

LESSON PLAN

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SHERLOCK HOLMES STORIES

Worksheet – Part One and Part Two

PART ONE

Read the extract and then do the activities below.

Mr Wilson is telling Holmes about his new job with the League. 'What are the working hours?" I asked Mr Ross.

"From ten o'clock in the morning until two o'clock in the afternoon."

'You see, Mr Holmes, I do most of my work in the evening. I could easily work for Mr Ross in the morning. and I knew Spaulding could look after the business in the morning.

"Those hours are fine," I said happily, "What must I do?"

"Your job is to copy the Encyclopaedia Britannica. You must bring your own pen, ink and paper. And you must never the office until two o'clock. Can you start tomorrow?"

"Certainly!" I answered.

'The next morning I bought some paper and started working at Pope's Court. Mr Ross showed me the beginning of the letter "A" in the encyclopaedia and then he left. Every day I finished work at two o'clock. Each week Mr Ross gave me four pounds in gold. This continued for about eight weeks and I nearly finished copying the letter "A". Then, suddenly, everything ended.'

'Ended?' asked Holmes.

'Yes, it happened this morning. I went to work at ten o'clock but the door was locked.¹ There was a notice on the door that said:

THE RED-HEADED LEAGUE DOES NOT EXIST ANY MORE – 9 October 1890

Sherlock Holmes and I started laughing. 'I can't see anything funny!' said Mr Wilson angrily. 'If you think this is funny, I'll leave!'

1 locked : closed with a key.





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sir Arthuroson Sherlock Holmes Stories

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ACTIVITY 1 COMPREHENSION

Choose the correct answer—a, b or c.

- 1. What time did Mr Wilson start working?
 - a. early in the morning
 - b. ten o'clock

level

c. two o'clock

2. What did Mr Wilson have to bring to work?

- a. the Encyclopaedia Britannica
- b. a pencil, an eraser and paper
- c. a pen, ink and paper

3. What must Mr Wilson never do?

- a. He must never leave the office before he finishes his work.
- b. He must never leave the office before two o'clock.
- c. He must never forget to bring his own paper.
- 4. How much money did Mr Wilson earn each week?
 - a. forty pounds
 - b. five pounds
 - c. four pounds

5. How many weeks did Mr Wilson work?

- a. eight weeks
- b. eighteen weeks
- c. three weeks





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PART 2

THEME : Sherlock Holmes's Deduction Techniques

Sherlock Holmes solved his cases using deduction techniques and modern scientific methods – forensic methods. Some forensic methods included the use of biochemistry, DNA testing, fingerprint analysis, laser and 3D photography. Today everyone is interested in forensic methods. Holmes always looked for the smallest details which then became important clues. He always observed the dress, physical condition, skin marks such as tattoos, and behavior of his clients and suspects. He used chemical analysis, microscopes, magnifying glasses, fingerprints, footprints, photographs and studies of handwriting. Detectives at the beginning of the 20th century did not use these methods yet! Today, Conan Doyle's fictional detective, Sherlock Holmes, is considered one of the first and best modern criminologists!²

Work in small groups and answer these questions. Then compare your work with the class.

- **1.** Which modern forensic method do you think is the most important and the least important?
- 2. Video cameras did not exist in Holmes's days. How important are they today and why?
- 3. Can DNA testing ever be wrong?
- 4. Do you think people can fool the "lie detector"?
- 5. Would you like to become a criminologist?

2 criminologist : a person who studies crime and criminals.



