

Sherlock Holmes Short Stories

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While reading

The Man with the Twisted Lip

- 1 Who is talking, who are they talking to, and who or what are they talking about?
- 'Your wife has been waiting two days for you. You ought to be ashamed of yourself.'
 - 'I was surprised to find you in that place.'
 - 'He used to leave home every morning and then catch the 5.14 train back from Cannon Street station.'
 - 'She heard a cry, and saw her husband looking down at her.'
 - 'His upper lip is twisted as the result of an old accident.'
 - 'This is written in pencil on a page torn from some book.'
 - 'It is clear that you are breaking the law by keeping me here.'
 - 'My ugly face made everybody pity me, and my pockets quickly filled with money. Only one man knew my secret.'
- 2 Match the letters with the numbers below to make complete sentences.
- Sherlock Holmes is in the opium den because
 - Mrs Saint Clair feels something is wrong because
 - The police believe Mrs Saint Clair's story when
 - Mrs Saint Clair feels hopeful that her husband is alive when
 - Holmes brings a wet cloth with him because
 - Neville doesn't tell the police who he is because
 - Neville says he returned to the street as a beggar because
 - she sees her husband waving at her from the window of a building in a bad neighbourhood.
 - he wants to wash the prisoner's face.
 - he lost money to a friend.
 - he believes that men have been murdered there.
 - he does not want his children to find out.
 - she receives a letter from him with his ring.

- they find her husband's clothes in the room.

The Engineer's Thumb

- 3 Match the description or action with the name (1–7).
- is a short, fat man with a beard.
 - takes his visitor to see Sherlock Holmes.
 - tries to save the engineer's life.
 - has read about a missing engineer.
 - is a Scotland Yard detective.
 - is a very thin German.
 - went into business on his own.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| 1) Victor Hatherley | 2) Dr Watson |
| 3) Captain Stark | 4) Mr Ferguson |
| 6) Sherlock Holmes | 7) Bradstreet |

4 Answer the following questions.

- What has happened to the engineer's thumb?
- Why does Dr Watson take him to see Sherlock Holmes?
- Why was the engineer eager to accept Captain Stark's offer of a job?
- What did he not like about it?
- What did Stark say the machine was used for?

The Patient

- 5 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?
Correct the wrong sentences.

- Dr Trevelyan could not start his medical practice at first because he was poor. ☐
- Blessington helped the doctor in return for half of the money he earned. ☐
- The patient who says he is a Russian lord comes to see the doctor alone. ☐
- Blessington says he keeps all his money in a black box in his room. ☐

6 Match the characters with their actions (1–7).

- Dr Trevelyan
- Mr Blessington
- The Russian lord
- The young man
- Sherlock Holmes
- A servant
- A police officer
 - refuses to help Blessington.
 - catches the servant who may have been involved with the crime.

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- 3) goes to Holmes's house to ask for help.
- 4) says he suffers from catalepsy.
- 5) finds Blessington's body in the room.
- 6) brings his father to the doctor.
- 7) is very nervous after hearing about a robbery.

The Disappearance of Lady Frances Carfax

7 Put the events in order (1–7).

- a ☐ Lady Frances meets Dr and Mrs Schlessinger.
- b ☐ The maid sees Lady Frances talking to a man with a beard.
- c ☐ Holmes and Watson find Lady Frances alive in the coffin.
- d ☐ A telegram proves that Dr Schlessinger is 'Peters the Priest'.
- e ☐ Green sees the assistant of Peters go into an undertaker's.
- f ☐ Holmes introduces Philip Green to Watson.
- g ☐ Holmes and Watson see an old woman's body in a coffin.

8 Where did each activity happen? Write the place (1–6).

- a Lady Frances leaves there soon after meeting a tall man with a beard.
- b Lady Frances meets a sick man and his wife.
- c Dr Watson gets in a fight with a tall Englishman.
- d Mr Green worked there for many years.
- e 'Peters the Priest', who robbed lonely ladies, got his ear torn in a fight.
- f Lady Frances's jewellery is taken to a pawnbroker.
 - 1) Montpellier, France
 - 2) Lausanne, Switzerland
 - 3) South Africa
 - 4) Baden-Baden, Germany
 - 5) London, England
 - 6) Adelaide, Australia

The Three Garridebs

9 Answer these questions.

- a Why does Holmes think that the American lawyer has lived in England for a long time?
- b Why is it important to the lawyer that Nathan never takes any exercise?

- c What is unusual about Howard Garrideb's advertisement?
- d Why does Holmes ask to look at Nathan's collection in his absence?

10 Match the letters with the numbers below to make complete sentences.

- a Holmes knows that the lawyer is lying because
- b Nathan rarely leaves his home because
- c The lawyer says he found the third Garrideb when
- d The lawyer says he wants Nathan to talk to Howard Garrideb because
- e Holmes tells Watson this case might be dangerous because
- f Killer Evans didn't kill Nathan because
 - 1) he saw an advertisement in the newspaper.
 - 2) he does not like to shoot unless the other person has a gun.
 - 3) he says he knows Dr Starr.
 - 4) he will believe what Nathan says.
 - 5) they are dealing with a man who usually carries a gun.
 - 6) he is busy with his studies.

Wisteria House

11 Answer these questions.

- a Why does Mr Eccles go to see Sherlock Holmes and not the police?
- b Why does Gregson of Scotland Yard follow Eccles to Holmes's house?
- c How was Garcia's behaviour at dinner strange?
- d Why was Eccles surprised and angry when he woke up the next morning?
- e Why did Garcia invite Eccles to stay at his house?

12 Check (✓) which clues are important in solving the mystery of Garcia's murder.

- a Eccles went to bed at eleven o'clock. ☐
- b Garcia wakes Eccles up and tells him it is one o'clock. ☐
- c Baynes finds the note that arrived during the meal. ☐
- d Baynes says that Garcia was killed before it started to rain at one o'clock. ☐
- e A bird is torn to pieces in Garcia's kitchen. ☐
- f A former gardener tells Holmes about the strange people at High Gable. ☐

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The Man with the Twisted Lip

1 Complete the sentences with these words.

prison opium letter ring blood alive coat
beggar policemen

Mrs Saint Clair is worried because she sees her husband in the window of a building where

(a) addicts go. She returns to the building with several (b) They find drops of (c) on the window and floor of that room. They also find his clothes, but his (d) is missing. The man in the room is a well-known (e) named Hugh Boone. Boone was taken to (f) Meanwhile, Mrs Saint Clair receives a (g) in the mail from her husband. His (h) is inside the envelope. Perhaps her husband is (i), but where is he?

The Engineer's Thumb

2 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the wrong sentences.

- a Captain Stark likes working with Mr Hatherley because he comes from a good family. ☐
- b Hatherley would rather not meet Captain Stark late at night but he wants the job. ☐
- c Stark tells Hatherley that there is gold on his neighbours' land. ☐
- d Hatherley watches carefully where Stark takes him in the carriage. ☐
- e Stark gets angry because Hatherley wants to know the truth about the machine. ☐
- f Stark probably killed an engineer earlier. ☐
- g The woman likely set the house on fire. ☐

The Patient

3 Put the events in order (1–7).

- a ☐ Dr Trevelyan asks Holmes to talk with Blessington.
- b ☐ Holmes tells the others about the Worthingdon Bank robbers.
- c ☐ Holmes finds out Blessington is dead.
- d ☐ Dr Trevelyan examines the older man.
- e ☐ Blessington does not tell Holmes who the two men might be.
- f ☐ Two men visit the doctor.
- g ☐ Blessington is upset because he believes someone was in his room.

*The Disappearance of Lady Frances Carfax*4 Choose the correct word in *italics*.

- a Lady Frances always travels the world with her money / *jewellery*.
- b Lady Frances gave a *cheque* / *piece of jewellery* to her maid, Miss Marie Devine.
- c The bearded man fights with Watson because he *cares about* / *is angry with* Lady Frances.
- d The man from Australia talks about *romance* / *religion* to get the trust of lonely women.
- e Police learn that Peters the Priest is in London by watching a *pawnbroker's shop* / *bank*.
- f The evil man and woman hide Lady Frances in a *hole in the garden* / *large coffin*.
- g The first time Holmes looks in the coffin, he sees a woman who is *old* / *middle-aged*.

The Three Garridebs

5 Underline YES or NO.

- a Is John Garrideb happy to be working with Holmes on this case? YES NO
- b Does Holmes really know Dr Lysander Starr? YES NO
- c Does Nathan Garrideb think his collection is valuable? YES NO
- d Does Holmes say Nathan should go to Birmingham to visit the man? YES NO
- e Did the man who says he is John Garrideb used to live in Nathan's room? YES NO
- f Did Nathan feel upset about not getting the money from the will? YES NO

Wisteria House

6 Write the correct names (1–7).

- a is surprised to find himself alone in Garcia's house.
- b acts strangely after receiving a note at dinner.
- c gets the names of all the large homes in the area.
- d is charged with the murder of Garcia five days after the crime.
- e writes a note to Garcia.
- f is an evil man who ruled a South American country.
- g goes everywhere with Henderson.

- 1) Miss Burnet 2) Sherlock Holmes
3) Garcia 4) Scott Eccles 5) Lucas
6) Mr Henderson 7) Garcia's cook