

# The Norwood Builder and Other Stories

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

## Dr Watson's Introduction

1 1 ✗, 2 ✗, 3 ✓, 4 ✗, 5 ✗, 6 ✓, 7 ✓, 8 ✓, 9 ✓, 10 ✗, 11 ✓, 12 ✗, 13 ✓, 14 ✓, 15 ✗

## The Norwood Builder

1 Mr Jonas Oldacre, from the district of Norwood, has ~~died~~ **disappeared**. The police suspect that he has been ~~kidnapped~~ **murdered**. Mr Oldacre is a man in his ~~fifties~~ **sixties** who has lived in Norwood, on the ~~northern~~ **southern** edge of London, for many years. He owns a ~~banking~~ **building** firm there. Recently he seems to have stopped working as a ~~banker~~ **builder** and he rarely meets anyone. Mr Oldacre lives alone except for an elderly ~~man~~ **woman** who is his ~~servant~~ **housekeeper**. Yesterday ~~morning~~ **evening**, he was visited at home by Mr John Hector McFarlane, ~~an accountant~~ **a lawyer** who works in central London. Then, very early this ~~evening~~ **morning**, a fire was discovered in a timber store ~~near~~ **behind** Mr Oldacre's house. All the wood in the store was burnt. But when the firemen had put out the flames, ~~they found~~ **no one could find** Mr Oldacre. He had ~~not~~ slept in his bed, ~~but~~ **and** a safe which he kept in his ~~living room~~ **bedroom** had ~~not~~ been opened. The police found some ~~fingerprints~~ **blood** in the bedroom and they also found a heavy golf club walking stick, which belongs to Mr McFarlane. ~~There were some fingerprints~~ **was some blood** on the ~~golf club~~ **walking stick** too.

A door leading from Mr Oldacre's bedroom to the ~~garage~~ **garden** was open. There were some ~~footprints~~ **marks** on the ground outside it which led towards the timber store. The police think that something heavy was ~~put into~~ **pulled across** the ~~garage~~ **garden** ~~from~~ **towards** the store. This morning, some strange pieces of burnt ~~clothing~~ **flesh** were found among the burnt wood. The police do not know if the ~~clothing is~~ **Mr Oldacre's flesh is human**, but they fear the worst. They are searching for Mr McFarlane. They believe that he ~~kidnapped~~ **killed** Mr Oldacre and started the fire to burn his ~~clothes~~ **body**. Inspector Lestrade of Scotland Yard is the policeman investigating the case.

2

Clues	Deductions
The writing is difficult to read.	<i>The draft was written on a train.</i>
In two places, the writing is clear.	Those parts were written in stations, when the train was not moving.
There are places where the writing is worse.	Those parts were written when the train was moving.
There are places where the writing is even worse – it is very bad indeed.	Those parts were written when the train was crossing lots of points which were close together.
It was written on a train which only stopped twice during the writer's journey.	So, the draft was written on an express train.
You only find lots of points close together near the main London stations between Norwood and London Bridge Station, near McFarlane's office.	Oldacre did not think about his will until he was travelling to Mr McFarlane's office.

- 3 1 f, 2 h, 3 i, 4 a, 5 j, 6 d, 7 c, 8 g, 9 e, 10 b
- 4 1 *strange*, 2 important, 3 moving, 4 careful, 5 happy, 6 right, 7 long, 8 terrible, 9 pleased, 10 young, 11 rich, 12 wicked, 13 poorer, 14 better, 15 sure, 16 guilty
- 5 a 4, b 5, c 5, d 5, e 6
- 6

Clues	Deductions
Holmes searched the downstairs corridor yesterday and the fingerprint was not there then.	<i>Someone put it there in the night.</i>
The small amount of blood in the bedroom is Oldacre's own blood.	He must have cut his finger.
The housekeeper was part of Oldacre's plan.	She must have helped him.
Mr McFarlane had to leave without his walking stick.	The housekeeper must have hidden Mr McFarlane's walking stick when he came here. Later, they put some blood on that too.
Mr McFarlane told us he helped Oldacre to seal some envelopes.	Oldacre used an impression of McFarlane's fingerprint and his own blood to make that fingerprint on the wall.
Holmes measured the outside of the house and measured the upstairs corridor in the same way. It was shorter than it should have been.	He guessed that there was a hidden room at the end of it.

## The Second Stain

- 1 1 *The Minister for European Affairs and the Prime Minister.*  
 2 It had disappeared from the house of the Minister for European Affairs.  
 3 Because they were afraid the newspapers would find out about it and the news would become public.  
 4 Peace in Europe.  
 5 It was a letter from a ruler of a foreign country.  
 6 Six days ago.  
 7 Locked in a dispatch box in the Minister's bedroom on the second floor of his house.  
 8 Because he looked at it while he was dressing for dinner.  
 9 Four hours.  
 10 The most important members of the government and two or three officials who worked in the ministry.
- 2 1 *important*, 2 famous, 3 diplomatic, 4 busy, 5 quickly, 6 obvious, 7 angrily, 8 quietly, 9 fierce, 10 simple, 11 completely, 12 directly, 13 international, 14 suddenly, 15 personally, 16 probably
- 3 1 *crime*, 2 London, 3 beautiful, 4 Parliament, 5 owner, 6 dead, 7 body, 8 34 / thirty-four, 9 married, 10 house, 11 housekeeper, 12 valet, 13 night, 14 top, 15 home, 16 policeman, 17 front, 18 open, 19 door, 20 wrong, 21 reply, 22 light, 23 room, 24 found, 25 floor, 26 still, 27 property, 28 wall, 29 years, 30 furniture, 31 over, 32 nothing, 33 stolen, 34 reason, 35 Scotland, 36 case

- 4 *during the next three days*, at strange hours, sometimes, for a few minutes, always, one day, for the night of the murder, soon, on the third day, now, a lot of time, each year, for several months at a time, never, when, then, on the fourth day, as he ate his breakfast
- 5 1 at, in, 2 to, of, 3 outside, 4 into, in, 5 of, in, on, 6 from, 7 about, 8 on, through, 9 at, of, 10 on, beneath
- 6 1 LH, 2 SH, 3 LH, 4 LH, 5 SH, 6 SH, 7 LH, 8 LH, 9 SH, 10 LH
- 7 1 e, 2 f, 3 g, 4 c, 5 i, 6 d, 7 h, 8 b, 9 j, 10 a

## The Stockbroker's Clerk

- 1 1 F, 2 T, 3 F, 4 T, 5 T, 6 F, 7 T, 8 T, 9 F, 10 T
- 2 a 126, b 134, c 500, d 5, e 200, f 100, g 1
- 3 1 was, 2 took, 3 went, 4 found, 5 walked, 6 arrived, 7 found, 8 was, 9 were, 10 had, 11 looked, 12 came, 13 looked, 14 was, 15 was, 16 didn't have, 17 guessed, 18 spoke, 19 said, 20 said, 21 sent, 22 said, 23 was, 24 wanted, 25 told, 26 laughed, 27 replied, 28 turned, 29 followed, 30 told, 31 were, 32 weren't, 33 were, 34 thought
- 4 1 b, 2 a, 3 b, 4 a, 5 c, 6 c

## A Scandal in Bohemia

1

Clues	Deductions
The writing paper is unusual.	It must be very expensive.
There is a watermark in the paper.	It is not British / It is German.
There is a monogram of E and g on the paper.	It stands for 'Egria', a German-speaking country in Bohemia.

2

Physical appearance	His clothes	Other information
A very large man At least six and a half feet tall	The top part of his face was covered with a black mask. He was carrying a wide hat. There was fur on the collar of his coat and round the tops of his boots. Over his coat he wore a cloak fastened with a brooch made of gold with a single large jewel in the centre.	He was rich. He was not English. He had a strong German accent. He was a Bohemian aristocrat. He was the King of Bohemia. He was anxious.

- 3 The best summary is number 1
- 4 1 *I sat down to wait for him and after an hour I heard footsteps on the stairs.*  
2 Holmes's skill at disguising himself had been useful in many of his cases.  
3 After I had bought them something to drink, they were very willing to tell me about Irene Adler.  
4 He is a dark-haired, handsome man with important friends, the grooms told me.  
5 He asked to be taken to the shop of a famous jeweller, and then to St Monica's Church in Edgware Road.

5 1 *If*, 2 *If*, 3 *When*, 4 *When*

6 1 *b*, 2 *b*, 3 *a*, 4 *b*, 5 *b*, 6 *a*, 7 *b*

7

/ə/	/æ/	/ɑː/
<i>and</i> was about an arrived servant	<i>travelled</i> married angrily cannot plans aristocrat ran hand	<i>asked</i> ah can't past large photograph

8 1 – , 2 *the*, 3 – , 4 – , 5 *the*, 6 – , 7 *the*, 8 *the*, 9 *a*, 10 *a*, 11 – , 12 *the*, 13 *the*, 14 *the*, 15 *the*, 16 *a*, 17 *the*, 18 – , 19 – , 20 –