

EXPLAINING the PUBLICATION

This article, DATA! Data! Data!, is an attempt to compare like elements in all 60 stories. Not every element will be found in every story, but those that are in a significant quantity of the stories are included. A comment for each element is below so that it will not have to be repeated up to 60 times. If an element does not exist in a given category for a story, the category will not be listed.

The vast amount of the data here has been garnered from the published efforts of the author, Sherlockian individuals, and societies. The research was done long before any thought of publication. It was done to provide information to use in the Sherlock Holmes course I have been teaching. Credit will be given below. Credit cannot be given to 100% of the data due to my poor memory. Apologies, in advanced, to anyone missed.

PUBLISHING HISTORY (dates, publishers, UK & US)

Self explanatory but earliest stories don't list the USA because, prior to 1891, American publishers freely pirated English works without compensation. This angered English writers and provided insurmountable competition to their American counterparts. Stories in *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* and *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes* were syndicated by the parent company of *The Strand Magazine* to several different magazines and newspapers in America. Later stories no longer had this problem. Identification of American illustrators needs a knowledgeable researcher.

CHRONOLOGY

Doyle rarely gave dates that the events of the cases took place and seldom makes contemporary references. Many Sherlockians have made their own lists and no two are the same. We'll use those of William Baring-Gould who was first to tackle that task. By using Baring-Gould's dating of Holmes' birth as Jan. 6, 1854, we can give Holmes' and Watson's ages.

CHRISTOPHER MORLEY'S SAYS

An early, eminent Sherlockian briefly sums up the story. This was found in Steve Rothman's *The Standard Doyle Company*.

DUMMIES SHORT SUMMARY

This is from *Sherlock Holmes for Dummies* by Seven Doyle and David Crowder. It is a great reference that belongs in your Sherlock Holmes library.

HOW MANY WORDS?

The length of the story with shortest is #1 and the longest is #60. This is from info by C. E. Lauderback and found on the *SHERLOCKIAN.NET* website.

THE BEST OF SHERLOCK HOLMES

Periodically, Sherlock Holmes societies vote on their favorites. This has been done by many groups or individuals over the years. We picked the ones we liked and listed them chronologically .

CLASSIFYING THE CASE

What is it? Murder, theft of a jewel, threat of public exposure, etc.? From a website of the now defunct *Wandering Gipsies of Grampen Mire* scion society.

WHAT ELSE HAPPENED THAT YEAR

Nothing happens in a vacuum. If nothing else, the events are interesting. We have just a “smattering” of significant events. You will find repetition as more than one case may take place in any given year. The same may be listed for 3 or 4 stories from the same year.

HOLMES AND WATSON – PERSONAL INFO

Where Holmes and Watson were living? What was Watson’s marital status?

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

This was found on the *Diogenese Club* website. All of the major characters have a very brief comment.

QUOTABLE SHERLOCK

These are memorable comments by the world’s first private consulting detective. Occasionally, other characters in the stories utter memorable lines.

HOLMES’ FEE

Most of this was found on the *McMurdo’s Camp* website. Sherlock didn’t do everything for free. We will deal with his fees the best we can and make occasional comments.

DISGUISES

This basic list was found on the *WelcolmeHolmes* website. Throughout the Canon, Holmes dons many disguises allowing him to “infiltrate” where he can be identified.

UNRECORDED CASES

The basic list comes from the *McMurdo’s Camp* website with only a few Changes. Holmes and Watson regularly make references to cases and don’t give details. This is

pure torture to Sherlockians who want to hear the story mentioned but not told. Of course, some Sherlockians have written a tale with the same name that meets their imaginations.

SHERLOCK HOLMES ON THE BIG AND THE LITTLE SCREEN

This is a list of the movies (regular and TV) and TV episodes using the selected story plus a few details or comments.

FAINTING IN THE CANON

This is from a publication by Sherlockian Karen Murdock. Fainting is extremely common in the Canon, appearing, in some form, in 37 of the 60 tales. In 21 cases someone actually faints. In 22 cases someone almost faints. And in 5 cases someone pretends to faint.

NEWSPAPERS (Real and Fictional)

Holmes and Watson refer to them regularly. Holmes uses them in many ways. I really wish I could remember where I found this several years ago.

ANNOTATED SHERLOCK

The 60 Sherlock Holmes stories used English as spoken in England from the 1880s until the 1910s. Some words are foreign to us today and may need a “contemporary translation.” Many definitions are noted in the 2 different *Annotated Sherlock Holmes* – one by William Baring-Gould and one by Leslie S. Klinger. Others are from personal research.

HOLMES THE AUTHOR

Most of this is from the *crispen.org* website – now gone. Holmes shares, or plans to share, his research via publishing it as a monograph or periodical article. There were several of them. They were limited editions and are hard to find in a library.

WEAPONS

This is from *A Compendium of Canonical Weaponry* by Dettman and Bedford.

... “a means by which one contends against another” ... utilized in 57 of the 60 tales (all but CREE, 3STU & YELL) There are several general categories to classify “weapons” that include: firearms, human agents, cutlery, animals, blunt instruments, extortion, toxin, blackmail, and miscellaneous. This individual weapons are notes with brief comments.