

The Norwood Builder and Other Stories

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Dr Watson's Introduction

- 1 Listen to Dr Watson's Introduction. Tick (✓) the information about Sherlock Holmes that is correct. Put a cross (✗) next to the information that is incorrect. Check your answers on p.10 of the book or in the answer key.
- 1 Holmes was a doctor in the British Army. ✗
 - 2 He was shot in the shoulder and badly hurt.
 - 3 He has a very logical mind, like a great book of knowledge.
 - 4 He is a philosopher.
 - 5 He has published many articles about philosophy.
 - 6 He is also a musician.
 - 7 He plays the violin well.
 - 8 He has published articles on music too.
 - 9 He knows about crime and criminals.
 - 10 He only investigates crimes.
 - 11 He is an independent detective.
 - 12 He works for the police.
 - 13 He works with the police.
 - 14 He works against the police.
 - 15 Holmes investigates every case.

The Norwood Builder

- 1 Listen to Chapter 1 of the first story (from 'I read what was in front of me' to 'when I had finished reading.'). Correct the information you hear Watson read from the newspaper report of the case. Check your answers on pp.12–13 of the book or in the answer key.

Mr Jonas Oldacre, from the district of Norwood, has died. The police suspect that he has been kidnapped. Mr Oldacre is a man in his fifties who has lived in Norwood, on the northern edge of London, for many years. He owns a banking firm there. Recently he seems to have stopped working as a banker and he rarely meets anyone. Mr Oldacre lives alone except for an elderly man who is his servant. Yesterday morning, he was visited at home by Mr John Hector McFarlane, an accountant who works in central London. Then, very early this evening, a fire was discovered in a timber store near Mr Oldacre's house. All the wood in the store was burnt. But when the firemen had put out the flames, they found Mr Oldacre. He had slept in his bed, but a safe which he kept in his living room had not

been opened. The police found some fingerprints in the bedroom and they also found a heavy golf club, which belongs to Mr McFarlane. There were some fingerprints on the golf club too.

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

- 2 Listen to Chapter 2 of the first story (from 'I agree with you about the writing' to 'But it doesn't change the evidence against Mr McFarlane.'). Write the deductions Holmes makes from the clues in Oldacre's will. Check your answers on pp.16–17 of the book or in the answer key.

Clues	Deductions
The writing is difficult to read.	<i>The draft was written on a train.</i>
In two places, the writing is clear.	
There are places where the writing is worse.	
There are places where the writing is even worse – it is very bad indeed.	
It was written on a train which only stopped twice during the writer's journey.	
You only find lots of points close together near the main London stations between Norwood and London Bridge Station, near McFarlane's office.	

- 3 Listen to Chapter 2 of the first story (from 'Well, please continue, Mr McFarlane' to 'And now you must come with us, Mr McFarlane.'). Put McFarlane's story in the correct order. Check your answers on p.17 of the book or in the answer key.
- a He took me into his bedroom. _____
 - b I came straight here. _____
 - c I couldn't find my walking stick. _____
 - d I helped my client seal envelopes with wax. _____
 - e I saw the newspapers and read about the disappearance. _____
 - f I sent a telegram to my parents. 1
 - g I stayed in a hotel in Norwood. _____
 - h I went to Norwood. _____
 - i Mr Oldacre gave me some food. _____
 - j We talked about the documents for a long time. _____

4 Listen to the beginning of Chapter 3 of the first story (from 'Will you go to Norwood yourself, Holmes?' to 'Perhaps her son hated him too.'). Complete the phrases below with the adjectives you hear. Check your answers on pp.20–21 of the book or in the answer key.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 a very <u>strange</u> case | 9 I'm _____ that he's dead |
| 2 something really _____ | 10 when she was a _____ woman |
| 3 a _____ train | 11 but he was a r_____ man |
| 4 more _____ | 12 found out that he was _____ |
| 5 he was not _____ | 13 he was a p_____ man |
| 6 Lestrade is _____ after all | 14 but he was a b_____ man |
| 7 _____ ago | 15 Mrs McFarlane is quite _____ |
| 8 a t_____ man | 16 her son is not g_____ |

5 Listen to the beginning of Chapter 4 of the first story (from 'We left the garden' to 'Later, they put some blood on that too.'). Count how many times you hear the following words. Check your answers on pp.23–24 of the book or in the answer key.

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| a blood _____ | d straw _____ |
| b fire _____ | e up _____ |
| c joke _____ | |

6 Listen to Chapter 4 of the first story (from 'It's the best thing you've done yet!' to 'It was an easy thing for a builder like Oldacre to make.'). Write the deductions Sherlock Holmes makes from the clues that helped him to solve the case. Check your answers on pp.24–26 of the book or in the answer key.

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.	
The housekeeper was part of Oldacre's plan.	
Mr McFarlane had to leave without his walking stick.	
Mr McFarlane told us he helped Oldacre to seal some envelopes.	
Holmes measured the outside of the house and measured the upstairs corridor in the same way. It was shorter than it should have been.	

The Second Stain

1 Listen to Chapter 1 of the second story (from 'One Tuesday morning' to 'Never.'). Answer the questions. Check your answers on pp.28–30 of the book or in the answer key.

1 Who were the two famous men who visited Baker Street?

The Minister for European Affairs and the Prime Minister.

2 What had happened to an important document?

3 Why didn't the men tell the police about the incident?

4 What were they trying to maintain?

5 What was contained in the document?

6 When had the document arrived in Britain?

7 Where was it kept at night?

8 How did the Minister know where the document was the night before?

9 How long was the document left unguarded during the evening?

10 Who knew about the document?

2 Listen to Chapter 2 of the second story. Circle the word you hear each time – an adjective or an adverb. Check your answers on pp.31–33 of the book or in the answer key.

1 important / importantly

9 fierce / fiercely

2 famous / famously

10 simply / simple

3 diplomatically / diplomatic

11 completely / complete

4 busily / busy

12 direct / directly

5 quick / quickly

13 international / internationally

6 obviously / obvious

14 suddenly / sudden

7 angry / angrily

15 personal / personally

8 quiet / quietly

16 probably / probable

- 3 Listen to Chapter 3 of the second story (from 'He took the newspaper from me' to 'for the police.'). Complete the newspaper article with the missing information. Check your answers on pp.34–35 of the book or in the answer key.

<p>A mysterious (1) <u>crime</u> was committed in (2) _____ last night. It happened in a (3) _____ house in Godolphin Street, near the (4) _____ buildings in Westminster. The (5) _____ of the house, Mr Eduardo Lucas, was found (6) _____ with a knife in his (7) _____. Mr Lucas was aged (8) _____ and was not (9) _____. Mr Lucas lived in the (10) _____ with an elderly (11) _____, Mrs Pringle, and a (12) _____. John Mitton. Last (13) _____, Mrs Pringle was in her room at the (14) _____ of the house and Mitton was not at (15) _____. At a quarter to twelve, a (16) _____ saw that the (17) _____ door was (18) _____. He knocked on the (19) _____ to ask if anything was (20) _____. There was no</p>	<p>(21) _____, but he saw that there was a (22) _____ on in the front (23) _____. He entered the room and (24) _____ Mr Lucas lying dead on the (25) _____.</p> <p>The knife, which was (26) _____ in Mr Lucas's body, was his own (27) _____. It had hung on a (28) _____ in the room for some (29) _____. Much of the (30) _____ in the room had been turned (31) _____. But the strange thing is that (32) _____ in the room had been (33) _____.</p> <p>It seems that burglary was not the (34) _____ for the crime. Inspector Lestrade of (35) _____ Yard is in charge of the (36) _____ for the police.</p>
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- 4 Listen to Chapter 4 of the second story (from 'During the next three days' to 'I showed the story to Holmes as he ate his breakfast.'). List all the expressions of time you hear. Check your answers in the answer key.

during the next three days,

- 5 Listen to Chapter 5 of the second story (from 'We soon arrived' to 'Lestrade laughed.'). Complete the sentences with the prepositions in the box. You can use the words in the box more than once. Check your answers on pp.41–42 of the book or in the answer key.

about at beneath from in into of on outside through to

- 1 We soon arrived at Lucas's house _____ Godolphin Street.
- 2 It was my first visit _____ the scene _____ the crime.
- 3 There was a big policeman standing _____ the front door.
- 4 He let us _____ the house, and _____ the front room we found Inspector Lestrade.
- 5 The only sign _____ the crime _____ the room was a large bloodstain _____ the beautiful square carpet.
- 6 'Have you seen the news _____ Paris?'
- 7 'If you're sure _____ it, why do you need my help?'
- 8 'Do you see the stain _____ the carpet? Lucas's blood has soaked _____ it.'
- 9 'Now look _____ this!' He pulled back the corner _____ the carpet nearest the large bloodstain.
- 10 He showed us a large stain _____ the wooden floor _____ it.

- 6 Listen to Chapter 6 of the second story. Who says the following? Write LH for Lady Hilda Hope or SH for Sherlock Holmes. Check your answers on pp.46–48 of the book or in the answer key.

- 1 'I must ask you to leave immediately.' LH
- 2 'Please tell me the truth, and I will help you.' _____
- 3 'You have insulted me.' _____
- 4 'I can tell you nothing!' _____
- 5 'I will tell you what I know.' _____
- 6 'I must have the letter.' _____
- 7 'You are obviously unwell.' _____
- 8 'It would break his heart.' _____
- 9 'I'm glad that you have decided to do the right thing.' _____
- 10 'I wish I had never seen it!' _____

- 7 Listen to Chapter 7 of the second story (from 'When Lady Hilda returned' to 'after I had taken it.'). Match the sentence halves. Check your answers on p.49 of the book or in the answer key.

- 1 When Lady Hilda returned to the sitting room, e
- 2 When I said that I kept no secrets from my husband, _____
- 3 Many years ago, when I was an innocent girl, _____
- 4 It was a foolish letter, _____
- 5 I did not understand _____
- 6 He said that if I did not steal it, _____

- 7 He has a very strong sense of honour and he would not understand ____
- 8 Lucas didn't tell me ____
- 9 I didn't know that the document ____
- 10 I only learnt that when I spoke to you, ____
- a after I had taken it.
- b and my husband has never talked to me about his work.
- c but it was the letter of a young girl in love for the first time.
- d he would send my letter to my husband.
- e Holmes smiled.
- f I wasn't telling you the truth.
- g I wrote a letter to someone.
- h that I wrote the letter innocently.
- i that it could cause trouble for me in the future.
- j was so important to the peace of Europe, Mr Holmes.

The Stockbroker's Clerk

- 1 Listen to Chapter 1 of the third story (from 'One Saturday morning' to 'for stockbrokers' clerks.'). Decide if the sentences are true (T) or false (F). Check your answers in the answer key.
- 1 Watson was not pleased to see Holmes. F
- 2 Holmes wanted to travel to Birmingham.
- 3 Watson couldn't go with him because he was busy.
- 4 A young man was waiting in a taxi outside the door.
- 5 Hall Pycroft had fair hair and a yellow moustache.
- 6 He was a stockbroker.
- 7 He felt as if he had been cheated.
- 8 He had worked for a good firm until it crashed.
- 9 Two hundred people lost their jobs.
- 10 They were all trying for the same jobs.
- 2 Listen to Chapter 2 of the third story. Complete the sentences with the numbers in the box. Check your answers on pp.55–57 of the book or in the answer key.

1 5 100 ~~126~~ 134 200 500

- a The company's office was number 126 Corporation Street.
- b There were Franco-Midland Hardware shops in France.
- c Hall Pycroft could earn £ working at Harry Pinner's company.
- d Arthur Pinner made a bet of £ with the Mawson's manager.

- e Hall Pycroft expected to earn £____ a year in his new job at Mawson's.
- f Arthur Pinner took £____ out of his pocket and put it on the table.
- g Hall Pycroft had to be at the office in Birmingham at ____ o'clock the next day.

- 3 Listen to Chapter 3 of the third story (from 'Well, the next morning' to 'they hadn't been used for a long time.'). Complete the following text with the past simple verbs you hear. Check your answers on pp.58–59 of the book or in the answer key.

'Well, the next morning - it (1) *was* last Saturday, Dr Watson - I (2) _____ the train to Birmingham,' Mr Pycroft (3) _____ on. 'I (4) _____ a room in a hotel, and then I (5) _____ to Corporation Street. I (6) _____ a little early and (7) _____ number 126, which (8) _____ a large building containing many offices. The names of lots of different firms (9) _____ painted on a board by the front door. Each name (10) _____ a floor number and a room number. I (11) _____ for the Franco-Midland Hardware Company's name but I couldn't find it. I was wondering what to do when a man (12) _____ towards me. He (13) _____ very like the man who had visited me the previous evening, but the colour of his hair (14) _____ lighter and he (15) _____ clean shaven - he (16) _____ a beard. I (17) _____ that he must be my visitor's brother.

'The man (18) _____ first,' our young friend (19) _____. 'He (20) _____, "You must be Mr Hall Pycroft. I'm Harry Pinner. My brother (21) _____ me a telegram to say that you were coming." He (22) _____ that he (23) _____ pleased that I (24) _____ the job.

'I (25) _____ him I'd been trying to find his office. "It isn't on the board," I said. He (26) _____. "Well, it's only a temporary office," he (27) _____. "We won't be here for long. Please follow me." He (28) _____ towards the stairs.

'So I (29) _____ Harry Pinner up many stairs, to the top floor of the building, and along a corridor,' Mr Pycroft (30) _____ me. 'At the end of the corridor there (31) _____ two rooms with a door between them. The rooms (32) _____ very big and they (33) _____ very dusty. I (34) _____ that they hadn't been used for a long time.'

- 4 Listen to Chapter 4 of the third story (from 'Well, it's certainly a puzzle to me' to 'find a policeman.'). Tick (✓) the best answer (a, b or c) to the questions. Check your answers in the answer key.

- 1 Mr Pinner gave Mr Pycroft a long task to do
 - a because he liked him.
 - b to keep him away from London. ✓
 - c to trick him.
- 2 Mr Pinner asked Hall Pycroft to write a letter in order to have
 - a a sample of his handwriting.
 - b direct contact with Mawson's.
 - c power over him.

- 3 When Hall Pycroft decided to take the other job, the manager at Mawson's
- did not mind.
 - did not hear from him again.
 - was not offended.
- 4 The person who started work on Monday at Mawson's was
- an imposter.
 - Mr Hall Pycroft.
 - Mr Pycroft's brother.
- 5 Mr Pinner was very unhappy because
- he recognized Sherlock Holmes.
 - he was caught by the police.
 - his brother would be executed.
- 6 Sherlock Holmes told Hall Pycroft to
- run away from the police.
 - give himself up to the police.
 - go and find a policeman.

A Scandal in Bohemia

- 1 Listen to Chapter 1 of the fourth story (from 'What does this strange note tell you, Watson?' to 'we are about to meet him.'). Write the deductions Sherlock Holmes makes from the clues in the anonymous letter he receives. Check your answers on p.68 of the book or in the answer key.

Clues	Deductions
The writing paper is unusual.	
There was a watermark in the paper.	
There was a monogram of E and g on the paper.	

- 2 Listen to Chapter 1 of the fourth story (from 'As he spoke, we heard footsteps on the stairs' to 'The man sat down and told us his story.'). List all the information you hear about the visitor in the correct part of the table. Check your answers in the answer key.

Physical appearance	His clothes	Other information

- 3 Listen to Chapter 2 of the fourth story. Tick (✓) the best summary. Check your answer on pp.70–73 of the book or in the answer key.
- 1 The King of Bohemia had been friends with a beautiful opera singer who is now jealous of his forthcoming marriage and wants to prevent it by showing a scandalous photograph.
 - 2 The King of Bohemia is married to a beautiful opera singer who is blackmailing him because he wants to remarry and is demanding one thousand pounds from him.
 - 3 The King of Bohemia wants to marry the woman he has fallen in love with, who is a beautiful opera singer, but he is being forced to marry the Princess of Scandinavia, who he does not love.
- 4 Listen to Chapter 3 of the fourth story (from 'When I arrived at Baker Street' to 'He said that he had to be at the church in twenty minutes.'). Order the words to make the sentences you hear. Check your answers on pp.74–75 of the book or in the answer key.
- 1 I / heard / him / wait / down / stairs / to / an / footsteps / on / after / and / sat / for / hour / I / the .
I sat down to wait for him and after an hour I heard footsteps on the stairs.
 - 2 at / had / been / many / cases / in / useful / disguising / of / skill / Holmes's / himself / his .
Holmes's skill _____
 - 3 tell / them / they / bought / Irene Adler / something / about / drink, / After / willing / were / I / very / to / to / had / me .
After I had _____
 - 4 the / dark-haired, / friends, / with / important / grooms / told / me / He / is / a / man / handsome .
He is a dark-haired, _____
 - 5 then / the / famous / Church / in / Monica's / Road / taken / to / St / Edgware / asked / to / shop / of / He / and / to / be / a / jeweller, .
He asked to _____
- 5 Listen to Chapter 4 of the fourth story (from 'But how will you do that?' to 'I shall be watching Irene Adler carefully.'). Circle *If* or *When* in these sentences. Check your answers on pp.77–78 of the book or in the answer key.
- 1 (If) When a married woman's house catches fire, the first thing that she will try to save is her baby.
 - 2 If / When a rich unmarried woman's house catches fire, she will probably try to save her jewels first.
 - 3 If / When your bomb starts to release smoke, shout 'Fire! The house is burning!'
 - 4 'If / When you shout, some other people in the street will start to shout too,' Holmes went on.

6 Listen to Chapter 4 of the fourth story again (from 'I hope that she will give away her secret' to 'until you feel better'). Tick (✓) the people that Doctor Watson sees in the street. Check your answers on p.78 of the book or in the answer key.

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 a seven men | b several men ✓ |
| 2 a ten sailors | b two soldiers |
| 3 a two rich young men | b two rich young women |
| 4 a a pretty young girl | b a pretty young woman |
| 5 a some shopkeepers | b some shabby men |
| 6 a a very beautiful woman | b a woman in a very beautiful coat |
| 7 a a diver | b a driver |

7 Listen to Chapter 5 of the fourth story (from 'Holmes, the king and I' to 'He opened the envelope and read the contents.'). Listen to how the underlined letter in the following words is pronounced, then write the words in the correct part of the table. Check your answers in the answer key.

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 <u>a</u> nd | 6 <u>a</u> s <u>k</u> ed | 11 <u>a</u> n't | 16 <u>a</u> st |
| 2 <u>a</u> trav <u>e</u> lled | 7 <u>a</u> ng <u>r</u> ily | 12 <u>a</u> n | 17 <u>a</u> ran |
| 3 <u>a</u> was | 8 <u>a</u> h | 13 <u>a</u> ristocrat | 18 <u>a</u> nd |
| 4 <u>a</u> mar <u>r</u> ied | 9 <u>a</u> nn <u>o</u> t | 14 <u>a</u> rrived | 19 <u>a</u> rg <u>e</u> |
| 5 <u>a</u> bout | 10 <u>a</u> pl <u>a</u> n <u>s</u> | 15 <u>a</u> serv <u>a</u> nt | 20 <u>a</u> phot <u>o</u> graph |

<i>/ə/</i>	<i>/æ/</i>	<i>/ɑː/</i>
<i>and</i>	<i>travelled</i>	<i>asked</i>

- 8 Listen to Chapter 5 of the fourth story again (from 'He showed the letter to the king' to 'if I ever mention her name.'). Complete the letter with the article you hear: *the, a, an* or – (zero article). Check your answers on p.83 of the book or in the answer key.

Dear Mr Holmes,

You did very well. You made me give away (1) _____ my secret. I knew, months ago, that if (2) _____ king was desperate he would consult you. I was expecting you to come. But you still deceived me with (3) _____ your clever disguise and (4) _____ your excellent actors. I have been on (5) _____ stage myself, of course. I know about (6) _____ acting. But you were very good. I only understood that (7) _____ clergyman was really Mr Sherlock Holmes when I saw (8) _____ smoke bomb. Even then, I needed to be sure. I dressed as (9) _____ boy and took (10) _____ cab to (11) _____ Baker Street. I saw (12) _____ clergyman stop outside (13) _____ house where (14) _____ famous detective lives. I even said goodnight to you.

Please tell (15) _____ king not to worry. I am now married to (16) _____ better man than he will ever be. I still have (17) _____ photograph, but I won't make it (18) _____ public unless he tries to make (19) _____ trouble for me.

(20) _____ yours very sincerely,

*Irene Norton,
formerly Irene Adler*