - a. Cross Street, Croydon
  - b. Bush Villa, Penge
  - c. New Street, Wallington
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**THE RED CIRCLE**  
**DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date when Gorgiano was killed)

**CLUES:**

1. Holmes says, "There was evidently some mark, some thumb-print, ... " (903)
2. The Galton-Henry system of fingerprint classification was adopted by Scotland Yard in 1901.<sup>#</sup>
3. Holmes retired from active practice in 1903. (1071, 1080)
4. Watson says, " ... a man, muffled in a cravat and greatcoat, was leaning against the railing." (908)
5. On the evening when Gorgiano was killed, Holmes says, " ... it is not eight o'clock, and a Wagner night at Covent Garden!" (913)
6. The only Wagner performances at Covent Garden in 1901 were in the summer.
7. In 1902 the final Wagner performance at Covent Garden was on September 25
8. In 1902, September 1 was Monday

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

<sup>#</sup>Source: Baring-Gould, William S., *The Annotated Sherlock Holmes, Vol II* (1967 Charles N. Potter) p. 693

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 and 2 imply it was 1901 or later.
- B. 3 implies it was before 1903
- C. A and B imply it was 1901 or 1902
- D. 4 implies that it was not summer
- E. D, 5 and 6 imply that it was not 1901
- F. C and E imply that it was 1902
- G. 5 implies that on the night Gorgiano was killed, Holmes was rushing to get to the Wagner performance
- H. G implies that on the night following the night when Gorgiano was killed there was no Wagner performance
- I. F, H, and 7 imply that the night Gorgiano was killed was September 25, 1902
- J. I and 8 imply Gorgiano was killed on Thursday, September 25, 1902

**Giuseppe Gorgiano was killed on  
Thursday, September 25, 1902**

## THE RED CIRCLE VOCABULARY WORDS

- pertinacity (901) – **keeping comments precisely relevant to the matter at hand**
- gum-brush (901) – **paste brush for apply glue**
- shilling (902) – **one twentieth of a pound**
- fortnight (902) – **two weeks**
- matted (903) – **packed into a thick mass**
- laconic (904) – **terse or concise**
- bleat (904) – **worthless whinings**
- conjecture (905) – **an opinion or a conclusion based on guess-work**
- box-room (905) – **storeroom for trunks, luggage, etc.; also called a lumber room**
- pretentious (905) – **marked by an extravagant outward show; ostentatious**
- flat (906, 908, 909) – **apartment**
- surmise (906) – **an inference drawn without sufficiently conclusive evidence**
- gaunt (907) – **thin and bony**
- cavat (908) – **scarf**
- greatcoat (908) – **large heavy overcoat**
- sauntered (908) – **walked at a leisurely pace; strolled**
- deal (909) – **fir or pine wood**
- swarthy (909) – **dark complexioned**
- haft (909) – **handle or hilt**
- horn-handled (909) – **handle made from a natural or synthetic substance resembling the hard, smooth material forming the outer covering of the horns of animals**
- Dio mio* (910) – **My God**
- Vieni* (910) – **come**
- prosaic (910) – **matter-of-fact; straightforward**

His Last Bow

Carbonari (911) – **members of a secret political association formed in the Kingdom of Naples early in the 19<sup>th</sup> century; their goal was to introduce a republican form of government in the kingdom**

## THE RED CIRCLE OPEN QUESTIONS

1. On page 907 Holmes says, “A single flash – that is A, surely. Now, then. How many did you make it? Twenty. So did I. That should mean T.” However, the Italian alphabet does not include K, so 20 flashes should be U not T. How can you explain this discrepancy?

**Emilia and Gennaro Lucca thought it likely that they would have to use some English words like street names so they used the English alphabet.**

2. Why did Gennaro Lucca send the message “attenta” meaning “beware” three times when Emilia was already aware of the fact that danger lay ahead? And why did he choose such a cumbersome way of sending the message? It would take 477 waves of his candle to send all the messages, and he knew that Giorgiano was lurking nearby.

**Gennaro wanted to be sure that Emilia saw the message and clearly was preparing to send a more meaningful message when he was interrupted.**

3. Why did Gennaro Lucca send his message in the agony column in English when Emilia’s knowledge of English was limited?

**A message in Italian would have attracted more attention from Giorgiano. Moreover, the newspaper might have balked at accepting messages in languages other than English.**

4. On page 904 Holmes says, “This person is alone and cannot be approached by letter without a breach of that absolute secrecy which is desired.” But why not? Couldn’t Gennaro simply written to ‘Mrs. Warren’s Lodger’ at the address on Great Orme Street?

**The house on Great Orme Street was under surveillance witness the fact that Mr. Warren was abducted (see Question 5). Thus a letter might have been intercepted.**

5. On page 905 Mrs. Warren says, “ ... this morning he (her husband) had not gone ten paces down the road when two men ... threw a coat over his head ... They drove him an hour, and then opened the door and shot him out.” How did the captors know that he was not their intended prey, Gennaro Lucca, without looking at his face?

**It is likely that Mr. Warren cried out for help and his voice was recognized at not being the voice of Gennaro Lucca. Moreover, perhaps in the carriage they noticed that neither his size nor his clothing could belong to Gennaro Lucca.**

## THE RED CIRCLE SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. Mrs. Warren's mysterious lodger was
  - a. a man
  - b. a woman
  - c. a child
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Mrs. Warren's mysterious lodger was
  - a. French
  - b. Italian
  - c. Spanish
  - d. none of the above
  
3. The signals used by Mrs. Warren's mysterious lodger to send and receive messages were given by using
  - a. a candle
  - b. a torch (flashlight)
  - c. raising and lowering a window blind
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE RED CIRCLE INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What clue did Holmes observe that told him the mysterious lodger in Mrs. Warren's house was not a native speaker of English?
  - a. the wrong tense of a verb was used
  - b. a singular noun was used when a plural one was more appropriate
  - c. a non-British brand of cigarettes was ordered
  - d. none of the above
2. How was Black Gorgiano killed?
  - a. he was shot
  - b. he was stabbed
  - c. he was strangled
  - d. none of the above
3. Who killed Black Gorgiano?
  - a. Tito Castalotte
  - b. Giuseppe Zamba
  - c. Gennaro Lucca
  - d. none of the above
4. How did Holmes and Watson manage to see Mrs. Warren's mysterious lodger?
  - a. they hid in a box-room opposite the door to the lodger's room
  - b. they stood behind a tree on the street and waited until the lodger tried to signal a confederate
  - c. Holmes climbed a fence to peer into the window
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE ADVENTURE OF THE RED CIRCLE ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. What was the name of Mrs. Warren's former lodger for whom Holmes arranged an affair the year before this adventure?
  - a. Mrs. Farintosh
  - b. Fairdale Hobbs
  - c. Jeremy Dixon
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Which one of the following did NOT appear in the agony column of the *Daily Gazette* over the fortnight preceding this story?
  - a. Surely Jimmy will not break his mother's heart ...
  - b. If the lady who fainted on the Brixton bus ...
  - c. Anyone knowing the whereabouts of a Robert Granger ...
  - d. Lady with a black boa at Prince's Skating Club ...
  
3. For what firm did Mr. Warren work?
  - a. Coxon and Woodhouse
  - b. Mawson and Williams
  - c. Morton and Waylight
  - d. none of the above
  
4. On what street was Mrs. Warren's boarding house?
  - a. Great Orme Street
  - b. Tottenham Court Road
  - c. Howe Street
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

## THE BRUCE-PARTINGTON PLANS DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\*

(Date on which Colonel Valentine Walter was captured)

### CLUES:

1. Watson says that it was “ ... the third week of November, in the year 1895 ...” (913)
2. In 1895 the first day of November was a Friday.
3. Watson says “From Monday to Thursday I doubt whether ... (we could see through the fog) ...” (913)
4. Watson says “... on the fourth (day of the fog) after pushing our chairs back from breakfast ...” (913)
5. Watson says, “Mycroft Holmes and Lestrade had come round ... after breakfast the next day ...” (928)

### CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 and 2 imply the case took place during the week that started Sunday, November 17, 1895
- B. A, 3, and 4 imply that the case started on Thursday, November 21, 1895
- C. B and 5 imply the case closed on Friday, November 22, 1895 with the capture of Col Walter

**Colonel Valentine Walter was captured on  
Friday, November 22, 1895**

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

**BRUCE-PARTINGTON PLANS  
VOCABULARY WORDS**

metals (915) – **rails**

métier (917) – **forte, field of specialty**

points (919) – **switches**

foolscap (925) – **A sheet of writing paper measuring approximately 13 by 16 inches with a watermark of a fool's cap with bells**

domiciliary (926) – **home**

## THE BRUCE-PARTINGTON PLANS OPEN QUESTIONS

1. On page 931 Watson says, "... Oberstein ... was safely engulfed for fifteen years in a British prison." What is unusual about that sentence?

**He received a 15 year sentence but was guilty of the murder of Cadogan West.**

2. On page 929 when Colonel Valentine Walter was captured, Holmes says, "This was not the bird I was looking for." For whom was he looking?

**Probably Sidney Johnson.**

3. On page 923 Sidney Johnson says, "I am always the last man out." Later on that same page he says, "I had no keys of the doors – only the safe." How can both of these statements be true?

**It could have been a self-locking door, but that is not likely for such a secure office.**

3. On page 916 Mycroft Holmes says, "I thought everyone had heard of it (the submarine plans)." He goes on to say, "It has been the most jealously guarded of all government secrets." How can both of these claims be correct?

**Just because it was a well guarded secret doesn't mean that there weren't leaks.**

## THE BRUCE-PARTINGTON PLANS SIMPLE QUIZ

1. The Bruce-Partington Plans were
  - a. plans for a submarine
  - b. plans for an airgun
  - c. plans for invading Germany
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Cadogan West's body was found
  - a. in the river
  - b. on the underground tracks
  - c. in a foggy street
  - d. none of the above
  
3. The person who stole the Bruce-Partington Plans was
  - a. Colonel Valentine Walter
  - b. Oberstein
  - c. Cadogan West
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE BRUCE-PARTINGTON PLANS INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What was the name of Cadogan West's fiancée?
  - a. Violet Hunter
  - b. Violet Smith
  - c. Violet Westbury
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was Holmes surprised to learn was not found in Cadogan West's pockets?
  - a. theatre tickets
  - b. a train schedule
  - c. an underground ticket
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What was the relationship between Sir James Walter and Colonel Valentine Walter?
  - a. they were brothers
  - b. they were cousins
  - c. they were uncle and nephew
  - d. they were not related
  
4. What happened to Sir James Walter during the story?
  - a. he was arrested
  - b. he died
  - c. he vanished
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE BRUCE-PARTINGTON PLANS ADVANCED QUIZ <sup>&</sup>

1. Where was Sir James Walter on the night Cadogan West was killed?
  - a. at the house of Admiral Sinclair
  - b. playing billiards with Commodore Barclay
  - c. at his office in Woolwich
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Outside which station did Mycroft and Lestrade meet Holmes and Watson en route to Caulfield Gardens?
  - a. Charing Cross Station
  - b. Gloucester Road Station
  - c. London Bridge Station
  - d. none of the above
  
3. How many papers relating to the Bruce-Partington submarine were found in Cadogan West's pockets?
  - a. 7
  - b. 10
  - c. 12
  - d. none of the above
  
4. How many messages, not including the one Holmes wrote, appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* from Pierrot?
  - a. 4
  - b. 5
  - c. 6
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**THE DYING DETECTIVE  
DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date when Holmes tricked Culverton Smith)

**CLUES:**

1. Watson says, “ ... she (Mrs. Hudson) came to my rooms in the second year of my married life ...” (932)
2. Watson was married in late 1888 or early 1889
3. Watson says that he went to visit Holmes and looked at him, “In the dim light of a foggy November day ...” (932)
4. Mrs. Hudson says, “He (Holmes) took to his bed on Wednesday afternoon ...” (932)
5. Mrs. Hudson also says, “For three days he has been sinking ...” (932)
6. November 1, 1890 was Saturday
7. November 1, 1890 had more than 3 hours of sunshine
8. November 8, 1890 had more than 6 hours of sunshine
9. November 15, 1890 had almost 2 hours of sunshine
10. November 22, 1890 had more than 1 hour of sunshine
11. November 29, 1890 had no sunshine
12. Holmes tricked Culverton Smith on the day Watson visited Holmes

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 and 2 imply it was late 1890 or early 1891
- B. A and 3 imply it was November 1890
- C. 4 and 5 imply Watson visited Holmes on a Saturday
- D. B, C and 6 imply Watson visited Holmes on one of November 1, November 8, November 15, November 22, or November 29 in 1890
- E. 3, D, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 imply that Watson visited Holmes on Saturday, November 29, 1890
- F. E and 12 imply Holmes tricked Culverton Smith on November 29, 1890

**Holmes tricked Culverton Smith on  
Saturday, November 29, 1890**

## THE DYING DETECTIVE VOCABULARY WORDS

- gaunt (932) – **emaciated and haggard; drawn**
- coverlet (932) – **bedspread**
- spasmodic (932) – **given to sudden outbursts of energy or feeling excitable**
- imperiousness (933) – **state of being arrogantly domineering or overbearing**
- coolie (933, 939) – **unskilled Asian laborer**
- venomous (933) – **malicious or spiteful**
- Tapanuli fever (934) – **a tropical disease that existed only in the imagination of Sherlock Holmes**
- black Formosa corruption (934) – **another tropical disease that existed only in the imagination of Sherlock Holmes**
- remonstrance (934) – **expression of protest**
- perambulation (934) – **walking about**
- half-crown (935, 941) – **coin worth two shillings and sixpence or one-eighth of a pound**
- petulant (936) – **unreasonably irritable or ill-tempered**
- coquettishly (937) – **teasingly**
- rickets (937) – **disease resulting in defective bone growth; it arises from a lack of vitamin D or calcium and from insufficient exposure to sunlight**
- injunction (938) – **command or directive or order**
- haggard (938) – **worn and exhausted**
- sniggered (939) – **a partly stifled laugh**
- rasping (939, 940) – **harsh, grating sound**
- dock (941) – **part of the courtroom where the accused stands**
- claret (941) – **dry red wine produced in the Bordeaux region of France**
- biscuits (941) – **cookies**
- toilet (941) – **act of dressing or grooming oneself**

dissimulation (941) – **concealing one's true intentions**

belladonna (941) – **extract of deadly nightshade, used to enlarge the pupil of the eye**

beeswax (941) – **wax secreted by the honeybee for constructing honeycombs**

malingering (941) – **faking illness**

astute (941) – **shrewd or discerning**

viper (941) – **poisonous snake**

reversion (941) – **returning of an estate to the grantor or his/her heirs after the grant has ended**

Simpson's (941) – **a well-known, exclusive restaurant in the Strand**

## THE DYING DETECTIVE OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Apparently Holmes did not intend to ask Watson to stay after he (Watson) returned from his visit to Culverton Smith. If Watson hadn't stayed, who would corroborate Smith's confession?

**Nobody. Anyway, Holmes no doubt knew that Watson would want to stay.**

2. Holmes said that the reason he deceived Watson into thinking he (Holmes) was dying was because he did not believe that Watson could be convincing in telling Culverton Smith that Holmes was on his death bed. However, Culverton Smith was so eager to see Holmes die that it probably wouldn't have taken much of an actor to convince him that Holmes was in a bad way. Why then was Holmes so insistent that Watson not come close?

**Holmes may have been thinking about Watson later writing the story and thought this act would make a better story. On the other hand, perhaps Holmes had very little confidence in Watson's ability to carry off even a modest acting performance.**

## THE DYING DETECTIVE SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. Who wrote this story?
  - a. Holmes
  - b. Mrs. Hudson
  - c. Watson
  - d. an unknown third person
  
2. Of what did Holmes appear to be dying from?
  - a. an Asiatic disease
  - b. a physical beating
  - c. a heavy blow to the head
  - d. none of the above
  
3. How did the poison that supposedly infected Holmes arrive at Baker Street?
  - a. in a small vial that was delivered by hand
  - b. in a box that arrived in the mail
  - c. in a hypodermic needle in Dr. Watson's medical bag
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE DYING DETECTIVE INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. Where was Watson while Culverton Smith was visiting the supposedly ill Holmes?
  - a. making the rounds of his patients
  - b. hiding behind Holmes's bed
  - c. on his way to Scotland Yard
  - d. none of the above
2. Who had Culverton Smith previously murdered with his tropical poison?
  - a. Barney Stockdale
  - b. Jeremy Dixon
  - c. Victor Savage
  - d. none of the above
3. What was the signal Holmes used to summon Inspector Morton to his bedroom?
  - a. the curtains were parted
  - b. the gas was turned up
  - c. the window was opened
  - d. none of the above
4. What was Culverton Smith's occupation?
  - a. a physician who specialized in tropical diseases
  - b. an extortionist in league with Professor Moriarty
  - c. a planter in Sumatra
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE DYING DETECTIVE ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. Where did Culverton Smith live?
  - a. 13 Lower Burke Street
  - b. 31 Lyon Place
  - c. 131 Pitt Street
  - d. none of the above
  
2. How many half crowns did Watson have in his pocket when he visited Holmes?
  - a. three
  - b. five
  - c. six
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Which one of the following did Watson NOT observe when he arrived at Culverton Smith's residence?
  - a. an old-fashioned railing
  - b. a massive folding-door
  - c. an enormous wrought iron gate
  - d. shining brasswork
  
4. What was the name of Culverton Smith's butler?
  - a. Sanger
  - b. Savage
  - c. Staples
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF  
LADY FRANCES CARFAX  
DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\*

(Date when Holmes rescued Lady Frances Carfax)

CLUES:

1. Whitaker's Almanac for 1904 notes that on August 15, 1903 "Miss Sophie Frances Hickman ... left the hospital about noon ... No trace of her ... could be discovered ... an active search was at once undertaken by police and by scores of amateur detectives ...".<sup>#</sup>
2. Sophie Frances Hickman is believed by some to be a 'model' for Frances Carfax. (see footnote #).
3. Watson says that in Baden, "This (the last time the manager of the Englischer Hof saw of Lady Frances Carfax) was just three weeks before ..." (944)
4. From Baden Watson went to Montpellier (945)
5. In Montpellier Holmes says, "Now, Watson, ... pack your bag I will cable to Mrs. Hudson to make one of her best efforts for two hungry travellers at 7:30 to-morrow" (947)
6. Watson says, "For two days the Hon. Philip Green ... brought us no news." (948)
7. Holmes says to Watson, "Ask what hour the Poultney Square funeral takes place to-morrow" (950)
8. Lady Frances Carfax was rescued as the coffin was being removed from the house for the funeral.
9. September 1, 1903 was Tuesday

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\* The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown below. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

<sup>#</sup> Source: Christ, Jay Finley, *An Irregular Chronology of Sherlock Holmes of Baker Street* (The Fanlight House, Chicago, 1947) [Reprinted by *Magico Magazine*, P O Box 156, New York, NY 1983] p. 60

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 and 2 imply that Lady Frances Carfax disappeared on August 15, 1903
- B. A and 3 imply that Watson was in Baden three weeks after August 15, that is, on September 5, 1903
- C. B and 4 imply Watson reached Montpellier on September 6
- D. C and 5 imply Watson and Holmes returned to London on September 7
- E. D and 6 imply that no news was received until September 9
- F. E and 7 imply that the funeral was on September 10
- G. F and 8 imply that Lady Frances Carfax was rescued on September 10, 1903
- H. G and 9 imply that Lady Frances Carfax was rescued on Thursday, September 10, 1903

**Lady Frances Carfax was rescued on  
Thursday, September 10, 1903**

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF  
LADY FRANCES CARFAX  
VOCABULARY WORDS

cane-backed chair (942) – **chair with a back made from flexible plant branches of a willow or similar plant**

asperity (942) – **ill temper or irritability**

*pensions* (943) – **hotels or boarding houses**

derelict (943) – **ship abandoned at sea**

scrupulously (944) – **conscientiously; painstakingly**

adroit (944) – **skillful**

promenade (944, 945) – **a public place for a leisurely walk**

veranda (944) – **partly enclosed porch with a roof; the porch extends along the outside of a building**

Midianites (944) – **nomadic tribe with no king and no settled territory; there never has been a kingdom of the Midianites**

miscreant (945) – **villain**

swarthy (945) – **having a dark complexion**

*ouvrier* (946) – **workman**

*cabaret* (946) – **tavern or public house** (since 1903 the definition has changed)

cudgel (946) – **short, heavy stick**

salver (946) – **a tray**

mob cap (946) – **women's indoor cap with side-pieces fastening under the chin**

astute (947) – **shrewd and discerning**

Sea of Azof (948) – **arm of the Black Sea; lies east of Crimea**

ferret eyes (948) – **small, bright and penetrating eyes**

pendulous (950) – **hanging loosely; drooping**

unctuous (950) – **insincere earnestness**

emaciated (951) – **extremely thin from lack of nourishment**

## THE DISAPPEARANCE OF LADY FRANCES CARFAX OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Watson says that the manager of the Englischer Hof in Baden told him that Dr. Shlessinger “ ... was preparing a map of the Holy Land with special reference to the kingdom of the Midianites ... “. However, the Midianites were a nomadic tribe with no king. There never was a ‘kingdom of the Midianites’. How can this dichotomy be explained?

**The manager of the Englischer Hof and Watson must have been a little rusty on their knowledge of Biblical events.**

2. Why did Holmes leave London and travel to Baden? Watson had already told him that “ ... Lady Frances had accepted the escort of the Shlessingers to London”. (945) Wouldn’t Holmes have been better off to have stayed in London to track down the criminals?

**Holmes must have felt there was more to be gained by being on the site as he did in *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. This time Holmes was mistaken.**

3. Why was Holmes disguised as an *ouvrier*? (946) By that time the Shlessingers had left Baden, and there was nobody else who might be wary of his presence.

**Holmes delighted in dressing in disguises and was very good at it. He was indulging himself in this passion.**

4. Holmes says to Watson, "I cannot at the moment recall any possible blunder which you have omitted. The total effect of your proceedings has been to give the alarm everywhere and yet to discover nothing." (946) However, Watson (a) found the trail of Lady Frances Carfax, (b) learned she left Baden in the company of the Shlessingers, and (c) gave no alarm because the criminals had left the Continent three weeks ago. Why was Holmes so critical of Watson's performance?

**Holmes was angry that the investigation was not going well and took out his frustration on Watson.**

5. Holmes says, "Thrice is he armed who hath his quarrel just." (950) What is the source of this quotation?

**Shakespeare's play *King Henry VI* (Act III, Scene 2, line 233)**

6. "Quick, Watson, quick! Here is a screw-driver!" (Holmes) shouted as the coffin was replaced upon the table. (953) Where did Holmes get the screw-driver?

**Apparently Holmes either (a) anticipated the need for some tools and concealed them on his body or (b) always carried some tools around just in case he needed them. Another possibility is that the Shlessingers left the screwdriver there after they had fastened down the lid of the coffin.**

7. Watson says, "... with artificial respiration, with injected ether, ... some flutter of life (returned to Lady Frances Carfax) ..." (953). Why did Watson inject the lady with ether shortly after she had been chloroformed?

**This is a very strange act for three reasons. First, ether would only make matters worse for poor Lady Frances Carfax. Second, ether is inhaled not injected. Third, Watson must have had an enormous black bag to carry ether along with the other usual contents of a physician's medical bag**

8. Holmes says, "These people (Dr. Shlessinger and his wife) had never, to my knowledge, done a murder. They might shrink from actual violence at the last" (954). If chloroforming a lady and then burying her alive is not violence and murder, then what is?

**Apparently Holmes meant killing Lady Frances violently, that is by stabbing, strangling or shooting her.**

9. Why didn't the undertaker question the need for such an unusually deep coffin?

**Perhaps the undertaker did question the need for the deep coffin. It would be interesting to know how Dr. Shlessinger answered the question. One answer might have been that it was their custom to bury possessions of the deceased together with the remains.**

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF  
LADY FRANCES CARFAX  
SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. Who rescued Watson when he was attacked by Philip Green?
  - a. a French postman
  - b. an English policeman
  - c. Sherlock Holmes
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Where was Lady Frances Carfax finally found?
  - a. in a coffin
  - b. bound and gagged in a French hotel
  - c. wandering aimlessly in the streets of London
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Who had kidnapped the Lady Frances Carfax?
  - a. two French ruffians
  - b. the Shlessingers
  - c. the Prescotts
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF  
LADY FRANCES CARFAX  
INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What was the physical characteristic of Shlessinger that allowed Holmes to identify him as Holy Peters?
  - a. a torn left ear
  - b. a crooked nose
  - c. a decided limp with his left leg
  - d. none of the above
  
2. How was Holmes disguised in France?
  - a. as a common loafer
  - b. as a French ouvrier
  - c. as a French gendarme
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What was the relationship between Philip Green and Lady Frances Carfax?
  - a. they had been previously married
  - b. he had been her suitor
  - c. they were brother and sister
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What was unusual about the coffin in which Lady Frances Carfax was found?
  - a. it was made of cedar wood which masked odors
  - b. it was exceptionally wide
  - c. it was exceptionally deep
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF  
LADY FRANCES CARFAX  
ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. What was the name of Lady Frances Carfax's maid?
  - a. Susan Dobney
  - b. Marie Devine
  - c. Annie Fraser
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Of what family was Lady Frances Carfax the sole direct survivor?
  - a. the Duke of Carfax
  - b. the Baron Balmoral
  - c. the Earl of Rufton
  - d. none of the above
  
3. To what address was the coffin delivered?
  - a. 13 Firbank Villa
  - b. No. 36, Poultney Square
  - c. No. 31, Pitt Street
  - d. none of the above
  
4. How many men supported the coffin as it was being carried out of the Shlessingers' house?
  - a. three
  - b. four
  - c. six
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**THE DEVIL'S FOOT**  
**DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date when Dr. Leon Sterndale confessed)

**CLUES:**

1. Watson says, "It was ...the spring of the year 1897 ..." (955)
2. Watson also says, "...two men ... entered... out little sitting-room on Tuesday, March the 16<sup>th</sup> ..." (956)
3. The next morning Mortimer Tregennis was found dead. (962-963)
4. On the day that Mortimer Tregennis was found dead, Watson said, "... we heard nothing from them (the police) for the next two days" (964)
5. That day Dr. Sterndale came to visit Holmes (966)
6. During that visit to Holmes, Dr. Sterndale confessed (968-969)

**CONCLUSIONS:**

- A. 1 and 2 imply the case started Tuesday, March 16, 1897
- B. A and 3 imply that Tregennis was found dead on Wednesday, March 17, 1897
- C. B, 4, and 5 imply that Dr. Sterndale's visit to Holmes was on Friday, March 19, 1897
- D. C and 6 imply that Dr. Sterndale confessed on Friday.

**Dr. Leon Sterndale confessed on Friday, March 19, 1897**

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## THE DEVIL'S FOOT VOCABULARY WORDS

placid (955) – **calm or quiet**

lee shore (955) – **shore sheltered from the wind**

dun-coloured (955) – **neutral brownish gray**

Chaldean (955) – **language of the ancient Semitic people who ruled in Babylon**

Phoenician traders (955) – **traders from the ancient maritime country of southwest Asia consisting of city-states along the eastern Mediterranean Sea in present-day Syria and Lebanon. They were the foremost navigators and traders of the Mediterranean by 1250 B.C. and established numerous colonies, including Carthage, in northern Africa**

philology (955) – **the study of a particular language**

vicar (956) – **priest of a parish in the Church of England who receives a stipend or salary but does not receive the tithes of a parish**

parish (956) – **area served by one particular church of the Church of England**

portly (956) – **comfortably stout**

garrulous (956) – **tiresomely talkative**

Providence (956) – **divine direction**

palpitating (956) – **trembling, shaking**

obtrusive (957) – **undesirably noticeable**

whist (957) – **card game, a predecessor to bridge, played by two teams of two players, in which the last card dealt indicates trump; tricks of four cards are played, and a point is scored for each trick over six won by each team.**

- Helston (959) – **small town in Cornwall (population about 3,000)**
- villa (959) – **large, luxurious country house**
- ascetic (960) – **displaying a life of self-discipline and self-denial**
- neolithic man (961) – **people who lived around 10,000 B.C. in the Middle East and later elsewhere; their civilization was characterized by the development of agriculture and the making of polished stone implements**
- celts (961) – **Indo-European people originally of central Europe and spreading to western Europe, the British Isles, and southeast to Galatia during pre-Roman times**
- shards (961) – **pieces of broken pottery, especially ones found in an archaeological dig**
- grizzled (961) – **streaked with or partly gray**
- dog-cart – (962) – **a cart with two seats placed back-to-back; the name is derived from box under rear seat originally used to carry dogs**
- paroxysm (963) – **spasm, fit or convulsion**
- phlegmatic (963) – **unemotional**
- arbour (966, 970) – **shady resting place in a garden surrounded by climbing shrubs or vines**
- cogent (966) – **convincing**
- prevaricate (968) – **evade the truth**

## THE DYING DETECTIVE OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Dr. Sterndale stopped beside a heap of reddish gravel just outside his own house, and filled his pockets with some of the gravel. (968) Later he “ ... drew some of the gravel from (his) pocket, and (he) threw it up at the window (of Mortimer Tregennis)” (968) Why did Dr. Sterndale bother to carry gravel in his pocket while he walked a mile to the vicarage? Surely there was some gravel or small stones lying around nearby the vicarage.

**Perhaps Sterndale was trying to make it easy for Holmes to solve the mystery so he could tell his story.**

2. Watson says, “Holmes’s iron constitution showed some symptoms of giving way in the face of ... (among other things) occasional indiscretions of his own.” (955) What could those indiscretions have been?

**Perhaps Holmes had returned to his use of cocaine. Still, in *The Sign of Four* he claimed only to use cocaine when he was inactive and needed stimulation (90). This certainly was not one of those times. Perhaps, however, Holmes had experimented with other drugs which he thought could clarify the mind and invigorate him in times of stress.**

## THE DEVIL'S FOOT SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. What was the devil's foot?
  - a. a stinging sea animal
  - b. a large rock at the edge of the ocean
  - c. a powder which when burned caused either death or madness
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was the last name of the family two of whom died and two of whom were driven insane?
  - a. Mortimer
  - b. Richards
  - c. Tregennis
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What almost killed Holmes and Watson?
  - a. an air gun
  - b. poison fumes
  - c. a large falling rock
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE DEVIL'S FOOT INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. Why was Holmes in Cornwall where the case took place?
  - a. he was invited to visit an old friend
  - b. he was ordered by his doctor to take a vacation
  - c. he was summoned there by a client
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Where was Dr. Leon Sterndale headed when he was called back by the vicar, Dr. Roundhay?
  - a. Africa
  - b. India
  - c. South America
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Why couldn't Dr. Leon Sterndale marry Brenda Tregennis?
  - a. she refused to marry him
  - b. his brother wouldn't allow it
  - c. he was already married
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What did Holmes do with Dr. Leon Sterndale at the end of the story?
  - a. turned him over to the local police
  - b. let him go to Africa
  - c. told him to stay in Cornwall for the remainder of his life
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE DEVIL'S FOOT ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. What language did Holmes think the ancient Cornish language was akin to?
  - a. Celtic
  - b. Chaldean
  - c. Mesopotamian
  - d. none of the above
2. Which one of the following was NOT the first name of one of the Tregennis family?
  - a. Brenda
  - b. George
  - c. Henry
  - d. Owen
3. What was the name of the cook and housekeeper at Tredannick Wartha?
  - a. Mrs. Abernetty
  - b. Mrs. Hobbs
  - c. Mrs. Porter
  - d. none of the above
4. Dr. Leon Sterndale lived in a small bungalow buried in what lonely wood?
  - a. Beauchamp Arriance
  - b. Little Purlington
  - c. Tredannick Forest
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**HIS LAST BOW**  
**DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date when Holmes captured Von Bork)

**CLUES:**

1. “It was ... the second of August – the most terrible August in the history of the world.” (970)
2. At the close of the story (980) Holmes says, “There’s an east wind coming, Watson” and follows with “... such a wind as never blew on England yet ... and a good many of us may wither before its blast.”
3. Germany invaded Belgium on August 4, 1914 and that night England entered World War I.
4. August 1, 1914 was Saturday.

**CONCLUSIONS:**

- A. 1 implies that it was August 2.
- B. 2 implies that World War I was just about to begin.
- C. A, B, and 3 imply it was August 2, 1914
- D. C and 4 imply it was Friday, August 2, 1914

**Holmes captured von Bork on Friday, August 2, 1914**

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## HIS LAST BOW VOCABULARY WORDS

- parapet (971) – **low protective wall along the edge of a balcony**  
gabled (971) – **having triangular sections of walls at the end of a pitched roof and occupying the space between the two slopes of the roof**  
chalk cliff (971) – **cliff consisting of soft, white rock**  
the Kaiser (971) – **title given to the King of Prussia, in 1914 it was Kaiser Wilhelm II**  
manifest (971) – **obvious; clearly apparent**  
legation (971) – **diplomatic mission in a foreign country ranking below an embassy**  
insular (971) – **relating to an island**  
four-in-hand (971) – **four horse team driven by one person**  
astute (971) – **shrewd; discerning**  
aquiline (972) – **eagle like**  
Furies (972) – **three goddesses in Greek mythology who used secret stings to punish the crimes of those who escaped public justice**  
Mr. John Bull (972, 975) – **the British equivalent of Uncle Sam**  
country squire (973) – **lord of a country manor**  
dossier (973) – **collection of papers giving detailed information**  
guttural (973) – **harsh, grating sound produced in the back of the mouth**  
sparking plugs (973) – **spark plugs for an automobile**  
Junker (973) – **narrow-minded, overbearing member of the Prussian aristocracy**  
tokay (974, 977) – **wine made from grapes grown in Tokay, a town in eastern Hungary**  
salver (974) – **tray for serving food or drinks**

Zeppelin (974) – **Count Von Zeppelin (1838-1917) inventor and builder of the dirigible airship – a controlled balloon – capable of longrange flights and used by the Germans in World War I for the bombing of Britain**

ruddy-faced (974, 976) – **having a face with a healthy, reddish color**

Britannia (974) – **female personification of Great Britain or the British Empire**

somnolence (974) – **state of drowsiness; sleepiness**

valise (974, 977, 980) – **small piece of hand luggage**

semaphore (975) – **messages sent by the use of flags**

Marconi (975) – **codes used in wireless telegraphy**

mug (975) – **dummy; jerk**

ramping (975) – **jumping up and down**

the racket (976) – **take the punishment**

a cross (976) – **underworld slang for ‘a thief’**

boodle (976) – **money**

nitsky (976) – **next to nothing**

Franz Joseph (977) – **(1830 – 1916) emperor of Austria from 1848 to 1916**

stertorously (977) – **snoring heavily**

his lights (977) – **his standards; his ways**

the Solent (978) – **body of water between England and the Isle of Wight; connects the Atlantic Ocean with the English Channel**

defiled (978) – **polluted**

*magnum opus* (978) – **Latin for ‘great work’; the greatest single work of a writer**

pensive (978) – **deeply thoughtful**

deigned (978) – **condescended**

Skibbareen (978) – **town on the south coast of Ireland**

invective (979) – **abusive language**

Nihilist (979) – **member of the Russian revolutionary party  
professing extreme anti-social principles and  
destruction of political institutions**

ignoble (980) – **not noble in quality**

amenities (980) – **things that contribute to physical or material  
comfort**

## HIS LAST BOW OPEN QUESTIONS

1. In what year was Sherlock Holmes born?

**He was a 'tall, gaunt man of 60' (975). This was August 2, 1914, so Holmes was born in 1854.**

2. What is unusual about the writing style in this story?

**It is told by an unnamed third person, not by Watson**

3. On page 979 Holmes said "It was I who brought about the separation between Irene Adler and the late King of Bohemia ... ". What did he mean by that?

**He could have meant that he released the King from Irene's hold on him.**

4. On page 980 it says that "... the two friends walked him (von Bork) very slowly down the garden walk ... " and then later "... he (von Bork) was hoisted, still bound hand and foot, into the spare seat of the little car." What is unusual about that sequence of events?

**Have you ever tried to walk 'bound hand and foot'?**

## HIS LAST BOW SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. What alias did Sherlock Holmes use in this story?
  - a. Birdy Edwards
  - b. Altamount
  - c. Baron Von Herling
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Holmes was disguised as a
  - a. a German
  - b. an American
  - c. a Frenchman
  - d. none of the above
  
3. The war associated with this story was
  - a. the Crimean War
  - b. the Boer War
  - c. World War I
  - d. none of the above

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## HIS LAST BOW INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. Who wrote this story?
  - a. Holmes
  - b. Watson
  - c. an unidentified third person
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What occupation did Holmes claim for himself in this story?
  - a. a motorcar expert
  - b. an American manufacturer of munitions
  - c. a gambler
  - d. none of the above
  
3. When von Bork opened the package that he expected to contain the British naval signals, what did he find instead?
  - a. a book on bee keeping
  - b. blank papers
  - c. a list of French wines
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Where was von Bork at the end of the story?
  - a. on his way to Germany
  - b. in the spare seat of a little car
  - c. in prison
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## HIS LAST BOW ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. In Holmes' code, what did a radiator stand for?
  - a. a battleship
  - b. a cruiser
  - c. a submarine
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Which one of the following was NOT among the German spies who had been captured and imprisoned?
  - a. Hollis
  - b. Jack Jones
  - c. Steiner
  - d. von Herling
  
3. What kind of wine did Holmes and Watson drink after subduing von Bork?
  - a. champagne
  - b. merlot
  - c. tokay
  - d. none of the above
  
4. At what hotel was Martha supposed to report to Holmes the day after the capture of von Bork?
  - a. Claridge's
  - b. Langham
  - c. Northumberland
  - d. none of the above

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## ANSWERS TO QUIZZES FOR HIS LAST BOW

QUESTION	1	2	3	4
<b>Wisteria Lodge</b>				
Simple	b	a	a	xx
Intermediate	a	b	a	b
Advanced	b	c	c	a
<b>Cardboard Box</b>				
Simple	b	b	a	xx
Intermediate	b	c	c	a
Advanced	a	b	b	a
<b>Red Circle</b>				
Simple	b	b	a	xx
Intermediate	b	b	c	a
Advanced	b	c	c	a
<b>Bruce Partington Plans</b>				
Simple	a	b	a	xx
Intermediate	c	c	a	b
Advanced	a	b	a	a
<b>Dying Detective</b>				
Simple	d	a	b	xx
Intermediate	b	c	b	c
Advanced	a	b	c	c
<b>Lady Frances Carfax</b>				
Simple	c	a	b	xx
Intermediate	a	b	b	c
Advanced	b	c	b	a

<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Devil's Foot</b>				
Simple	c	c	b	xx
Intermediate	b	a	c	b
Advanced	b	c	c	a
<b>His Last Bow</b>				
Simple	b	b	c	xx
Intermediate	c	a	a	b
Advanced	a	d	c	a

# The Case Book of Sherlock Holmes



“What the devil do you mean by that, Mr. Holmes?  
Do you dismiss my case?”

**The Problem of Thor Bridge**  
**Artist: Nancy Beiman**

## THE ILLUSTRIOUS CLIENT DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\*

(Date when Kitty Winter threw vitriol into  
the face of Baron Adelbert Gruner)

### CLUES:

1. Watson says that he and Holmes were in the Turkish bath  
“ ... upon September 3, 1902, the day when my narrative  
begins.” (984)
2. September 1, 1902 was Monday
3. Watson says, “I did not see Holmes again until the following  
evening ... when I asked him what luck he had had in his  
interview (with Violet de Merville).” (991)
4. Watson says, “The date was just two days after the last  
conversation ... was the terrible news-sheet MURDEROUS  
ATTACK UPON SHERLOCK HOLMES” (993)
5. No further news would appear in the newspapers until the  
next weekday.
6. Watson says, “For six days the public were under the  
impression that Holmes was at the door of death” (994)
7. Watson says, “On the seventh day, the stitches were taken  
out, ...” (994)
8. Holmes asks Watson to “ ... spend the next twenty-four hours  
in an intensive study of Chinese pottery.” (994)
9. At the conclusion of Watson’s study of Chinese pottery,  
Holmes says, “That (Dr. Hill Barton) is your name for the  
evening, Watson. You will call upon Baron  
Gruner ...” (995)

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

10. Watson's interview was interrupted by sounds, which caused Baron Gruner to rush from the room whereupon; "An arm ... shot out from among the leaves. ... the Baron uttered a horrible cry ..." (997-998) It was then that vitriol was thrown into the Baron's face.

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 and 2 imply the narrative begins on Wednesday, September 3, 1902
- B. A and 3 imply Holmes's interview with Miss de Merville was Thursday, September 4, 1902
- C. B and 4 imply the attack on Holmes took place on Saturday, September 6, 1902
- D. C and 5 imply the next news report on Holmes's condition appeared on Monday, September 8, 1902
- E. D and 6 imply that the public thought Holmes was dying up to and including Sunday, September 14, 1902
- F. E and 7 imply the stitches were removed from Holmes on Monday, September 15, 1902
- G. F, 8 and 9 imply that Watson (as Dr. Hill Barton) called upon Baron Gruner on the evening of Tuesday, September 16, 1902
- H. G and 10 imply that Kitty Winter threw the vitriol into Baron Gruner's face on Tuesday, September 16, 1902

**Kitty Winter threw the vitriol into Baron Adelbert Gruner's face on Tuesday, September 16, 1902**

## THE ILLUSTRIOUS CLIENT VOCABULARY WORDS

- Turkish bath (984) – **a bath in which the client is placed in a heated room and perspires heavily and then is soaped, washed, massaged, and finally lies on a couch to cool**
- lassitude (984) – **listlessness**
- drying-room (984) – **room where person in Turkish bath lies on a couch to cool**
- reticent (984) – **inclined to keep his thoughts to himself**
- lucent (985) – **giving off light**
- frock-coat (985) – **knee-length, double-breasted coat worn by a man in the daytime**
- meticulous (985) – **excessively concerned with details**
- kid-gloves (985) – **gloves made from the hide of a young goat**
- presentiment (985) – **a sense that something is about to occur**
- dotes (986) – **shows excessive love or fondness**
- martyr (986, 999) – **someone who endures great suffering**
- doddering (986) – **infirm or feeble**
- frocks (986) – **dresses**
- incognito (986) – **disguise**
- nark (987) – **police spy or informer**
- entrée (987) – **liberty to enter**
- doss house (987) – **cheap rooming house**
- Simpson's (988) – **a well-known, exclusive restaurant in the Strand**
- the Strand (988) – **busy and important street in London just north of the River Thames**
- affable (988) – **gentle and gracious**
- colour card (989) – **face card**
- tomfoolery (989) – **foolish behavior**
- Apaches (989) – **street ruffians of Paris**

Montmartre district (989) – **administrative district of Paris that includes the Arc de Triomphe, the Champ Elysées and other well known sites**

blithe (989) – **carefree and lighthearted**

scorbutic (989) – **literally affected by scurvy, that is, having spongy and bleeding gums, bleeding under the skin, and extreme weakness**

settee (989) – **small or medium-sized sofa**

brand (989) – **a disgraced or notorious person**

the rattle (990) – **until death**

parish (990) – **area served by one particular church of the Church of England**

fence (991) – **person who buys and sells stolen goods**

abject (991) – **outright**

filial (991) – **befitting a son or daughter**

demure (991) – **affectedly shy or modest**

ethereal (991) – **not of this world; spiritual**

advent (991) – **coming or arrival**

abbess (991) – **Mother Superior of a convent**

mendicants (991) – **beggars**

malign (991) – **make evil and untrue statements about**

aspersions (992) – **unfavorable or damaging remarks**

tinker (992) – **someone who travels from house to house and mends metal household utensils**

self-complaisance (993) – **a self imposed inclination to comply willingly with the wishes of others**

gambit (993) – **maneuver or ploy used in the first part of a battle or match**

privy (993) – **had knowledge of something private or secret**

remonstrance (993) – **expression of protest**

chemist's shop (993) – **druggist's store**

miscreants (993) – **villains**

- lacerated (993) – **having jagged or deeply cut edges**
- single-stick (993) – **heavy stick with a guard for the hand, about 3 feet long, and used for saber training**
- erysipelas (994) – **also called Saint Anthony's fire; acute disease of the skin caused by streptococcus and marked by localized inflammation and fever**
- barrister (995) – **lawyer admitted to plead at the bar in the superior courts**
- duplicity (995) – **deceptiveness in behavior or speech**
- scintillate (995) – **sparkle or shine**
- turrets (996) – **small towers or tower-shaped projections**
- bench of bishops (996) – **the bishops who represent the Church in the House of Lords and who, as a consequence, sit on a bench**
- swarthy (996) – **dark complexioned**
- languorous (996, 997) – **listlessness**
- inexorable (996) – **not capable of being persuaded by pleading**
- emissary (997) – **agent sent to represent the interests of another**
- girt (997) – **surrounded**
- vitriol (998) – **sulfuric acid**
- avenger (998) – **someone who inflicts punishment for revenge**
- cockaded (999) – **a ribbon worn on the hat to denote a person in domestic service**
- armorial bearings (999) – **coat-of-arms**
- dock (999) – **place in the courtroom where the prisoner stands**

## THE ILLUSTRIOUS CLIENT SOME OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Watson used oil, cotton wadding and morphine to treat Baron Gruner (998). Since Watson was there to distract Baron Gruner with a Chinese tea saucer, where did he (Watson) get those medical supplies?

**Apparently Watson was always prepared. He might have had cotton wadding protecting the precious saucer, and he could have obtained oil from the servants in Baron Gruner's household. The morphine, however, he must have carried with him. Of course, Watson also might have had his medical bag with him since he was posing as Dr. Hill Barton.**

2. Who was the 'illustrious client' who provided the Chinese tea saucer?

**Most observers believe it was His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales.**

## THE ILLUSTRIOUS CLIENT SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. What was the name of the woman who threw vitriol in Baron Gruner's face?
  - a. Mary Sutherland
  - b. Violet de Merville
  - c. Kitty Winter
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What did Watson pose as an expert on when he visited Baron Gruner?
  - a. Chinese pottery
  - b. Venetian art
  - c. exotic African diseases
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What did Holmes steal from Baron Gruner's house?
  - a. a book detailing Gruner's prior wife's murder
  - b. a book detailing Gruner's previous love affairs
  - c. a book describing Gruner's spying activities for the Austrian government
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE ILLUSTRIOUS CLIENT INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What was unusual about the news vendor who was selling papers announcing the attack on Sherlock Holmes?
  - a. he was blind
  - b. he had only one leg
  - c. he had only one arm
  - d. none of the above
2. What was Violet de Merville's father's profession?
  - a. a university professor
  - b. a cabinet minister
  - c. an army general
  - d. none of the above
3. What was the name of the man who brought Kitty Winter to Holmes?
  - a. Charlie Peace
  - b. Shinwell Johnson
  - c. Sam Merton
  - d. none of the above
4. Holmes says, "Miss Winter's advent rather amazed her (Miss de Merville)." What does 'advent' mean in this sentence?
  - a. arrival
  - b. dress
  - c. physical appearance
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE ILLUSTRIOUS CLIENT ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. What case did Sir James Damery negotiate with Sir George Lewis?
  - a. the Manor House case
  - b. the Paradol Chamber case
  - c. the Hammerford Will case
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was the name of the French agent who was beaten by Apaches in Montmartre?
  - a. Le Brun
  - b. Lesurier
  - c. Le Villard
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What was Baron Gruner's address?
  - a. Briony Lodge, St. John's Woods
  - b. Vernon Lodge, near Kingston
  - c. Popham House, Lee
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Outside what building was Holmes attacked by two men in the hire of Baron Gruner?
  - a. Charing Cross Railroad Station
  - b. the Grosvenor Hotel
  - c. the Café Royal
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

## THE BLANCHED SOLDIER DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\*

(Date when Godfrey Emsworth met Holmes and Dodd)

### CLUES:

1. Holmes says, “ ... it was in January 1903, ... “ (1000)
2. Dodd says, “That was what took me down (to Tuxbury Old Park) on Monday.”
3. There were four Mondays in January 1903: 5, 12, 19, 26
4. Dodd says, “ ... it was a fine night with a bright half-moon.” (1003)
5. There was a half-moon on January 6, 1903 and January 20, 1903
6. Dodd says, “ ... it was nearly dark before I arrived.” (1002)
7. Darkness arrives in England in January before 5 pm.
8. Dodd says, “After dinner ... I made an excuse as soon as I decently could and returned to my bedroom” (1003)
9. When Dodd looked out of his bedroom window, he saw the moon (see 4 above)
10. On January 5, 1903 the moon set at about 11:30 pm
11. On January 19, 1903 the moon rose at about 11:45 pm
12. Dodd says, “Next day I found the colonel rather more conciliatory ... “ (1004)
13. Dodd says, “ ... (I) left the following morning on the 8:30 train” (1006)
14. Dodd says, “I took the train ... with the ... intentions of coming straight to you ... “ (1006)
15. Holmes says, “ ... it was ... the beginning of the next week ... that I was able to start forth on my mission to Bedfordshire ... “ (1007)

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

16. The case concluded on the day of Holmes visit to Bedfordshire.

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1, 2, and 3 imply Dodd visited Tuxbury Old Park on one of January 5, 12, 19, or 26 in 1903
- B. A, 4 and 5 imply that the visit was either January 5 or January 19 of 1903
- C. 6 and 7 imply that Dodd arrived before 5 pm
- D. C and 8 imply Dodd retired to his bedroom well before 10 pm
- E. D, 9, 10, and 11 imply that Dodd visited Tuxbury Old Park on Monday, January 5, 1903
- F. E, 12, and 13 imply that Dodd left on the morning of Wednesday, January 7, 1903
- G. F and 14 imply that Dodd visited Holmes on Wednesday, January 7, 1903
- H. G, 15 and 16 imply that the case was concluded on Monday, January 12, 1903

**Godfrey Emsworth met with Holmes and Dodd on  
Monday, January 12, 1903**

## THE BLANCHED SOLDIER VOCABULARY WORDS

- pertinacious (1000) – **stubbornly persistent**  
pandering (1000) – **catering to the lower tastes and desires**  
caprice (1000) – **an impulsive change of mind**  
riding-man (1000) – **bow-legged**  
martinet (1001) – **a rigid military disciplinarian**  
V.C. (1001) – **the Victoria Cross, a military decoration awarded for acts of conspicuous bravery in the face of the enemy**  
elephant gun (1001) – **large gun used to hunt elephants**  
portico (1002) – **a porch or walkway with a roof supported by columns**  
barney (1002) – **a fight in which there is some unfairness**  
pertinacity (1002) – **being stubbornly or perversely persistent**  
impertinence (1002) – **being improperly forward or bold**  
morose (1003) – **melancholy; gloomy**  
veldt (1003) – **a tract of grassland that has no higher vegetation**  
furtive (1004) – **surreptitious, shifty**  
outhouses (1005) – **buildings separated from the main building**  
bowler hat (1005) – **stiff, round, low-crowned felt hat**  
propitious (1005) – **displaying favorable circumstances**  
audacious (1005) – **recklessly daring; bold**  
trap (1006) – **two-wheeled, open carriage**  
pepper-and-salt trousers (1007) – **black and white checked trousers**  
meretricious (1008) – **attracting attention in a vulgar way**  
mottled (1009) – **spotted with different shades or colors**  
elephant bullet (1009) – **bullet used in a gun used to hunt elephants**  
*stoep* (1009) – **a raised verandah running along the front and sometimes the sides of a house**  
bulbous (1009) – **rounded or swollen**

The Case Book

subaltern (1011) – **lower in position or rank**

dermatologist (1012) – **a physician who specializes in diseases of the skin**

ichthyosis (1012) – **also called *fish-skin disease*, a congenital disease of the skin in which whitened, hard, dry scales appear**

## THE BLANCHED SOLDIER SOME OPEN QUESTIONS

1. On page 1007 Holmes says, "... I was clearing up the case which my friend Watson has described as that of the Abbey School, in which the Duke of Greyminster was so deeply involved." What case was that?

**Probably "The Adventure of the Priory School". Holmes has replaced Priory with Abbey and Holderness with Greyminster. Watson was prone to substitute names to disguise times and locations so it may be that Abbey and Greyminster are the correct names.**

2. Why didn't Watson write this story?

**Watson may have listened once too often to Holmes's criticism of his (Watson's) writing and said, "Why don't you try writing one yourself?"**

## THE BLANCHED SOLDIER SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. What disease did Godfrey Emsworth's family suspect that Godfrey had contracted?
  - a. leprosy
  - b. small pox
  - c. syphilis
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Who wrote the story?
  - a. Holmes
  - b. Watson
  - c. an unknown third person
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What kind of physician did Holmes take with him when he visited Tuxbury Old Park?
  - a. a cardiologist
  - b. a dermatologist
  - c. a surgeon
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE BLANCHED SOLDIER INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. Which corps did James Dodd join?
  - a. Berkshire Corps
  - b. Middlesex Corps
  - c. Northumberland Corps
  - d. none of the above
2. Ralph said that Godfrey Emsworth had climbed every
  - a. fence in the neighborhood
  - b. hill in the county
  - c. tree in the park
  - d. none of the above
3. How many servants were at Tuxbury Old Park?
  - a. one
  - b. two
  - c. half a dozen
  - d. none of the above
4. Watson says, "The prospect of an interview with Lord Roberts would not have excited greater wonder and pleasure in a raw subaltern than was now reflected upon the face of Mr. Kent." What is the meaning of the word 'subaltern' in this sentence?
  - a. lower in rank
  - b. young member of the clergy
  - c. novice altar boy
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE BLANCHED SOLDIER ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. In addition to a black coat and pepper-and-sale trousers what was Ralph wearing when Holmes and James Dodd visited Tuxbury Old Hall?
  - a. a black hat
  - b. brown leather gloves
  - c. a white vest
  - d. none of the above
  
2. James Dodd received two letters from Godfrey Emsworth before Emsworth stopped writing. Which one of the following was one of the two cities where the letters were posted?
  - a. Cape Town, South Africa
  - b. Liverpool, England
  - c. Calais, France
  - d. Her Majesty's Armed Forces, Crimea
  
3. In what month and year did James M. Dodd join the British armed forces?
  - a. November 1895
  - b. January 1901
  - c. January 1903
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What was Mr. Kent's profession?
  - a. a gardener
  - b. a psychologist
  - c. a surgeon (physician)
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**THE MAZARIN STONE  
DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***

(Date on which Holmes recovers the Mazarin Stone)

***NOTE: You can only determine the approximate date.***

**CLUES:**

1. Watson was not living at 221B Baker Street
2. Watson was living at 221B Baker Street at the time of ‘The Adventure of the Six Napoleons’
3. ‘The Adventure of the Six Napoleons’ took place in June 1900.
4. Holmes retired from active practice in 1903. (1071, 1080)
5. “It was seven in the evening of a lovely summer’s day ...” (1012)

**CONCLUSIONS:**

- A. 1, 2 and 3 imply it was after June 1900.
- B. 4 implies it was 1903 or earlier.
- C. 5 implies it was summer
- D. A, B and C imply it was summer in 1900, 1901, 1902 or 1903.

**Holmes recovered the Mazarin Stone in the summer of one of the years 1900 to 1903**

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## THE MAZARIN STONE VOCABULARY WORDS

- saturnine (1012) – **melancholy or sullen**  
solicitude (1012) – **care or concern**  
parasol (1013) – **small umbrella carried as protection from the sun**  
gasogene (1014) – **device for manufacturing seltzer water by impregnating water with carbon dioxide**  
gudgeon (1014, 1018) – **someone who is easily duped**  
incarnate (1014) – **embodied in human form**  
Minories (1014, 1016) – **a street that was named for the community of the Abbess and Sisters Minoresses of the Order of St. Clare; established 1293**  
nettle (1015) – **plant with stinging hairs that cause skin irritation on contact**  
fatuous (1015) – **unconsciously foolish**  
C.I.D. (1015) – **Criminal Investigation Department**  
swarthy (1015) – **having a dark complexion**  
flamboyant (1015) – **highly elaborate; ornate**  
sardonic (1016) – **scornfully or cynically mocking**  
effigy (1016) – **a crude figure or dummy**  
invidious (1016) – **tends to rouse resentment**  
peached (1018) – **turned informer**  
morbid (1018) – **psychologically unhealthy or unwholesome**  
obstinate (1019) – **stubborn**  
slab-sided (1019) – **having flat sides**  
debonair (1019) – **suave; urbane**  
astute (1019) – **shrewd; discerning**  
raucous (1019) – **boisterous; disorderly**  
cove (1019) – **fellow**  
sallow (1019, 1022) – **sickly yellow**  
split (1019) – **turned informer and run**

thick'un (1019) – **thrash him**

lag (1019) – **send to prison**

swag (1019) – **stolen property; loot**

quid (1019) – **slang for a pound (of money)**

pate (1019) – **top of the head**

Lime Street (1020) – **street that housed wealthy merchants,  
named for the lime-burners; the Lime  
Street police station was a well-known  
station**

gramophones (1021) – **sound reproduction machines that used  
discs instead of cylinders; phonographs**

austere (1021) – **somber and grave**

insidious (1021) – **treacherous; beguiling but harmful**

courtier (1021) – **member of the royal court**

impish (1022) – **mischievous**

## THE MAZARIN STONE SOME OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Dr. Watson says, “We used something of the sort (dummy of Sherlock Holmes) once before.” (1013) To what case was Watson referring?

### **The Adventure of the Empty House**

2. This story is the only one written in the third person. Why do you think it was written in this style? (HINT: This story was adapted from a play “The Crown Diamond” written earlier by Conan Doyle.)

**It is likely that the dialogue was lifted directly from the play and hence lent itself more readily to third person style.**

3. There is no record of any musical recordings being available in London before 1907. Yet Holmes retired from active practice in 1903. How can you explain this discrepancy?

**At least one prominent critic, M. Martin Dakin, contends that this story is apocryphal. Among other things he claims that since there could be no musical recordings available during Holmes’s career, then Sherlock Holmes was not involved in the adventure at all.**

4. Holmes’s plan relied on both Count Sylvius and Sam Merton looking the other way when he (Holmes) removed the dummy and sat in the chair. Some observers have found this unusual. Why do you suppose these observers were perplexed by this?

**It is untypical of Holmes to rely on chance to solve a case; he was much more methodical and sure in his planning.**

## THE MAZARIN STONE SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. Who wrote this adventure?
  - a. Dr. Watson
  - b. Sherlock Holmes
  - c. an unnamed third person
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was the name of the page?
  - a. Billy
  - b. Wiggins
  - c. Sam
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Where was the music that Sam Merton and Count Sylvius heard coming from?
  - a. the page was playing a piano
  - b. Mrs. Hudson was playing a piano
  - c. a recording
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE MAZARIN STONE INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What color was the Mazarin stone?
  - a. blue
  - b. crystal clear
  - c. yellow
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Where did Holmes put the Mazarin stone?
  - a. in his desk
  - b. in Watson's coat pocket
  - c. in Lord Cantlemere's overcoat pocket
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Watson wanted to stay in the rooms in Baker Street but Holmes sent him away. To where did Holmes dispatch Watson?
  - a. back to Watson's consulting room
  - b. Scotland Yard
  - c. the Bow Street Police Station
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Which of the following descriptions fits Count Sylvius?
  - a. big, swarthy fellow with a dark moustache and a nose like the beak of an eagle
  - b. short, stout man with an olive face and coal black hair
  - c. a man with cruel blue eyes, a fierce, aggressive nose, and a deep-lined brow
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE MAZARIN STONE ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. What was another name for the Mazarin stone?
  - a. the Crown diamond
  - b. the Yellow diadem
  - c. the Most Cursed jewel
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Where was Count Sylvius planning to take the Mazarin stone?
  - a. Denmark
  - b. Holland
  - c. South America
  - d. none of the above
  
3. On which bank had Count Sylvius forged a check?
  - a. the Bank of England
  - b. the Crédit Lyonnais
  - c. the bank of France
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Who made the bust of Holmes that sat in the window?
  - a. Straubenzee
  - b. Tussaud
  - c. Tavernier
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**THE THREE GABLES**  
**DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date when Holmes confronted Isadora Klein)

**CLUES:**

1. Watson says, “ ... a couple of constables were examining ... the geranium beds ... “ (1029)
2. Geraniums are not bedded in England before the last part of May.
3. Holmes says, “I hear that she (Isadora Klein) is about to marry the young Duke of Lomand ... “ (1031)
4. Marriages between social celebrities were usually early in June.
5. The inspector says, “There is always the chance of finger-marks or something” (1030)
6. The Galton-Henry system of fingerprint classification was adopted by Scotland Yard in 1901.<sup>#</sup>
7. Holmes retired from active practice in September of 1903. (1071, 1080)
8. On the day of Holmes and Watson’s first visit to The Three Gables, Holmes says, “Your (Mrs. Maberly’s) letter to me had the 10 P.M. postmark.” (1026)
9. Letters cannot be posted after noon on Saturday.
10. Mrs. Maberly says, “Three days ago I had a call from a man who said he was a house agent.” (1025)
11. House agents would not call on Sunday.
12. Mrs. Maberly also says, “Yesterday the man arrived with the agreement all drawn out.” (1025)

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\* The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown below. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

<sup>#</sup> Baring-Gould, William S., *The Annotated Sherlock Holmes*, Volume II (1967, Charles N. Potter, Inc.) p. 722

13. An agent would not bring a complete agreement for signature on Sunday.
14. Susan says, "I'll send for my box to-morrow." (1026)
15. Susan would not send for her box on Sunday.
16. Susan would have informed her husband, Barney Stockdale, on the day Douglas Maberly's possessions arrived.
17. The house agent would have called on the same day that Susan informed Barney Stockdale.
18. Mrs. Maberly says, "They (Douglas Maberly's possessions) arrived last week." (1027)
19. June 1, 1902 was on Sunday.
20. Referring to the day after the first visit, Watson says, "When I met my friend in his room early next morning, ... " (1028)
21. That same day Holmes visited Isadora Klein. (1031)

## CONCLUSIONS:<sup>s</sup>

- A. 1 and 2 imply it was the last half of May or later.
- B. A, 3, and 4 imply it was the first week in June.
- C. 5 and 6 imply it was 1901 or later and probably later.
- D. 7 implies it was 1903 or earlier and probably earlier.
- E. C and D imply it was 1902.
- F. B and E imply it was the first week in June of 1902.
- G. 8 and 9 imply that the first visit was not Sunday.
- H. 10 and 11 imply that the first visit was not Wednesday.
- I. 12 and 13 imply that the first visit was not Monday.
- J. 14 and 15 imply that the first visit was not Saturday.
- K. G, H, I, and J imply that the first visit was Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday.
- L. 16 and 17 imply that Douglas Maberly's possessions arrived on the day that the agent called.

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<sup>s</sup>Reference: William S. Dorn "Adventurous Appointments with the Three Gables", pp. 22-24, *Baker Street West 1*, Vol. 2, No. 6, August 2000

- M. If the first visit was Thursday then L and 10 imply that Douglas's possessions arrived on Monday which was **this** week.
- N. M and 18 imply that the first visit was not Thursday.
- O. If the first visit was Friday then L and 10 imply that Douglas's possessions arrived on Tuesday which was **this** week.
- P. O and 18 imply that the first visit was not Friday.
- Q. K, N, and P imply that the first visit was Tuesday.
- R. F, Q, and 19 imply that the first visit was Tuesday, June 3, 1902.
- S. 20 and 21 imply that Holmes visited Isadora Klein on the day following the first visit.
- T. R and S imply that Holmes visited Isadora Klein on Wednesday, June 4, 1902.

**Holmes confronted Isadora Klein on  
Wednesday, June 4, 1902.**

## THE THREE GABLES VOCABULARY WORDS

- languid (1023, 1028) – **listless**  
flamboyant (1023) – **showy**  
bruiser (1023) – **large, heavyset man**  
precipitately (1024) – **happened suddenly**  
cowed (1024) – **frightened with threats**  
astute (1024) – **shrewd**  
attaché (1025) – **official employed by the British ambassador**  
debonair (1025) – **carefree and gay**  
morose (1025) – **melancholy; gloomy**  
cynical (1025) – **scornful of the motives, virtue, or integrity of others**  
gaunt (1025) – **thin and bony**  
wheezy (1026) – **breathing with difficulty**  
sullenly (1026) – **gloomily**  
tenner (1026) – **ten pound banknote**  
box (1026) – **container for clothing and other possessions**  
paregoric (1026) – **tincture of opium used as a pain killer**  
Post-Office bank (1027) – **bank operated by British postal office system**  
folio (1027) – **manuscript**  
annuity (1028) – **annual payment of an allowance or income**  
turbid (1028) – **dark or dense**  
rubicund (1029) – **ruddy; displaying a healthy rosiness**  
nigger (1029) – **disparaging and vulgar term for a Black person**  
foolscap (1030) – **sheet of writing paper measuring approximately 13 by 16 inches with a watermark of a fool's cap with bells**  
pomposity (1030) – **with excessive self-esteem**  
Conquistadors (1031) – **conquerors, especially the 16th-century Spanish soldiers who defeated the Indian civilizations of Mexico, Central America, and Peru**

*belle dame sans merci* (1031) – **beautiful woman without compassion (probably an allusion to the Keats poem of that name)**

caprice (1031) – **sudden, unpredictable action**

celerity (1031) – **swiftness**

settee (1031) – **small or medium-sized sofa**

coquettish (1032) – **flirting with a teasing sexual or romantic overture**

calcined (1032) – **heated to a sufficiently high temperature so that the material has been decomposed but not completely burned**

pertinacious (1032) – **stubbornly or perversely persistent**

## THE THREE GABLES SOME OPEN QUESTIONS

1. How do you account for Holmes verbal abuse of Steve Dixie on pages 1023 and 1024? And his equally mean treatment of Susan Stockdale on page 1026?

**These behaviors are so unlike Holmes's usual behavior that many scholars claim that the story is apocryphal, and that Holmes was never involved in the events.**

2. Why did Holmes let Isadora Klein off so lightly on page 1033?

**The manuscript had been destroyed so Holmes had little evidence and a conviction on any count was not likely. However, even the mention of a scandal would have hurt Isadora Klein so he extracted what he could from her, that is, money.**

## THE THREE GABLES SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. What was in Mrs. Maberly's house that the new buyer wanted?
  - a. some love letters
  - b. a manuscript
  - c. some precious jewels
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Who did Holmes suggest that Mrs. Maberly have come to stay in her house with her?
  - a. a neighbor
  - b. her lawyer
  - c. her sister
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Who did Holmes find listening at the door when he was talking with Mrs. Maberly?
  - a. her gardener
  - b. her page
  - c. her maid
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE THREE GABLES INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What phrase did Holmes use to describe Isadora Klein?
  - a. the noted adventuress
  - b. the belle dame sans merci
  - c. the mistress of countless royalty
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was the name of Mrs. Maberly's lawyer?
  - a. Stockdale
  - b. Sutro
  - c. Samson
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Holmes asked Mrs. Maberly if she happened to have a first folio of
  - a. Charles Dickens
  - b. Raphael
  - c. Shakespeare
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What was unusual about the grammar in the fragment of paper that Mrs. Maberly tore from the grasp of the man who attacked her?
  - a. 'my' suddenly changed to 'he'
  - b. 'he' suddenly changed to 'my'
  - c. 'he' suddenly changed to 'she'
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE THREE GABLES ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. What was the fewest number of pages in Douglas Maberly's manuscript?
  - a. 143
  - b. 245
  - c. 295
  - d. none of the above
2. Which one of the following is NOT one of the three places Holmes suggested Mrs. Maberly might wish to travel?
  - a. Cairo
  - b. Madeira
  - c. Morocco
  - d. the Rivera
3. What two-word phrase did Steve Dixie use at least three times?
  - a. done gone
  - b. no way
  - c. say's who
  - d. none of the above
4. What was Douglas Maberly's job title?
  - a. ambassador
  - b. attaché
  - c. minister
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

## THE SUSSEX VAMPIRE DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\*

(Date when Holmes revealed Jacky Ferguson was the villain)

### CLUES:

1. *A Study in Scarlet* begins with Watson saying, “In the year 1878 I took my degree of Doctor of Medicine ...” (15)
2. Watson would have been 24 years old when he received his Doctor of Medicine degree.
3. The postscript to Bob Ferguson’s letter to Holmes says, “ ... your friend Watson played Rugby for Blackheath when I was three-quarter for Richmond.” (1036)
4. Gentlemen usually first married when they were between 25 and 29 years old.
5. It is quite likely that Ferguson’s first child was born the year after he married.
6. In his letter to Holmes, Bob Ferguson says that his son by his first marriage “ ... was now fifteen ...” (1035)
7. Holmes’s letter to Ferguson’s lawyers was dated “Nov 21<sup>st</sup>”. (1044)
8. “The Adventure of the Bruce-Partington Plans” took place between Thursday, November 21, 1895 and Thursday, November 22, 1895.
9. Holmes would not write to Ferguson’s lawyers on Sunday.
10. November 21, 1897 was a Sunday.
11. The letter from Bob Ferguson’s lawyers to Holmes was written on “Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>”. (1934)
12. Ferguson’s lawyers would not have written on Sunday.

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

13. November 19, 1899 was a Sunday.
14. Holmes would have received the letter from Ferguson's lawyers on November 20.
15. A letter would not be received on Sunday.
16. November 20, 1898 was Sunday.
17. The letters from Ferguson and Ferguson's lawyers arrived on the same day (1034)
18. Watson says, "Promptly at ten o'clock the next morning (the day after Holmes received Ferguson's letter) Ferguson strode into our room." (1037)
19. Watson says, "It was evening (of that same day) ... when ... we drove through Sussex ... and finally reached ... the ... farmhouse in which Ferguson dwelt." (1039)
20. It was on that visit that Holmes solved the case and identified Jacky Ferguson as the villain.
21. November 1 was on Friday in 1895, Sunday in 1896, Monday in 1897, Tuesday in 1898, and Wednesday in 1899

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 and 2 imply that Watson was born in 1854.
- B. 3 implies that Watson and Ferguson were born in the same year.
- C. A and B imply that Ferguson was born in 1854.
- D. C, 4 and 5 imply that Ferguson's first child was born between 1880 and 1884.
- E. D and 6 imply that the case opened between 1895 and 1899.
- F. 7 and 8 imply that the case did not open in 1895.
- G. 7, 9 and 10 imply that the case did not open in 1897.
- H. 11, 12, and 13 imply that the case did not open in 1899.
- I. 13, 14, 15, and 16 imply that the case did not open in 1898.
- J. E, F, G, H, and I imply that the case opened in 1896.

- K. J, 14, and 17 imply that Holmes received the letters from Ferguson and from Ferguson's lawyers on November 20, 1896.
- L. K and 18 imply that Ferguson visited Holmes and Watson on November 21, 1896.
- M. L, 1, and 20 imply that the case ended on November 21, 1896.
- N. M and 21 imply it was Saturday, November 21, 1896

**Holmes revealed Jacky Ferguson was the villain on  
Saturday, November 21, 1896.**

## THE SUSSEX VAMPIRE VOCABULARY WORDS

- purview (1034) – **range of competence**  
make a long arm (1034) – **reach as far as you can**  
perusal (1034) – **careful reading**  
reverie (1035) – **daydream**  
docketed (1035) – **filed away**  
nitrates (1035) – **fertilizers**  
weal (1035) – **ridges on the flesh raised by a blow; welts**  
cot (1036) – **baby's crib**  
demented (1036) – **insane**  
slab-sided (1037) – **tall and slim; lanky**  
gaunt (1037, see also 1041 below) – **haggard or drawn**  
circumscribed (1038) – **narrowly limited; restricted**  
lichen (1039) – **fungus that forms a crust like growth on rocks  
or tree trunks**  
rebus (1039) – **representation of words in the form of pictures  
or symbols**  
yeoman farmer (1039) – **a member of the small freeholding  
farmers in England**  
flaxen (1041) – **pale grayish-yellow color**  
shambling (1041) – **shuffling the feet while walking**  
gaunt (1041, see also 1037 above) – **thin and bony; angular**  
Saxon (1041) – **the Germanic traits seen in some of the English**  
cherub (1041) – **a child with an innocent or chubby face**  
entrée (1042) – **permission to enter**  
quiver (1043) – **portable case for holding arrows**  
curare (1043) – **dark extract obtained from tropical American  
trees; used as an arrow poison by some Indian  
peoples of South America**

## THE SUSSEX VAMPIRE SOME OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Holmes says, "Was there not a queen in English history who sucked such a wound to draw poison from it?" (1043) Who was that queen?

**Eleanor of Castile, Queen of England, 1272 to 1290, sucked poison from the arm of her husband, Edward I, on his Palestine expedition.**

2. How did Jacky Ferguson manage to abstract the curare poison and try it on the dog without anyone noticing?

**The curare must have already been on the arrowheads and Jacky simply stuck an arrowhead into the side of the dog.**

3. How did Jacky Ferguson manage to get to the baby twice each time being spotted by his stepmother but nobody else?

**Jacky must have been a very careful planner to avoid being seen by the nurse and the maid. His timing was perfect.**

4. Why did Ferguson's wife think that her husband would be devastated if he learned that his son had tried to kill the baby but would not be equally heartbroken by thinking his wife was a vampire?

**Ferguson's wife might have been blinded by her rage at the boy for clearly she was mistaken in not taking her husband into her confidence. She also might have thought that her husband would not have believed her and would dismiss her story out of hand. Finally, she had witnessed the bond between her husband and his son and, for that reason, felt he would choose him over her.**

5. Holmes says, "I think a year at sea would be my prescription for Master Jacky ... " (1044). Did Holmes really think that Jacky, who was severely crippled, could withstand the harsh life of a cabin boy on a sailing vessel?

**Holmes might have meant that Jacky should be a passenger on a long pleasure voyage, or he might have simply meant that the boy needed to be sent away from home for a while.**

## THE SUSSEX VAMPIRE SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. How many times had Bob Ferguson been married?
  - a. once
  - b. twice
  - c. three times
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Ferguson's present wife was from
  - a. Australia
  - b. Europe
  - c. South America
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Jacky Ferguson tried out the curare poison on
  - a. the cat
  - b. the dog
  - c. one of the sheep
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE SUSSEX VAMPIRE INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What was the name of Mrs. Ferguson's maid?
  - a. Mrs. Mason
  - b. Dolores
  - c. Juanita
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Other than her maid, who was the first person Mrs. Ferguson was willing to allow into her room?
  - a. Holmes
  - b. Watson
  - c. the local doctor
  - d. none of the above
  
3. In what sport did Bob Ferguson and Dr. Watson oppose each other?
  - a. cricket
  - b. football (soccer)
  - c. rugby
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Who delivered the note that Holmes wrote to Mrs. Ferguson?
  - a. Dolores
  - b. Mrs. Mason
  - c. Dr. Watson
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE SUSSEX VAMPIRE ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. Which one of the following was NOT one of the eight entries Holmes cited as appearing under 'V' in his index?
  - a. Vandermere, the Hammersmith murderer
  - b. Victor Lynch, the forger
  - c. Voyage of the Gloria Scott
  - d. Vittoria, the circus belle
  
2. What was the name of the law firm that wrote to Holmes on behalf of Bob Ferguson?
  - a. Blackheath and Richmond
  - b. Morrison, Morrison, and Dodd
  - c. Muirhead and Mason
  - d. none of the above
  
3. At what park did Bob Ferguson throw Watson over the ropes in a rugby match?
  - a. Twickenham
  - b. McPherson Park
  - c. Old Deer Park
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What was the breed of dog that Bob Ferguson owned and on which his son had tested the poisoned arrows?
  - a. beagle
  - b. corgi
  - c. spaniel
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**THE THREE GARRIDEBS  
DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date when Holmes cornered Killer Evans)

**CLUES:**

1. Watson says, "... the date ... was the latter end of June, 1902." (1044)
2. In his telephone conversation with Nathan Garrideb, Holmes says, "I understand that you don't know him ... How long? ... Only two days!" (1047)
3. Nathan Garrideb says, "He (John Garrideb) called last Tuesday." (1049)
4. John Garrideb says, "I'll call to-morrow, Mr. Nathan, and see you off to Birmingham." (1050)
5. Holmes cornered Killer Evans the same day that Nathan Garrideb went to Birmingham.
6. June 22, 1902 was Sunday.

**CONCLUSIONS:**

- A. 1 implies it was the last week of June of 1902.
- B. 2 and 3 imply that Holmes met the two Garridebs on Thursday.
- C. B, 4, and 5 imply that Holmes cornered Killer Evans on Friday.
- D. A, C, and 6 imply that Holmes cornered Killer Evans on Friday, June 27, 1902

**Holmes cornered Killer Evans on Friday, June 27, 1902**

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## THE THREE GARRIDEBS VOCABULARY WORDS

- foolscap (1044, 1045) – **sheet of writing paper approximately 13 by 16 inches with a watermark of a fool's cap with bells**
- bespoke (1045) – **foretold; indicated**
- ruffled (1045) – **flustered**
- amiable (1045, 1048, 1052) – **friendly; good-natured; likable**
- zeal (1046) – **enthusiastic devotion to a goal**
- wheat pit (1046) – **that part of the floor of a commodity exchange where business in wheat is carried on**
- arable-land (1046) – **land that is suitable for cultivation**
- kith (1046) – **acquaintances; friends**
- kin (1046) – **relatives; kinsmen**
- agony column (1047) – **personal newspaper advertisements**
- rigmarole (1047) – **confused, rambling, and incoherent discourse**
- covert (1047) – **cover or refuge**
- putting up a bird (1047) – **flushing out a hidden person or solution**
- ingenious (1047) – **inventive and cunning**
- syncopated (1047) – **shortened; abbreviated**
- Georgian (1048) – **style of architecture that prevailed during the reign of the four Georges (1714 – 1830) following the style of the Italian Andrea Palladio (see also “The Adventure of the Abbey Grange”**
- Bohemian (1048) – **people who lead a free and unconventional life, are irregular in their habits, and have little regard for ordinary society**
- gaunt (1048) – **thin and bony; angular**
- cadaverous (1048) – **of corpse-like pallor; pallid**

goat's beard (1048) – **goatee; small chin beard trimmed into a point**

flint (1048, see also 1053 on next page) – **used as a tool by primitive human beings**

Neanderthal (1048) – **prehistoric skull found in Western Prussia in 1857, less human and more ape-like than any other known type**

Heidelberg (1048) – **prehistoric man with a thoroughly ape-like jaw-bone with human teeth; found near Heidelberg in southern Germany; first found in 1907**

Cro-Magnon (1048) – **early form of modern human being inhabiting Europe about 750,000 years ago and characterized by a broad face and tall stature; first found in the Cro-Magnon cave in southern France**

Sotheby's (1048) – **prominent London auction house**

Christie's (1048) – **more properly Christie and Manson's Auction Rooms; rooms off St. James's Square which are celebrated for sales of valuable art objects**

Hans Sloane (1049) – **British physician, traveler, and naturalist; founder of the British Museum (1660 – 1753)**

harrows (1050) – **farm implement consisting of a heavy frame with sharp teeth; used to break up and even off plowed ground**

buckboards (1050) – **four-wheeled open carriages with seats attached to a flexible board running between the front and rear axles**

artesian wells (1050) – **wells drilled through impermeable rock to reach water capable of rising to the surface by internal hydrostatic pressure**

disconsolate (1050) – **extremely dejected**

- old fossil (1051) – **man belonging to the past**
- Newgate Calendar (1051) – **publication listing the most notorious prisoners confined in London's famous Newgate Prison and giving accounts of their lives and crimes; first issued in 1773**
- dossier (1052) – **collection of papers giving detailed information about a particular person or subject**
- siesta (1052) – **nap after the midday meal**
- spring lock (1052) – **lock that secures the door when the door is closed thereby preventing entry from the outside but permitting exit from the inside**
- jemmy (1053) – **short crowbar with curved ends; used to pry something open**
- sear (1053) – **burning sensation as if struck with a hot instrument**
- flint (1053, see also 1048 on previous page) – **very hard, fine-grained quartz**
- bolt-hole (1054) – **hiding place**

## THE THREE GARRIDEBS SOME OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Holmes says, "I have been down to see friend Lestrade at the Yard" (1051) where he obtained considerable information about Killer Evans (see top of 1052). Yet Holmes leaves Lestrade out of the chase for Evans despite the fact that Lestrade provided Holmes with some of his greatest cases. Why was Holmes so inconsiderate of his benefactor, Lestrade?

**No doubt Holmes thought Lestrade would just interfere and delay, perhaps even prevent, Holmes from solving the case.**

2. On the telephone Holmes tells Nathan Garrideb "... You need not mention it (that Holmes plans to call upon Nathan Garrideb) to the American lawyer ..." (1047). Later during the planned visit Holmes says, "Did you tell him of our telephone appointment?" (1049) To which Nathan Garrideb replies, "Yes, sir, I did." (1049) Immediately thereafter Holmes "... was puzzled", but he goes on without any notice of Nathan Garrideb's disregard for Holmes's request. Why?

**Holmes considered Nathan Garrideb to be a hopelessly confused and disorganized man so he (Holmes) was not surprised that Nathan Garrideb either forgot or ignored the request.**

3. Holmes says to Killer Evans, "If you had killed Watson, you would not have got out of this room alive." That sounds as if Holmes intended to kill Evans if Watson had died. If he had done so, Holmes would no doubt have been charged with murder. Although on more than one occasion Holmes did take the law into his own hands, he never before contemplated, much less committed, murder. Was Holmes serious in this statement?

**In the heat of the battle, Holmes reacted as many of us would with a strong verbal threat. It is unlikely that Holmes meant the statement to be taken literally. Rather Holmes meant that there would have been very serious consequences for Killer Evans had Watson been killed.**

## THE THREE GARRIDEBS SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. Which one of the following names was previously used by John Garrideb?
  - a. Killer Evans
  - b. Charlie Peace
  - c. Lysander Starr
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was John Garrideb looking for?
  - a. hidden counterfeiter plates
  - b. hidden money
  - c. stolen jewels
  - d. none of the above
  
3. How many Garridebs had to be present in order to collect the fictitious reward?
  - a. two
  - b. three
  - c. four
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE THREE GARRIDEBS INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. The London address of Nathan Garrideb was
  - a. 13 Great Ryder Street
  - b. 136 Little Ryder Street
  - c. 10 Little Orme Street
  - d. 16 Great Orme Street
  - e. none of the above
  
2. John Garrideb said that Dr. Lysander Starr had been
  - a. his physician in Topeka, Kansas
  - b. the mayor of Topeka, Kansas
  - c. a senator from Kansas
  - d. none of the above
  
3. John Garrideb convinced Nathan Garrideb to take a train trip to
  - a. Birmingham
  - b. Edinburgh
  - c. Liverpool
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Watson says, "My friend (Holmes) took the instrument (telephone) and I heard the usual syncopated dialogue." What does 'syncopated' mean?
  - a. abbreviated
  - b. confusing
  - c. with a steady beat
  - d. unintelligible

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE THREE GARRIDEBS ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. What was the first name of the fictitious Garrideb that Nathan Garrideb was supposed to visit?
  - a. Aloysius
  - b. Howard
  - c. George
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Watson described John Garrideb as
  - a. a short, powerful man with a round, fresh, clean-shaven face
  - b. a very tall, gaunt man with a sallow complexion
  - c. a man with an aquiline face with a humorous look about his mouth
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What was Nathan Garrideb doing with his right hand when Holmes and Watson called upon him?
  - a. polishing a coin with a piece of chamois leather
  - b. rearranging some vases on a shelf
  - c. focusing his microscope
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Which one of the following was NOT one of the three other names by which John Garrideb was known?
  - a. Killer Evans
  - b. Morecroft
  - c. Jenkins
  - d. James Winter

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

## THE PROBLEM OF THOR BRIDGE DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\*

(Date when Holmes used Watson’s revolver to solve the mystery)

### CLUES:

1. The letter from Neil Gibson was dated “October 3<sup>rd</sup>” (1056)
2. In his letter Gibson says, “ ... I’ll come at eleven to-morrow ..” (1056)
3. Holmes says, “Their (the hard-boiled eggs) condition may not be unconnected with the copy of the *Family Herald* which I observed yesterday upon the hall-table” (1055)
4. The *Family Herald* was a weekly that came out on Wednesday
5. In his letter Gibson says, “If ever in your life you showed your powers, put them now into this case.” (1056)
6. Holmes returned in “The Adventures of the Empty House” in 1894
7. In “The Adventure of the Golden Pince-Nez” Watson lists the notable cases for the year 1894. (607) “The Problem of Thor Bridge” is clearly a notable case and was not one of those listed.
8. Holmes retired from active practice in 1903. (1071, 1080)
9. October 1 occurred on the following days of the week

1895	Tuesday	1900	Monday
1896	Thursday	1901	Tuesday
1897	Friday	1902	Wednesday
1898	Saturday	1903	Thursday
1899	Sunday		

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

10. Watson says, “ ... instead of reaching Winchester that day we went down to Thor Place ... “ (1062)
11. Watson says, “We were compelled to spend the night at Winchester ...” (1065)
12. The day after Holmes and Watson spent the night, Holmes used Watson’s revolver to locate the missing revolver that was used by Mrs. Gibson.

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 and 2 imply that Neil Gibson visited Holmes on October 4.
- B. 3 and 4 imply yesterday was Wednesday
- C. A and B imply October 4 was Thursday
- D. 5 implies the case was after Holmes had received considerable notoriety.
- E. D and 6 imply it was 1894 or later
- F. E and 7 imply it was 1895 or later
- G. F and 8 imply it was one of the years 1895 to 1903
- H. C, F and 9 imply it was 1900
- I. A, C and G imply that Gibson visited Holmes on Thursday, October 4, 1900
- J. 10, 11 and 12 imply Holmes used Watson’s revolver to locate the missing revolver on day following Gibson’s visit.
- K. I and J imply Holmes used Watson’s revolver to solve the mystery on Friday, October 5, 1900.

**Holmes used Watson’s revolver to solve the mystery on  
Friday, October 5, 1900**

## THE PROBLEM OF THOR BRIDGE VOCABULARY WORDS

- cutter (1054) – **small, single-masted sailing ship**  
consternation (1055) – **state of paralyzing dismay**  
surfeit (1055) – **disgust caused by an over supply**  
plane tree (1055) – **sycamore tree**  
magnate (1055) – **powerful or influential person**  
assizes (1056, 1063) – **trial sessions, civil or criminal, held periodically in specific locations by a judge or court which moves from place to place**  
balustrade (1057, 1069) – **the rail and the row of posts that support it**  
reed-girt (1057) – **surrounded by reeds**  
wisp (1057) – **thin, frail, or slight**  
execrations (1058) – **curses**  
gaunt (1058) – **thin and bony; angular**  
craggy (1058) – **rugged and uneven**  
rapacity (1058) – **act of taking by force; plundering**  
perfunctory (1058, 1065) – **done routinely and with little interest or care**  
tinge (1059) – **trace**  
sallow (1059) – **sickly yellowish hue**  
languidly (1059) – **lacking in energy or vitality; weakly; slowly**  
imperturbable (1059) – **unshakably calm and collected**  
chastened (1060) – **subdued**  
marshals (1060) – **arranges or places in methodical order**  
ardent (1060) – **passionate**  
equanimity (1061) – **in a state of being calm and even-tempered; composed**  
cadaverous (1062) – **emaciated; gaunt**  
preserves (1063) – **private areas stocked with game or fish**  
half-timbered (1063) – **made half of wood**

Tudor (1063) – **style of architecture characterized by flat arches and shallow moldings**

Georgian (1063) – **style of architecture that prevailed during the reign of the four Georges (1714 – 1830) following the style of the Italian Andrea Palladio (see also “The Adventure of the Abbey Grange”); called colonial style in the United States**

parapet (1064, 1069) – **low protective wall or railing along the edge of the bridge**

sixpence (1064) – **coin worth six pennies, that is, one-half a shilling or 1/40<sup>th</sup> of a pound**

neurotic (1064) – **prone to excessive anxiety and emotional upset**

barrister (1065, 1068) – **lawyer admitted to plead at the bar in the superior courts**

impetuous (1065) – **impulsive and passionate**

innate (1065) – **inborn; inherent**

toils (1066) – **entrapment**

wan (1066) – **unnaturally pale**

inculcate (1067) – **incriminate**

ramshackle (1069) – **so poorly kept up that disintegration is likely; rickety**

trap (1069) – **any two-wheeled, open carriage**

lurched (1069) – **staggered**

taut (1069) – **pulled or drawn tight so there is no slack**

grappling-hook (1069) – **iron shaft with claws at one end, usually thrown by a rope and used for grasping and holding**

vindictive (1069) – **seeking revenge**

ingenious (1070) – **clever**

mere (1070) – **small lake or pond**

## THE PROBLEM OF THOR BRIDGE SOME OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Watson says that he was, “ ... Late Indian Army ...” (1054). However, in *A Study in Scarlet* he says, “I was duly attached to the Fifth Northumberland Fusiliers ...” and “ ... I served at the fatal battle of Maiwand ...”.(15) Maiwand is in Afghanistan. What could Watson have meant by saying he was “ ... Late Indian Army ...” (1054)?

**Watson must have meant that he was sent to a regiment originally stationed in India but which had advanced to Afghanistan before he arrived in Bombay which is in India.**

2. Watson says, “ ... in others (adventures of Sherlock Holmes) I was either not present or played so small a part that they could only be told as by a third person.” (1055). Name two stories that fit this description?

**“The Adventure of the Mazarin Stone” and “His Last Bow”**

3. Holmes says, “My professional charges are upon a fixed scale, ...” (1058) Holmes accepted £12,000 from the Duke of Holderness in “The Adventure of the Priory School”. (555) On the other hand, in “The Adventure of the Speckled Band” Holmes told Helen Stoner that “ ... my profession is its own reward; but you are at liberty to defray whatever expenses I may be put to ...” (259). On what then was the fixed scale based?

**Holmes’s fees apparently were based on (a) the client’s ability to pay or (b) Holmes’s own impression of the character and worthiness of the client.**

4. Holmes says that Neil Gibson's wife took a similar gun to the one with which she committed suicide and "... concealed (it) in Miss Dunbar's wardrobe after discharging one barrel ..." (1070). What is wrong with that statement?

**A pistol has but one barrel. Holmes meant she discharged one chamber or one cylinder or one cartridge.**

## THE PROBLEM OF THOR BRIDGE SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. The name of the governess employed by Neil Gibson was
  - a. Eleanor Carruthers
  - b. Grace Dunbar
  - c. Mary Sutherland
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Neil Gibson's wife was killed by
  - a. a pistol shot
  - b. poison
  - c. strangulation
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Holmes used something that belonged to Watson to solve the mystery. It was
  - a. his hat
  - b. his pistol
  - c. his stethoscope
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE PROBLEM OF THOR BRIDGE INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. Neil Gibson's wife was a native of
  - a. Brazil
  - b. Central America
  - c. Spain
  - d. none of the above
  
2. The police officer with whom Holmes cooperated was
  - a. Sergeant Coventry
  - b. Inspector Baynes
  - c. Gregory
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Holmes visited Grace Dunbar in prison in
  - a. Hampshire
  - b. Thor
  - c. Winchester
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Watson says, "The Gold King paused for a moment as one who marshals his thought". What does 'marshals' mean?
  - a. collects
  - b. controls
  - c. places in methodical order
  - d. worries over

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE PROBLEM OF THOR BRIDGE ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. Complete the blank in the following sentence. Watson likened Neil Gibson to “ \_\_\_\_\_ keyed to base uses instead of high ones”.
  - a. Abraham Lincoln
  - b. George Washington
  - c. Henry Ward Beecher
  - d. none of the above
  
2. How many yards of string did Holmes ask for when he was conducting his experiment at Thor Bridge?
  - a. five
  - b. ten
  - c. twenty
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Who was the employee of Neil Gibson who visited Holmes at 221B Baker Street?
  - a. Marlow Bates
  - b. Joyce Cummings
  - c. Grice Patterson
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What was the name of the barrister who was defending Grace Dunbar?
  - a. Marlow Bates
  - b. Joyce Cummings
  - c. Grice Patterson
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**THE CREEPING MAN**  
**DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date of final attack on Professor Presbury  
by his wolfhound, Roy)

**CLUES:**

1. Watson says, “ ... It was one Sunday evening early in September of the year 1903 ... “ (1071)
2. The Sundays in September 1903 were the 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>.
3. When he visited 221B Baker Street, Trevor Bennett says that he saw the professor creeping down the hallway “...night before last – that is, September 4<sup>th</sup>.” (1074)
4. Watson says, “Monday morning found us on our way to (Camford) ... “ (1076)
5. Watson says, “ ... on the following Monday evening I had a short note asking me to meet him (Holmes) next day at the train.” (1079)
6. Upon arrival Holmes says, “ ... we shall, I think, come to some conclusion to-night” (1080)

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 implies it was early in September 1903
- B. A, 2, and 3 imply that Bennett saw the professor creeping down the hallway on Friday, September 4, 1903
- C. B and 4 imply that Watson and Holmes first visited Camford on Monday, September 7, 1903
- D. C and 5 imply that Watson and Holmes next visited Camford on Monday, September 14, 1903
- E. D and 6 imply that the attack by Roy took place the night of Monday, September 14, 1903

**The final attack on Professor Presbury by his wolfhound, Roy, was on Monday, September 14, 1903**

## THE CREEPING MAN VOCABULARY WORDS

- whetstone (1071) – **a hard, fine-grained stone for honing tools**
- bedstead (1071) – **frame supporting a bed**
- staid (1972) – **sedate dignity**
- furtive (1073) – **stealthily; surreptitiously**
- E.C. (1073) – **abbreviation for 'Eastern Central', the post office district where most stock brokering offices were located**
- canula (1073) – **flexible tube that is inserted into a bodily cavity to drain fluid or administer a substance such as a medication**
- lumbago (1074) – **painful condition of the lower back resulting from muscle strain or a slipped disk**
- irascible (1076) – **prone to outbursts of temper; easily angered**
- wistaria (1076) – **also spelled 'wisteria'; climbing woody vine with purplish or white flowers**
- grizzled (1076) – **streaked with or partly gray**
- horn glasses (1076) – **also horn-rimmed glasses; eye glasses with frames that are amber or dark in color**
- sanctum (1076) – **private place where one is free from intrusion**
- asperity (1077) – **toughness or harshness**
- ignoble (1078) – **not noble in quality, character, or purpose; base or mean**
- ken (1080) – **perception; understanding**
- scudding (1080) – **running or skimming along swiftly and easily**
- falsetto (1081) – **voice marked by artificially produced tones in an upper register beyond the normal range especially of a tenor**

carotid artery (1081) – **one of the two large arteries which carry blood from the aorta to the head and brain**

phial (1082) – **vial**

langur (1082) – **slender, long-tailed Asian monkeys of the genus *Presbytis* that eat leaves, fruits, and seeds and have a chin tuft and bushy eyebrows; note the similarity between the professor's name, Presbury, and the genus of the langur, *Presbytis*, note also that the professor had shaggy brows (1076)**

cesspool (1083) – **a covered hole or pit for receiving drainage or sewage**

## THE CREEPING MAN SOME OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Holmes tells us that Bennett's given name is Trevor (1072). Yet his fiancée, Edith Presbury, refers to him as 'Jack' (1075). How can you reconcile these two conflicting statements?

**Recall that while Dr. Watson's name was John H. Watson, in "The Man with the Twisted Lip" his wife refers to him as James. (230) It often is the case that wives, and fiancées, have pet names for their husbands, and fiancés, and that those pet names are connected with the man's middle name. Perhaps Bennett's name was Trevor John Bennett and his fiancée preferred to use Jack. Or it may be that Bennett's father's name was also Trevor Bennett so his family resorted to calling him Jack because his middle name was John.**

2. Holmes tells Watson, "A dog reflects the family life" and then goes on to give several examples. Do you accept the claim made by Holmes about dogs and the families with which they live?

**There are people who claim that dogs and their masters look alike which is less likely than Holmes's claim. After all, some behavior – some would claim all behavior – is learned.**

## THE CREEPING MAN SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. Trevor Bennett was Professor Presbury's
  - a. butler
  - b. secretary
  - c. son-in-law
  - d. none of the above
  
2. On occasion Trevor Bennett was called
  - a. Benny
  - b. Jack
  - c. Tom
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Professor Presbury was trying to act and feel younger by taking
  - a. extract of bee pollen
  - b. illegal drugs
  - c. serum from a monkey-like animal
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE CREEPING MAN INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. Holmes observed that Professor Presbury's knuckles were
  - a. bandaged
  - b. scraped sore
  - c. thick and horny
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was the name of the university where Professor Presbury lectured?
  - a. Camford
  - b. Oxbridge
  - c. Cambridge
  - d. Oxford
  - e. none of the above
  
3. What was the name of Professor Presbury's dog?
  - a. Jack
  - b. Pablo
  - c. Roy
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Watson says, "A moment later we were actually in his (Professor Presbury's) sanctum ... ". What is the meaning of 'sanctum' in this sentence?
  - a. holy place
  - b. private place
  - c. library
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE CREEPING MAN ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. Which one of the following was NOT one of the types of dogs mentioned in this story?
  - a. dangerous dog
  - b. sad dog
  - c. snarling dog
  - d. vicious dog
2. How old was Professor Presbury at the time the adventure took place?
  - a. 61
  - b. 67
  - c. 75
  - d. 82
3. At what time of day did Professor Presbury deliver his lectures?
  - a. 10 am
  - b. 11 am
  - c. 2 pm
  - d. whenever he happened to arrive at the university
4. What was the name of the person in Prague who sent the serum of the black-faced langur to Professor Presbury?
  - a. Dorak
  - b. Grafensberg
  - c. Lowenstein
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**THE LION'S MANE  
DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date Holmes killed the *Cyanea capillata*)

**CLUES:**

1. Holmes says it was "Toward the end of July, 1907, there was a severe gale ..." (1083)
2. Maud Bellamy says, "Tuesday is to-day ..." (1089)
3. There was no gale in England in the summer of 1907. Moreover, there was only one strong wind in the summer of 1907, and it occurred on Tuesday, June 25.
4. Holmes says, "A week passed ..." (1089)
5. "Sad story this, sir, about Mr. McPherson's dog", said she (Holmes's housekeeper) one evening (1089)
6. 'One evening' indicates that this was several days, perhaps two days, after Holmes's previous comment that a week had passed.
7. Holmes says, "... I retired ... eagerly awaiting ... the morrow" (1090)

**CONCLUSIONS:**

- A. 1, 2 and 3 imply that the first day was Tuesday, June 25, 1907
- B. A, 4, 5, and 6 imply the housekeeper's comment was on Thursday, July 4, 1907
- C. B and 7 imply that Holmes returned to the beach on Friday, July 5, 1907 and killed the lion's mane that morning

**Holmes killed the *Cyanea capillata* on Friday, July 5, 1907**

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## THE LION'S MANE VOCABULARY WORDS

ken (1083) – **understanding**

shingle (1083, 1085) – **beach gravel consisting of large smooth pebbles unmixed with finer material**

Blue (1083) – **equivalent to a letter in athletics in the United States**

rheumatic fever (1084) – **infectious disease characterized by fever and painful inflammation of the joints and frequently resulting in permanent damage to the valves of the heart**

scourge (1084, 1085, 1087, 1091) – **whip used to inflict punishment**

weals (1084, 1091) – **welts; ridges on the flesh raised by a blow**

paroxysm (1084, 1093) – **sudden outburst of action**

taciturn (1084) – **habitually untalkative**

surds (1084) – **irrational numbers, such as the square root of 2**

conic sections (1084) – **curves obtained by passing a flat plane through a cone; circles, ellipses, parabolas, and hyperbolas**

swarthy (1084) – **dark complexion**

marl (1084) – **crumbly mixture of clays and remnants of shells**

grotto (1085) – **small cave or cavern**

ginger-moustached (1085) – **with a strawberry blond moustache**

downs (1087) – **hills**

nebulous (1087) – **hazy; vague**

florid (1087) – **flushed with rosy color; ruddy**

gainsaying (1088) – **denying**

spoor (1090) – **track or trail of an animal**

bovine (1090) – **resembling a ruminant mammal such as an ox, cow, or buffalo**

phlegmatic (1091) – **calm; unemotional**

extravasated (1091) – **blood that has flowed from a blood vessel out into surrounding tissue**

cat-o'-nine-tails (1091) – **whip consisting of nine knotted cords and fastened to a handle**

pallid (1092) – **abnormally pale or wan**

reticulated (1092) – **resembled a net or network**

Indian file (1093) – **single file**

pellucid (1093) – **transparent or translucent**

miscreant (1093) – **evildoer; villain**

pustules (1094) – **small swellings similar to blisters**

exonerates (1094) – **frees from blame**

omnivorous (1094) – **devouring everything available**

## THE LION'S MANE SOME OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Harold Stackhurst, who ran the coaching establishment, said, "He (Ian Murdoch) would insist upon some algebraic demonstration before breakfast." (1086) What does this tell you about Murdoch?

**Murdoch was a strange man and a hard taskmaster to ask students to do their mathematics before breakfast. He appears to have had severe mental problems.**

2. Holmes says, "I saw the faithful little creature (McPherson's dog), an Airedale terrier, laid out upon the mat in the hall." (1090) However, an Airedale is quite a large dog measuring almost two feet at the shoulder. Moreover, Murdoch was reported to have picked up the dog and hurled it through a plate-glass window. (1084) It would take an incredibly strong man to do such a thing. How can you explain these diverse statements about McPherson's dog?

**Holmes must have been mistaken about the breed. Perhaps it was a Welsh Terrier which is similar in appearance to an Airedale but much smaller.**

3. Holmes says, "I was slow at the outset – culpably so. It was the towel which misled me. The poor fellow had never thought to dry himself, and so I in turn was led to believe that he had never been in the water." (1094-1095) Holmes was clearly not only slow but also unobservant. While Murdoch's towel was dry, his hair, the inside of his coat, and his canvas shoes undoubtedly were damp if not downright wet. How could the great detective have missed these clues that Murdoch had been in the water?

**Retirement and perhaps age must have adversely affected Holmes's powers of observation.**

4. Murdoch was beat out by McPherson for the hand of Maud Bellamy. He also had a ferocious temper and was capable of throwing a dog, albeit a small dog, through a plate-glass window. All of this made him a prime suspect in the murder of McPherson. Although Holmes believed Murdoch to be innocent, can you think of a scenario that would make Murdoch, while not the murderer, the architect of the death of McPherson?

**Perhaps Murdoch imported a *Cyanea capillata* and placed it in the pool where he knew McPherson would bathe. When Murdoch went down to remove the *Cyanea*, he was stung himself.**

5. What is a *Cyanea capillata*?

**It is a giant jellyfish found in the deeper regions of the North Atlantic Ocean and the Arctic Ocean. It is a predator that stalks fish, plankton, and even other jellyfish. The venom of a *Cyanea capillata* causes paralysis of the breathing muscles and the victim can die from suffocation. Its sting could be fatal to a human but seldom is because this jellyfish does not generally come near the surface.**

## THE LION'S MANE SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. Who wrote this story?
  - a. Dr. Watson
  - b. Sherlock Holmes
  - c. an unnamed third person
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was the lion's mane?
  - a. a vicious whip
  - b. a branding iron
  - c. a sea animal
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What was Fitzroy McPherson doing when he was attacked?
  - a. fishing
  - b. swimming
  - c. walking on the beach
  - d. none of the above

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\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE LION'S MANE INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What subject did Ian Murdoch, the man who once threw Fitzroy McPherson's little dog through a plate glass window, teach at Harold Stackhurst's coaching establishment?
  - a. history
  - b. mathematics
  - c. science
  - d. none of the above
2. What was the name of the man who later in the story was also attacked by "the lion's mane"?
  - a. Bellamy
  - b. Murdoch
  - c. Stackhurst
  - d. none of the above
3. What was the name of the woman who both Ian Murdoch and Fitzroy McPherson courted?
  - a. Mary Anderson
  - b. Violet Fulworth
  - c. Maud Bellamy
  - d. none of the above
4. What was the name of Harold Stackhurst's coaching establishment?
  - a. the Gables
  - b. the Haven
  - c. the Sussex
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE LION'S MANE ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. On which slope of the downs was Holmes's villa situated?
  - a. western
  - b. eastern
  - c. southern
  - d. northern
  - e. none of the above.
2. What type of coat had Fitzroy McPherson been wearing when Holmes and Stackhurst discovered him on the beach?
  - a. Burberry
  - b. Macintosh
  - c. Inverness cape
  - d. none of the above
3. What was the name of the village constable who was in charge of the case?
  - a. Anderson
  - b. Bellamy
  - c. McMurdo
  - d. none of the above
4. What breed was McPherson's dog?
  - a. airedale
  - b. cocker spaniel
  - c. mastiff
  - d. none of the above

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<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**THE VEILED LODGER  
DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***

(Date when Ronder was killed)

***Note: The date can be determined only to within  
the month and year***

**CLUES:**

1. Watson says, “ ... – it was late in 1896 – ...” (1095)
2. Mrs. Ronder says, “He (Leonardo) was drowned last month when bathing near Margate.” (1101)
3. September is the latest month when it is warm enough to bath around Margate.

**CONCLUSIONS:**

- A. 1 implies it was as late in 1896 as possible.
- B. 2 and 3 imply it was October or earlier.
- C. A and B imply it was October of 1896

**Ronder was killed in October of 1896**

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## THE VEILED LODGER VOCABULARY WORDS

- quarry (1095) – **rich or productive source**  
deprecate (1095) – **express disapproval of**  
cormorant (1095) – **a marine diving bird having dark  
plumage, webbed feet, a slender hooked  
bill, and a distensible pouch**  
parish (1095) – **political subdivision of a British county corre-  
sponding in boundaries to the area from which  
a church originally drew its membership**  
commonplace books (1096) – **books in which someone  
methodically records things  
especially to remembered or  
referred to**  
Buddha (1097) – **(563?- 483? B.C.) Indian mystic and founder of  
Buddhism**  
porcine (1097) – **resembling a pig**  
begat (1097) – **produced**  
deucedly (1098) – **extremely (in an unpleasant way)**  
cowed (1098, 1101) – **frightened with a show of force**  
in his cups (1098) – **drunk**  
sideboard (1098) – **piece of dining room furniture having  
drawers and shelves for linens and  
tableware; a buffet**  
Montrachet (1098) – **choice white Burgundy wine**  
bestiality (1100) – **marked by depravity or brutality**  
the sawdust (1100) – **the circus**  
chalk-pit (1101) – **place where chalk is mined**  
grisly (1102) – **gruesome**  
prussic acid (1102) – **one of the strongest poisons known; a  
colorless liquid with the odor of almonds**

## THE VEILED LODGER SOME OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Holmes says, “Mrs. Merrilow does not object to tobacco, Watson, if you wish to indulge your filthy habits.” (1095) In view of Holmes own smoking habits and his earlier drug habit, what do you make of this comment to his friend?

**Judging by the fact that Watson saw fit to include it in the story and said nothing in reply, it was some good natured ribbing that Holmes was giving to his friend, Watson.**

2. Holmes says, “He (Ronder) was the rival of Wombwell, and of Sanger, ... “ (1097) Who were these two people?

**They were the owners of Wombell’s Traveling Menagerie and the circus of ‘Lord’ George Sanger. These were two of the best known shows of the time.**

## THE VEILED LODGER SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. Ronder was killed by
  - a. Leonardo
  - b. a lion
  - c. Mrs. Ronder
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What did Mrs. Ronder cry out just after she was attacked?
  - a. coward
  - b. help
  - c. don't look at me
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What were Mr. & Mrs. Ronder doing just before Ronder was killed?
  - a. arguing
  - b. fighting
  - c. on their way to feed the lion
  - d. none of the above

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## THE VEILED LODGER INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What was the weapon that killed Ronder?
  - a. a lion's jaw
  - b. a steel bar which was frayed at the end
  - c. a club with five long steel nails
  - d. none of the above
  
2. The name of the woman who came to Holmes's rooms to consult him was
  - a. Mrs. Berkshire
  - b. Mrs. Merrilow
  - c. Mrs. Parvas
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Who got a glimpse of Mrs. Ronder's face while she was peeping out of an upper window?
  - a. the local constable
  - b. the milk man
  - c. a former friend of the Ronders
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Watson says, "... Ronder was a huge porcine person ...". What does 'porcine' mean?
  - a. morose
  - b. portly
  - c. pig-like
  - d. ugly

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<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE VEILED LODGER ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. What was the name of the lion?
  - a. King of the Magi
  - b. Samba
  - c. Sahara King
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Who was described as, “a thin, yellow-haired man”?
  - a. Jimmy Griggs, the clown
  - b. Edmunds of the Berkshire Constabulary
  - c. Mr. Merrilow
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What Mrs. Ronder’s first name?
  - a. Catherine
  - b. Eugenia
  - c. Sophia
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What angel is referred to in the story?
  - a. Gabriel
  - b. Michael
  - c. Raphael
  - d. none of the above

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**SHOSCOMBE OLD PLACE**  
**DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***  
(Date when Lady Beatrice Falder died)

**CLUES:**

1. Watson says, "... it was that on a bright May evening Holmes and I found ourselves ... bound for ... Shoscombe." (1107)
2. Watson says, "Sherlock Holmes had been bending ... over a low-power microscope ... " (1102)
3. Holmes retired from active practice in 1903. (1071, 1080)
4. Watson says, "It was ... without a moon ... " when he and Holmes encountered Sir Robert Norberton at the crypt. (1109)
5. On the night he was encountered by Holmes and Watson, Sir Robert Norberton says, "... my sister (Lady Beatrice Falder) did die just a week ago." (1111)
6. On the night he was encountered by Holmes and Watson, Sir Robert Norberton also says that when his sister died, "What could I do? ... If I could stave things off for three weeks all would be well." (1111) This, no doubt, meant that he could use his winnings from the Derby to satisfy his debtors.

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\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

7. The dates when the Derby was run and the new moon immediately preceding the Derby were:

Year	Derby Day	Preceding New Moon
1897	June 9	May 31
1898	June 1	May 20
1899	May 24	May 9
1900	June 6	May 29
1901	May 29	May 18
1902	May 21	May 7

## CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 implies the case opened in May
- B. 2 implies it was late in Holmes career, 1897 or later.
- C. A, B, and 3 imply it was May between 1897 and 1902
- D. 4 implies there was a new moon when Holmes and Watson encountered Sir Robert Norberton at the crypt.
- E. 5 and 6 imply that the Derby would be run two weeks from the day on which Holmes and Watson encountered Sir Robert Norberton at the crypt.
- F. 7 implies that the only year in which a new moon preceded the Derby by exactly two weeks was 1902.
- G. E and F imply it was 1902
- H. C and G imply it was May, 1902
- I. 7 and H imply that Holmes and Watson encountered Sir Robert Norberton at the crypt on May 7, 1902
- J. 5 and I imply that Lady Beatrice Falder died on April 30, 1902

**Lady Beatrice Falder died on April 30, 1902**

SHOSCOMBE OLD PLACE  
VOCABULARY WORDS

epithelial (1102) – **composed of one or more layers of cells separated by very little intercellular substance**

coiner (1102) – **counterfeiter**

buck (1103) – **fashionable man**

the Regency (1103) – **1810 to 1820; when the insanity of George III required that his son, the future George IV, govern as Regent**

plunger (1103) – **a reckless gambler**

Queer Street (1103) – **imaginary place where people in financial difficulty lived**

austere (1103) – **severe or stern**

Harley Street (1103) – **London street where consulting physicians and specialists had their offices**

touts (1104, 1107) – **people who sell information on the condition of horses to bettors**

two lengths (1104) – **two times the length of a horse**

furlong (1104) – **one-eighth of a mile**

the Jews (1104, 1108, 1111) – **disparaging and vulgar term for a tight-money lenders**

dropsy (1104, 1111) – **accumulation of water in body tissues**

jumpy work (1104) – **dangerous work**

bad job (1104) – **trouble**

condyle of the human femur (1106) – **rounded prominence at the end of the femur; the femur has no such prominence at its upper end**

“halt-on-demand” station (1107) – **station where train does not customarily stop but will stop if asked to do so**

extirpation (1107) – **extermination**

a lead (1107, 1109) – **a leash**

sold up (1108) – **forced to pay up**

carrion crow (1108) – **bird that feeds on dead and decaying  
flesh**

coup (1108) – **brilliantly executed strategy; a masterstroke**

confidante (1108) – **woman to whom secrets or private matters  
are disclosed**

dace (1108) – **small, fresh-water game-fish**

spoon-bait (1108) – **spoon-shaped metallic lure used to catch  
certain fish**

jack (1108) – **pike fish**

heraldic (1108) – **relating to a coat-of-arms**

griffin (1108, 1109) – **mythical beast with the body of a lion and  
the head and wings of an eagle**

barouche (1109) – **four-wheeled carriage with a low body, two  
inside seats facing one another front-to-back  
and an outer seat for the driver**

shafts (1109) – **parallel poles between which the horse is  
harnessed**

highroad (1109) – **main road**

groined roof (1110) – **curved roof formed by the intersection of  
two arches crossing at right angles**

coronet (1110) – **small crown worn by princes and princesses**

Saxon (1110) – **member of the Teutonic race that crossed from  
Europe into Britain in the fifth century**

Norman (1110) – **Scandinavian people who settled in northern  
France in the tenth century and later  
invaded Britain**

jemmy (1110) – **short crowbar with curved ends; used to pry  
something open**

Gothic (1110) – **style of architecture characterized by pointed  
arches, rib vaulting, and flying buttresses**

cudgel (1110) – **short, heavy stick**

baronet (1110, 1112) – **hereditary title just below a baron**

The Case Book

sarcophagus (1110) – **stone coffin**

truculent (1110) – **disposed to fight; pugnacious**

florid (1111) – **flushed with rosy color**

furtive (1111) – **appearing to have hidden motives or purposes;**  
**shifty**

personate (1111) – **impersonate**

## SHOSCOMBE OLD PLACE SOME OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Watson says, “There are the Shoscombe spaniels. ... The most exclusive breed in England.” (1103). However, spaniels are quite common in England as well as in many other parts of the world and are not exclusive in any sense of the word. What could Watson have meant?

**Watson must have meant ‘the most exclusive *strain* in England’.**

2. Watson says, “It’s the upper condyle of a human femur “ (1106) A condyle is a protuberance on the end of a bone and joins the bone with a joint. There is no ‘upper’ condyle of the femur (the thighbone) although there is a ‘lower’ condyle at the knee. What did Watson mean?

**Apparently Watson was using the term condyle loosely and merely meant the upper end of the femur.**

3. Sir Robert Norberton says, “My chief creditor is ... Sam Brewer, whom I was once compelled to horsewhip ... “. (1112) We do not know whether Sir Robert borrowed the large sums of money from Brewer before or after he horsewhipped the latter. Regardless, why would Brewer lend money to someone who horsewhipped him? Conversely, why would Brewer let Sir Robert horsewhip him and not then immediately require repayment of the loans?

**Upper class gentlemen habitually acted as though they could mistreat and impose upon those of the lower class with no repercussions. Similarly, lower class people acted as if this was a right that the upper class had.**

## SHOSCOMBE OLD PLACE SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. The Prince was
  - a. a dog
  - b. a friend of Sir Robert Norberton
  - c. a horse
  - d. none of the above
  
2. When the case opens Sir Robert Norberton's sister was
  - a. dead
  - b. missing
  - c. sick
  - d. none of the above
  
3. Sir Robert Norberton was
  - a. a quiet, retiring man
  - b. a carefree, always smiling man
  - c. a man with a violent temper
  - d. none of the above

---

\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## SHOSCOMBE OLD PLACE INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. At the beginning of the story Holmes was using a microscope. What did he say the material was that he was looking at under the microscope?
  - a. blood
  - b. glue
  - c. human hairs
  - d. none of the above
2. What was the name of Sir Robert Norberton's sister?
  - a. Lady Eva Norberton
  - b. Lady Carrie Evans
  - c. Lady Beatrice Falder
  - d. none of the above
3. What position did John Mason hold?
  - a. horse trainer
  - b. gardener
  - c. butler
  - d. none of the above
4. Who was Sir Robert Norberton's chief creditor?
  - a. Sam Brewer
  - b. Ben Norlett
  - c. Henry Stephens
  - d. none of the above

---

<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## SHOSCOMBE OLD PLACE ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. Early in the story Holmes says he will make Watson his 'Handy Guide to' what?
  - a. Newmarket Heath
  - b. the Turf
  - c. women
  - d. none of the above
  
2. What was the name of Lady Beatrice Falder's maid?
  - a. Carrie Evans
  - b. Lucy Parr
  - c. Mrs. Marker
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What position did Stephens hold at Shoscombe Old Place?
  - a. butler
  - b. caretaker
  - c. horse trainer
  - d. none of the above
  
4. What did Holmes say you occasionally find among the eagles?
  - a. a carrion crow
  - b. a scavenger
  - c. a vulture
  - d. none of the above

---

<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

**THE RETIRED COLOURMAN  
DATE OF THE ADVENTURE\***

(Date when the story took place)

***Note: The date can be determined only to within two months.***

**CLUES:**

1. Holmes says, "Early in 1897 he (Josiah Amberly) Married ..." (1113)
2. Holmes also says, "... within two years (of his marriage) He (Josiah Amberly) is ... as broken and miserable a creature as crawls beneath the sun." (1113)
3. Watson says, "... it was ... on a summer afternoon I set forth to Lewisham ..." (1114)
4. Watson also says, "... the weather was hot ..." (1118)

**CONCLUSIONS:**

- A. 1 and 2 imply the story took place between early 1898 and early 1899
- B. A and 3 imply the story took place in the summer of 1898
- C. B and 4 imply that the story took place in July 1898 or August 1898

**The story took place in either July 1898 or August 1898**

---

\*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

## THE RETIRED COLOURMAN VOCABULARY WORDS

quack (1113) – **an untrained person who pretends to be a physician and dispenses medical advice and treatment**

competence (1113) – **income sufficient to furnish the necessities and conveniences of life**

Coptic (1114) – **relating to the Christian church of Egypt whose members adhered to the doctrine that in the person of Jesus there was but a single, divine nature**

Patriarchs (1114) – **in the Old Testament one of the descendants or ancestors of the human race, from Adam to Noah**

gaunt (1114) – **thin and bony**

acid (1114) – **unpleasantly sharp, pungent, or bitter to the smell**

rapiers (1114) – **light, sharp-pointed swords lacking a cutting edge and used only for thrusting**

penurious (1114) – **ungenerously unwilling to spend money**

patrician (1114) – **aristocrat**

mottled (1114) – **spotted or blotched with different shades or color**

lichens (1114) – **fungus that forms a crustlike or branching growth on rocks or tree trunks**

spindled (1114) – **very long and thin**

slatternly (1115) – **slovenly; untidy**

sanctum (1115) – **private place where one is free from intrusion**

upper circle (1115) – **second balcony**

obtruded (1116) – **imposed themselves without invitation**

- Lothario (1116) – **someone who acts without moral restraint; Lothario was such a character in the Nicholas Rowe play *The Fair Penitent* written in 1703**
- greengrocer (1116) – **vegetable seller**
- betimes (1116) – **early**
- austere (1117) – **somber and grave**
- branch line (1117) – **small railroad line that connects with a main line; a spur of the main line**
- sardonic (1118) – **scornfully or cynically mocking**
- malevolent (1118) – **displaying ill will**
- Masonic (1118) – **relating to a secret fraternal organization of ancient origin whose members called themselves *Free and Accepted Masons***
- taciturn (1119) – **untalkative**
- efface (1119) – **erase**
- Broadmoor (1120) – **a prison for criminal lunatics located in the southeast of Berkshire**
- niggardly (1120) – **grudging and petty in giving or spending**
- hermetically sealed (1120) – **completely sealed, especially against the escape or entry of air**
- astute (1120) – **shrewd**
- skirting (1120, 1121) – **edging material used around the bottom of a wall**
- swank (1122) – **bravado**
- acumen (1122) – **insight or keenness of judgment**

## THE RETIRED COLOURMAN SOME OPEN QUESTIONS

1. Holmes says, “ ... we (Holmes and Barker) have been working independently” (1118) and then later says, “ ... and as to Barker, he has done nothing save what I told him” (1119). How could both of these statements be true?

**Holmes told Barker what to do but then left Barker to carry out those assignments independently of Holmes’s actions.**

2. Holmes says, “Well, well, MacKinnon is a good fellow. You can file it (the case) in our archives, Watson. Some day the true story may be told.” (1122) How could the true story ever be told without embarrassing Inspector MacKinnon?

**MacKinnon must not have been the inspector’s real name otherwise he would have been terribly embarrassed when Watson published the story. Incidentally, perhaps Lestrade, Gregson and the other Scotland Yard detectives were also fictitious names.**

3. Holmes says, “If you (Inspector MacKinnon) find an indelible pencil on the body (of Dr. Ray Ernest) ... “ Dr. Ernest died while writing with the indelible pencil, so how could the pencil be found on his body?

**Holmes didn’t mean that the pencil would be literally found on the body although even finding it buried with Ernest would be surprising. In any case finding the pencil would only be circumstantial evidence.**

## THE RETIRED COLOURMAN SIMPLE QUIZ\*

1. Josiah Amberly amassed his wealth by selling
  - a. artistic materials
  - b. hardware products
  - c. wine and spirits
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Josiah Amberly's second wife was
  - a. younger than he was
  - b. about the same age as he was
  - c. older than he was.
  
3. Holmes thought Josiah Amberly would end up
  - a. in Broadmoor Asylum
  - b. in Princetown Prison
  - c. on the gallows
  - d. none of the above

---

\* The Simple Quiz is designed to determine if the student has read the story. Anyone who has read the story through should have no trouble in completing this quiz. The Intermediate and Advanced Quizzes are more challenging.

## THE RETIRED COLOURMAN INTERMEDIATE QUIZ<sup>#</sup>

1. What was the name of Holmes's arch rival on the Surrey shore?
  - a. Barker
  - b. MacKinnon
  - c. Ray Ernest
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Josiah Amberly's wife was how many years younger than Amberly?
  - a. five
  - b. ten
  - c. twenty
  - d. none of the above
  
3. What color was Josiah Amberly painting the woodwork when Watson visited him?
  - a. blue
  - b. green
  - c. white
  - d. none of the above
  
4. Holmes said that Josiah Amberly had "A competence, a wife, leisure – it seemed a straight road which lay before him". What does competence mean in this sentence?
  - a. mental alertness
  - b. sufficient income
  - c. well managed household
  - d. none of the above

---

<sup>#</sup> The Intermediate Quiz is designed to test whether the student has read the story with reasonable attention to detail. The Simple Quiz is an easier test while the Advanced Quiz is much more challenging.

## THE RETIRED COLOURMAN ADVANCED QUIZ<sup>&</sup>

1. In what year did Josiah Amberly marry his wife?
  - a. 1889
  - b. 1897
  - c. 1901
  - d. none of the above
  
2. Which one of the following was NOT one of the places Holmes suggested as likely hiding places for bodies?
  - a. cellars
  - b. a garden
  - c. a furnace
  - d. a disused well
  
3. Which one of the following persons was one that Holmes did NOT criticize Watson for not interviewing?
  - a. the vicar of the local parish
  - b. the girl at the post-office
  - c. the wife of the greengrocer
  - d. the young lady at the Blue “Anchor”
  
4. What was the name of the vicar in Little Purlington?
  - a. Earnest
  - b. Elman
  - c. Ernest
  - d. none of the above

---

<sup>&</sup> The Advanced Quiz is designed for aficionados of the Canon. The questions are quite challenging. The Intermediate and Simple Quizzes are designed for the more casual reader of the stories.

## ANSWERS TO QUIZZES FOR THE CASEBOOK

QUESTION	1	2	3	4
<b>Illustrious Client</b>				
Simple	c	a	b	xx
Intermediate	b	c	b	a
Advanced	c	a	b	c
<b>Blanched Soldier</b>				
Simple	a	a	b	xx
Intermediate	b	c	b	a
Advanced	b	a	b	c
<b>Mazarin Stone</b>				
Simple	c	a	c	xx
Intermediate	c	c	b	a
Advanced	a	b	b	c
<b>Three Gables</b>				
Simple	b	b	c	xx
Intermediate	b	b	c	b
Advanced	b	c	a	b
<b>Sussex Vampire</b>				
Simple	b	c	b	xx
Intermediate	b	b	c	c
Advanced	a	b	c	c
<b>Three Garridebs</b>				
Simple	a	a	b	xx
Intermediate	b	b	a	a
Advanced	b	a	a	c

<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Thor Bridge</b>				
Simple	b	a	b	xx
Intermediate	a	a	c	c
Advanced	a	b	a	b
<b>Creeping Man</b>				
Simple	b	b	c	xx
Intermediate	c	a	c	b
Advanced	d	a	b	c
<b>Lion's Mane</b>				
Simple	b	c	b	xx
Intermediate	b	b	c	a
Advanced	c	a	a	a
<b>Veiled Lodger</b>				
Simple	a	a	c	xx
Intermediate	c	b	b	c
Advanced	c	b	b	a
<b>Shoscombe Old Place</b>				
Simple	c	a	c	xx
Intermediate	b	c	a	a
Advanced	b	a	a	a
<b>Retired Colourman</b>				
Simple	a	a	a	xx
Intermediate	a	c	b	b
Advanced	b	c	a	b

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## INDEX

More than one page reference in this index implies that the word in question appears in more than one of the adventures in *The Return*, *His Last Bow*, and *The Case Book*. By way of example, ‘aquiline’ has four page references so it appears in four different adventures. The word may, and probably does, appear many more times in the text of the stories.

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**WILLIAM S. DORN, PhD, BSI is Professor Emeritus at the University of Denver. He has taught undergraduate courses on Sherlock Holmes for more than 25 years.**

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