

John H Watson Society
Treasure Hunt 6: Every Link Rings True

'You reasoned it out beautifully...It is so long a chain, and yet every link rings true.'

1. Watson did not know where to look, so he missed it. What did he miss? [1pt]

Answer: All that was important

Not invisible, but unnoticed, Watson. You did not know where to look, and so you missed all that was important. I can never bring you to realize the importance of sleeves, the suggestiveness of thumbnails, or the great issues that may hang from a bootlace. Now what did you gather from that woman's appearance? [IDEN]

2. Had he not missed [the answer to number 1], Watson would know where the great issues can be found. Where can they be found? [1pt]

Answer: Hanging from a bootlace

'Not invisible, but unnoticed, Watson. You did not know where to look, and so you missed all that was important. I can never bring you to realize the importance of sleeves, the suggestiveness of thumbnails, or the great issues that may hang from a bootlace. Now what did you gather from that woman's appearance?' [IDEN]

3. With the individualities of [the answer to number 2] not making a strong difference in this instance, find the well-off man with no need of a dentist. Who? [1pt]

Answer: Mr. Grant Munro

'Pipes are occasionally of extraordinary interest,' said he. 'Nothing has more individuality save, perhaps, watches and bootlaces. The indications here, however, are neither very marked nor very important. The owner is obviously a muscular man, left-handed, with an excellent set of teeth, careless in his habits, and with no need to practise economy.'... 'My dear Mr Grant Munro-' began Holmes. Our visitor sprang from his chair. 'What!' he cried. 'You know my name?' [YELL]

4. Either Holmes didn't report all the information to be found in the hat, or the wife to [the answer to number 3] had her own pet name for her husband. What name? [1pt]

Answer: Jack

'My dear Mr Grant Munro-' began Holmes. Our visitor sprang from his chair. 'What!' he cried. 'You know my name?' 'If you wish to preserve your incognito,' said Holmes, smiling, 'I should suggest that you cease to write your name upon the lining of your hat, or else that you turn the crown towards the person whom you are addressing'...'Well, about six weeks ago she came to me. "'Jack, "' said she, "when you took my money you said that if ever I wanted any I was to ask you for it."...'Some day, perhaps, but not just at present, Jack." [YELL]

Tracy, *Encyclopedia Sherlockiana*, p. 250: Munro, Grant ["Jack"], a London hop merchant...Grant Munro may be a compound surname.

5. Another husband was also sometimes called by the same first name as [the answer to number 4]. What are three surnames for this husband? [3pt]

Answer: Stapleton, Vandeleur, Baskerville

Stapleton had abandoned the chase and came back to us breathing hard and flushed with his exertions. 'Hullo, Beryl!' said he, and it seemed to me that the tone of his greeting was not altogether a cordial one. 'Well, Jack, you are very hot.' 'Yes, I was chasing a Cyclopes.' [HOUN]

Tracy, *Encyclopedia Sherlockiana*, p. 342: Stapleton, Jack,...his real name was Rodger Baskerville...under the name Vandeleur he headed a school in Yorkshire and made a reputation in entomology.

6. Find an heir living in an L-shaped house; the first letter of his name matches the first letter of one of the first names used by [the husband in number 5]. Who? [1pt]

Answer: Reginald Musgrave

'The third of these cases was that of the Musgrave Ritual, and it is to the interest which was aroused by that singular chain of events, and the large issues which proved to be at stake, that I trace my first stride towards the position which I now hold. Reginald Musgrave had been in the same college as myself, and I had some slight acquaintance with him...The same afternoon saw us both at Hurlstone. Possibly you have seen pictures and read descriptions of the famous old building, so I will confine my account of it to saying that it is built in the shape of an L, the long arm being the more modern portion, and the shorter the ancient nucleus from which the other has developed.' [MUSG]

7. The heir [from number 6] helped Holmes somewhat, but it was the patriarch that made the difference. What patriarch? [1pt]

Answer: Oak in front of Musgrave Hall

'There were two guides given us to start with, an oak and an elm. As to the oak, there could be no question at all. Right in front of the house, upon the left-hand side of the

drive, there stood a patriarch among oaks, one of the most magnificent trees that I have ever seen. "That was there when your Ritual was drawn up?" said I, as we drove past it. "It was there at the Norman Conquest, in all probability," he answered. "It has a girth of 23 ft.' [MUSG]

8. According to Holmes, pieces of [answer to number 7] were occasionally sent as a warning just like bits of two kinds of fruit. Which two fruits? [2pt]

Answer: melon seeds, orange pips

'Its outrages were usually preceded by a warning sent to the marked man in some fantastic but generally recognized shape - a sprig of oak leaves in some parts, melon seeds or orange pips in others. On receiving this, the victim might either openly abjure his former ways, or might fly from the country. If he braved the matter out, death would unfailingly come upon him, and usually in some strange and unforeseen manner.' [FIVE]

9. Not just the bits, but a number of whole [one of the answers to number 8] fell to the floor when Watson took the blame. Which two suspects lived in the home where Watson took the blame? [2pt]

Answer: Cunningham, J.P., and his son Alex

'Now, I should be very glad if you would have the kindness to show us over the house, Mr Cunningham.' A stone-flagged passage, with the kitchens branching away from it, led by a wooden staircase directly to the first floor of the house. It came out upon the landing opposite to a second more ornamental stair which led up from the front hall. Out of this landing opened the drawing-room and several bedrooms, including those of Mr Cunningham and his son... The J.P. shrugged his shoulders, and led the way into his own chamber, which was a plainly furnished and commonplace room. As we moved across it in the direction of the window, Holmes fell back until he and I were the last of the group. Near the foot of the bed was a small square table, on which stood a dish of oranges and a carafe of water. As we passed it, Holmes, to my unutterable astonishment, leaned over in front of me and deliberately knocked the whole thing over. The glass smashed into a thousand pieces, and the fruit rolled about into every corner of the room. 'You've done it now, Watson,' said he, coolly. 'A pretty mess you've made of the carpet.' I stooped in some confusion and began to pick up the fruit, understanding that for some reason my companion desired me to take the blame upon myself. The others did the same, and set the table on its legs again. [REIG]

10. Two identifying letters written by [the answers to number 9] were once some of the same letters Holmes and Watson used to identify where the paper was made. Which two letters? [2pt] Where was the paper made? [1pt]

Answer: P, G, Egria*

*E, T, and Bohemia accepted

'I am sure that you cannot fail to be delighted with the traces of heredity shown in the p's and in the tails of the g's. The absence of the i-dots in the old man's writing is also most characteristic.' [REIG]

'I carefully examined the writing, and the paper upon which it was written. 'The man who wrote it was presumably well-to-do.' I remarked, endeavouring to imitate my companion's processes. 'Such paper could not be bought under half a crown a packet. It is peculiarly strong and stiff.'

'Peculiar - that is the very word,' said Holmes. 'It is not an English paper at all. Hold it up to the light.' I did so, and saw a large E with a small g, a P, and a large G with a small t woven into the texture of the paper. 'What do you make of that?' asked Holmes. 'The name of the maker, no doubt; or his monogram, rather.' 'Not at all. The G with the small t stands for "Gesellschaft," which is the German for "Company." It is a customary contraction like our "Co." P, of course, stands for "Papier." Now for the Eg. Let us glance at our Continental Gazetteer.' He took down a heavy brown volume from his shelves. 'Eglow, Eglonitz - here we are, Egria. It is in a German-speaking country - in Bohemia, not far from Carlsbad.' [SCAN]

11. Take the cost of a packet of the [paper from number 10], add a few things for a satisfying effect, and determine the subject of the proposed monograph. What subject? [1pt]

Answer: malingering

'With vaseline upon one's forehead, belladonna in one's eyes, rouge over the cheek-bones, and crusts of beeswax round one's lips a very satisfying effect can be produced. Malingering is a subject upon which I have sometimes thought of writing a monograph. A little occasional talk about half-crowns, oysters, or any other extraneous subject produces a pleasing effect of delirium.' [DYIN]

12. From the list of [things of satisfying effect in number 11], chose a poison, and, from there, determine a subject, per Watson, on which Holmes apparently knew nothing. What subject? [1pt]

Answer: practical gardening

*Literature-Nil, Philosophy-Nil, Philosophy-Nil, Astronomy-Nil

...Knowledge of Botany. - Variable. Well up in belladonna, opium, and poisons generally. Knows nothing of practical gardening. 6 Knowledge of Geology:... [STUD]

13. From the list of subjects [where number 12 is found], chose the other poison, and then find the assistant who blocks the door. Which country is he from? [1pt]

Answer: Denmark

'Convinced that something was amiss with him, she rushed down the steps - for the house was none other than the opium den in which you found me to-night - and, running through the front room, she attempted to ascend the stairs which led to the first floor. At the foot of the stairs, however, she met this Lascar scoundrel, of whom I have spoken, who thrust her back, and, aided by a Dane, who acts as assistant there, pushed her out into the street.' [TWIS]

Wikipedia: Danes (Danish: danskere) are the citizens of Denmark, most of whom speak Danish and consider themselves to be of Danish ethnicity.

14. Although the police kept a watchful eye upon the boss of the [assistant in number 13], the inspector agreed to hush up the case. Which inspector? [1pt]

Answer: Bradstreet

'The police have watched this Lascar,' said Inspector Bradstreet, 'and I can quite understand that he might find it difficult to post a letter unobserved. Probably he handed it to some sailor customer of his, who forgot all about it for some days... 'It must stop here, however,' said Bradstreet. 'If the police are to hush this thing up, there must be no more of Hugh Boone.' [TWIS]

15. In which division did [the inspector from number 14] serve? [1pt]

Answer: B Division

*Bow Street (E Division) accepted

Inspector Bradstreet, B Division, gave evidence as to the arrest of Horner, who struggled frantically, and protested his innocence in the strongest terms. [BLUE]

16. Another constable, specifically not from [the division in number 15], stood near the bridge on a dark and stormy night. Which constable? [1pt] Which bridge? [1pt] Who died? [1pt]

Answer: Constable Cook, Waterloo Bridge, John Openshaw

My eye caught the name of Openshaw, and the heading "Tragedy near Waterloo Bridge". Here is the account: "Between nine and ten last night Police Constable Cook, of the H division, on duty near Waterloo Bridge, heard a cry for help and a splash in the water. The night, however, was extremely dark and stormy, so that, in spite of the help of several passers-by, it was quite impossible to effect a rescue. The alarm, however, was given, and by the aid of the water police, the body was eventually recovered. It proved to be that of a young gentleman whose name, as it appears from an envelope which was found in his pocket, was John Openshaw, and whose residence is near Horsham." [FIVE]

17. With the name of the [bridge from number 16] clearly in mind, go with Holmes and Watson to catch a train, and then hire a trap to go a few miles through the lanes until you arrive at the house. Which house? [1pt]

Answer: Stoke Moran

At Waterloo we were fortunate in catching a train for Leatherhead, where we hired a trap at the station inn, and drove for four or five miles through the lovely Surrey lanes... 'Look there!' said he. A heavily timbered park stretched up in a gentle slope, thickening into a grove at the highest point. From amidst the branches there jutted out the grey gables and high roof-tree of a very old mansion. 'Stoke Moran?' said he. 'Yes, sir, that be the house of Dr. Grimesby Roylott,' remarked the driver. [SPEC]

18. At the [house from number 17], determine the time period when absolute ruin occurred. What time period? [1pt]

Answer: The Regency, 1811-1820

'In the last century, however, four successive heirs were of a dissolute and wasteful disposition, and the family ruin was eventually completed by a gambler, in the days of the Regency. Nothing was left save a few acres of ground and the two-hundred year-old house, which is itself crushed under a heavy mortgage.' [SPEC]

Klinger, Annotated, Vol I, p. 232, note 11: Regency—that is the last nine years of the reign of George III, 1811-1820...king's insanity rendered him unfit to rule, and the Prince of Wales (later George IV) acted as regent in his father's stead...

19. With the most important first name of [the time period in number 18] as a guide, find the charitable lady on a mission. Who? [1pt]

Answer: Mrs. Barclay

'Now for the events at Lachine between nine and ten on the evening of last Monday. Mrs Barclay was, it appears, a member of the Roman Catholic Church, and had interested herself very much in the establishment of the Guild of St George, which was formed in connection with the Watt Street Chapel for the purpose of supplying the poor with cast-off clothing. A meeting of the Guild had been held that evening at eight, and Mrs Barclay had hurried over her dinner in order to be present at it.' [CROO]

20. The [mission of number 19] occurred on a Monday; on a different Monday, Holmes and Watson were off on a mission of their own to the famous place. The going was easy for Holmes, and difficult for Watson. Where were they going? [1pt]

Answer: University town*

*Camford accepted

‘There is, if I remember right, an inn called the "Chequers" where the port used to be above mediocrity, and the linen was above reproach. I think, Watson, that our lot for the next few days might lie in less pleasant places.’ Monday morning found us on our way to the famous University town - an easy effort on the part of Holmes, who had no roots to pull up, but one which involved frantic planning and hurrying on my part, as my practice was by this time not inconsiderable. [CREE]

21. In a place just like [where Holmes and Watson were going in number 20], things became difficult and dark for the extraordinary gentleman. Who? [1pt]

Answer: Professor Moriarty

‘But I could not rest, Watson, I could not sit quiet in my chair, if I thought that such a man as Professor Moriarty were walking the streets of London unchallenged.’ ‘What has he done, then?’ ‘His career has been an extraordinary one... Dark rumours gathered round him in the University town, and eventually he was compelled to resign his Chair and to come down to London, where he set up as an army coach.’ [FINA]

22. Because of [the answer to number 21], Holmes found himself in a tough spot, and yet he decided not to fire at the other extraordinary gentleman. Who? [1pt]

Answer: Colonel Sebastian Moran

‘Whatever the cause, Colonel Moran began to go wrong... It was at this time that he was sought out by Professor Moriarty, to whom for a time he was chief of the staff. ... When we were in Switzerland he followed us with Moriarty, and it was undoubtedly he who gave me that evil five minutes on the Reichenbach ledge... Night and day the shadow would have been over me, and sooner or later his chance must have come. What could I do? I could not shoot him at sight, or I should myself be in the dock.’ [EMPT]

23. The year [the gentleman of number 22] turned 44 years old, a seemingly wealthy bachelor laid himself out a nice place. What year? [1pt] Who? [1pt] Where? [1pt]

Answer: 1884, Neville St. Clair, Lee

He handed over the book, and I read: ‘Moran, Sebastian, Colonel. Unemployed. Formerly 1st Bangalore Pioneers. Born London, 1840. Son of Sir Augustus Moran, C.B., once British Minister to Persia. Educated Eton and Oxford. Served in Jowaki Campaign, Afghan Campaign, Charasiab (dispatches), Sherpur, and Cabul. Author of Heavy Game of the Western Himalayas, 1881; Three Months in the Jungle, 1884. Address: Conduit Street. Clubs: The Anglo-Indian, the Tankerville, the Bagatelle Card Club.’ [EMPT]
1884-1840= 44 yoa

‘Some years ago - to be definite, in May, 1884 - there came to Lee a gentleman, Neville St Clair by name, who appeared to have plenty of money. He took a large villa, laid out the grounds very nicely, and lived generally in good style. By degrees he made friends in

the neighbourhood, and in 1887 he married the daughter of a local brewer, by whom he has now had two children.' [TWIS]

24. Take two linking steps: in the same year as [determined in number 23] find the place, and then describe the wounds in two words. Which two words? [2pt] Who was wounded? [1pt]

Answer: Most Serious, Sherlock Holmes

Step 1—'Mortimer, James, MRCS, 1882, Grimpen, Dartmoor, Devon, House-surgeon, from 1882 to 1884, at Charing Cross Hospital. '[HOUN]

Step2—'There are no exact details to hand, but the event seems to have occurred about twelve o'clock in Regent Street, outside the Café Royal. The attack was made by two men armed with sticks, and Mr Holmes was beaten about the head and body, receiving injuries which the doctors describe as most serious. He was carried to Charing Cross Hospital, and afterwards insisted upon being taken to his rooms in Baker Street. [ILLU]

25. The same type weapon as used in [the wounding from number 24] was also used as a weapon of choice by a murderer. Which weapon? [1pt] Which murderer? [1pt]

Answer: stick, Jim Browner

'Hum! The investigation really was a very simple one,' remarked Holmes; 'but I don't think it struck him in that light when he first called us in. However, let us see what Jim Browner has to say for himself....She screamed out. He swore like a madman, and jabbed at me with an oar, for he must have seen death in my eyes. I got past it and got one in with my stick, that crushed his head like an egg. I would have spared her, perhaps, for all my madness, but she threw her arms round him, crying out to him, and calling him "Alec." I struck again, and she lay stretched beside him.' [CARD]

26. While involved in a [murder case like number 25 *such as a body of water containing sunk items and the first name of the man], find the trustworthy, capable man who, at least in his early days, physically resembled Sherlock Holmes. Who? [1pt]

* Question adapted 8/8/2018

Answer: Alec MacDonald

'I would have spared her, perhaps, for all my madness, but she threw her arms round him, crying out to him, and calling him "Alec." I struck again, and she lay stretched beside him.' [CARD]

'Then I tied the bodies into the boat, stove a plank, and stood by until they had sunk. I knew very well that the owner would think that they had lost their bearings in the haze, and had drifted off out to sea.' [CARD]

For some minutes he peered forth, in a furtive, stealthy fashion, as one who wishes to be assured that he is unobserved. Then he leaned forward, and in the intense silence we were aware of the soft lapping of agitated water. He seemed to be stirring up the moat with something which he held in his hand. Then suddenly he hauled something in as a fisherman lands a fish - some large, round object which obscured the light as it was dragged through the open casement. 'Now!' cried Holmes... Holmes took a swift glance round and then pounced upon a sodden bundle tied together with cord which lay where it had been thrust under the writing-table. 'This is what we are after, Mr Barker. This bundle, weighted with a dumb-bell, which you have just raised from the bottom of the moat.' [VALL]

Those were the early days at the end of the 'eighties, when Alec MacDonald was far from having attained the national fame which he has now achieved. He was a young but trusted member of the detective force, who had distinguished himself in several cases which had been entrusted to him. His tall, bony figure gave promise of exceptional physical strength, while his great cranium and deep-set, lustrous eyes spoke no less clearly of the keen intelligence which twinkled out from behind his bushy eyebrows...mediocrity knows nothing higher than itself, but talent instantly recognizes genius, and MacDonald had talent enough for his profession to enable him to perceive that there was no humiliation in seeking the assistance of one who already stood alone in Europe, both in his gifts and in his experience. [VALL]

27. With one of the [physical traits shared in common from number 26] moving spasmodically, Holmes declared he and Watson were done, only to change his mind after a rummage in the cabinet. What did Holmes find in the cabinet? [1pt]

Answer: a second yellow volume [Almanac]

'We are undone, my good Watson! It is finished.'

He had spoken in jesting vein, but the twitching of his bushy eyebrows bespoke his disappointment and irritation. I sat helpless and unhappy, staring into the fire. A long silence was broken by a sudden exclamation from Holmes, who dashed at a cupboard, from which he emerged with a second yellow-covered volume in his hand. 'We pay the price, Watson, for being too up-to-date,' he cried. 'We are before our time, and suffer the usual penalties. Being the seventh of January, we have very properly laid in the new almanack.' [VALL]

28. When the summons arrived, with a covering bearing a resemblance to [the item found in number 27], it was a sign of trouble involving the first of the four. What four? [4pt]

Answer: the four Violets in the Canon [Hunter, Smith, Westbury, de Merville]

'He opened the yellow envelope, and then, glancing at the message, threw it across to me. 'Just look up the trains in Bradshaw; said he, and turned back to his chemical studies.

The summons was a brief and urgent one. Please be at the Black Swan Hotel at Winchester at midday tomorrow (it said). Do come! I am at my wits' end. HUNTER.' [COPP]

Klinger, Annotated, Vol I, p. 351, introduction: 'Although Homes scoffs that his practice is turning into "an agency for recovering lost lead pencils, and giving advice to young ladies from boarding schools," he admits that the case of Miss Violet Hunter (the first of the four Violets to cross his path) is an exceptional one.'

29. Watson once used [the answer from number 28] to describe the edge of the ocean, but when he described the night sky the same way, a very odd ocean-like sound soon greeted him. What made the sound? [1pt]

Answer: the Hound

At last the Violet rim of the German Ocean appeared over the green edge of the Norfolk coast, and the driver pointed with his whip to two old brick and timber gables which projected from a grove of trees. [DANC]

A few faint stars were gleaming in a Violet sky. 'One last question, Holmes,' I said, as I rose. 'Surely there is no need of secrecy between you and me... Holmes had sprung to his feet, and I saw his dark, athletic outline at the door of the hut, his shoulders stooping, his head thrust forward, his face peering into the darkness. 'Hush!' he whispered. 'Hush!' The cry had been loud on account of its vehemence, but it had pealed out from somewhere far off on the shadowy plain. Now it burst upon our ears, nearer, louder, more urgent than before... 'No, there! Again the agonized cry swept through the silent night, louder and much nearer than ever. And a new sound mingled with it, a deep, muttered rumble, musical and yet menacing, rising and falling like the low, constant murmur of the sea. 'The hound!' cried Holmes. 'Come, Watson, come!' [HOUN]

30. Watson helped destroy [the answer to number 29], although he once stood near a version of it to warm himself. What version? [1pt] Where was it? [1pt]

Answer: High iron dogs in front of fireplace, apartment at Baskerville Hall

Then Holmes and I both fired together, and the creature gave a hideous howl, which showed that one at least had hit him. [HOUN]

The wheels died away down the drive while Sir Henry and I turned into the hall, and the door clanged heavily behind us. It was a fine apartment in which we found ourselves, large, lofty, and heavily rafted with huge balks of age-blackened oak. In the great old-fashioned fireplace behind the high iron dogs a log-fire crackled and snapped. Sir Henry and I held out our hands to it, for we were numb from our long drive. Then we gazed round us at the high, thin window of old stained glass, the oak panelling, the stags' heads, the coats-of-arms upon the walls, all dim and sombre in the subdued light of the central lamp. [HOUN]

31. In a smaller [kind of place from number 30], the gem seemed quite in the wrong place. What gem? [1pt]

Answer: Thaddeus Sholto's apartment in his sorry house--like a Diamond of the first water in a setting of brass

*Diamond accepted

'A small place, Miss, but furnished to my own liking. An oasis of art in the howling desert of South London.' We were all astonished by the appearance of the apartment into which he invited us. In that sorry house it looked as out-of-place as a diamond of the first water in a setting of brass. The richest and glossiest of curtains and tapestries draped the walls, looped back here and there to expose some richly mounted painting or Oriental vase. [SIGN]

32. A card upon the tray of [the same setting as the gem in number 31] brought Dr. Watson something entirely new to consider. What was written on the card? [1pt]

Answer: Miss Mary Morstan

I had opened my mouth to reply to this tirade, when, with a crisp knock, our landlady entered, bearing a card upon the Brass salver. 'A young lady for you, sir,' she said, addressing my companion. 'Miss Mary Morstan,' he read... In an experience of women which extends over many nations and three separate continents, I have never looked upon a face which gave a clearer promise of a refined and sensitive nature. [SIGN]

33. Prior to the arrival of [the card in number 32], Watson had listened to quite a rant from Holmes focused on one particular adjective. Later, Holmes said a case no longer fit the adjective because of the liars. What adjective? [1pt] Who lied? [2pt]

Answer: commonplace, Lady Brackenstall and her maid

'What could be more hopelessly prosaic and material? What is the use of having powers, doctor, when one has no field upon which to exert them? Crime is commonplace, existence is commonplace, and no qualities save those which are commonplace have any function upon earth.' I had opened my mouth to reply to this tirade, when, with a crisp knock, our landlady entered, bearing a card upon the brass salver. [SIGN]

'In that way all the beeswing would be in the last glass, would it not? Yes, am convinced that this is so. But if I have hit upon the true explanation of this one small phenomenon, then in an instant the case rises from the commonplace to the exceedingly remarkable, for it can only mean that Lady Brackenstall and her maid have deliberately lied to us, that not one word of their story is to be believed, that they have some very strong reason for covering the real criminal, and that we must construct our case for ourselves without any help from them. '[ABBE]

34. Using the key word of [the indicator of the lie in number 33] as a guide, take two linking steps: determine where, as day faded to night, Holmes studied the incident concerning the dog, and then determine the two colors that mattered. Which two colors? [2pt]

Answer: chocolate and silver

‘In that way all the beeswing would be in the last glass, would it not?’ [ABBE]

So long as he was in actual professional practice the records of his successes were of some practical value to him; but since he has definitely retired from London and taken himself to study and bee-farming on the Sussex Downs, notoriety has become hateful to him, and he has peremptorily requested that his wishes in this matter should be strictly observed. [SECO]

It occurred after my withdrawal to my little Sussex home, when I had given myself up entirely to that soothing life of Nature for which I had so often yearned during the long years spent amid the gloom of London.... In all my chronicles the reader will find no case which brought me so completely to the limit of my powers. Even my imagination could conceive no solution to the mystery. And then there came the incident of the dog. It was my old housekeeper who heard of it first by that strange wireless by which such people collect the news of the countryside. ‘Why, sir, everyone is talking of it. It took on terrible, and has eaten nothing for a week. Then to-day two of the young gentlemen from The Gables found it dead - down on the beach, sir, at the very place where its master met his end.’ ... ‘At the very place.’ The words stood out clear in my memory. Some dim perception that the matter was vital rose in my mind. That the dog should die was after the beautiful, faithful nature of dogs. But ‘in the very place!’ Why should this lonely beach be fatal to it?...In the fading light I could dimly make out the little dog's spoor upon the sand round the very rock on which his master's towel had been laid. For a long time I stood in deep ... Then at last I turned and walked slowly homewards. I had just reached the top of the path when it came to me. ..Like a flash, I remembered the thing for which I had so eagerly and vainly grasped... At the end of that time I emerged with a little chocolate and silver volume. [LION]

35. Choose a color from [the two in number 34], put the brandy to good use, and reveal the subterfuge. What subterfuge? [1pt]

Answer: Silver Blaze was put in the race with his face and leg painted

‘Let us all go round and have a look at the horse together. Here he is,’ he continued, as we made our way into the weighing enclosure where only owners and their friends find admittance. ‘You have only to wash his face and his leg in spirits of wine and you will find that he is the same old Silver Blaze as ever.’ ‘You take my breath away!’ ‘I found him in the hands of a faker, and took the liberty of running him just as he was sent over.’ [SILV]

Klinger, Annotated, Vol I, p. 413, Note 30: spirits of wine = 'Brandy, that is.'

Wikipedia: Aqua vitae was typically prepared by distilling wine; it was sometimes called "spirits of wine" in English texts, a name for brandy that had been repeatedly distilled.

36. Along with [a drink like the one from number 35], give Watson his due. What is due to him? [1pt]

Answer: a thousand apologies from Sherlock Holmes

When I turned again Sherlock Holmes was standing smiling at me across my study table. I rose to my feet, stared at him for some seconds in utter amazement, and then it appears that I must have fainted for the first and the last time in my life. Certainly a grey mist swirled before my eyes, and when it cleared I found my collar-ends undone and the tingling after-taste of brandy upon my lips. Holmes was bending over my chair, his flask in his hand. 'My dear Watson,' said the well-remembered voice, 'I owe you a thousand apologies. I had no idea that you would be so affected.' [EMPT]

37. Have a snack with the [debtor from number 36] and find the dog with the split personality. Who? [1pt]

Answer: Sherlock Holmes

'A sandwich, and a cup of coffee, and then off to violin land, where all is sweetness, and delicacy, and harmony, and there are no red-headed clients to vex us with their conundrums. My friend was an enthusiastic musician, being himself not only a very capable performer, but a composer of no ordinary merit. All the afternoon he sat in the stalls wrapped in the most perfect happiness, gently waving his long thin fingers in time to the music, while his gently smiling face and his languid, dreamy eyes were as unlike those of Holmes the sleuth-hound, Holmes the relentless, keen-witted, ready-handed criminal agent, as it was possible to conceive. In his singular character the dual nature alternately asserted itself, and his extreme exactness and astuteness represented, as I have often thought, the reaction against the poetic and contemplative mood which occasionally predominated in him.' [REDH]

38. Once, [the who from number 37], barely spent a cent and yet he obtained the information related to the king, and, once, the refined man spent considerably more to keep the king's ring. Which king? [1pt]

Answer: Charles I

'By the way, I have been reading a short, but clear and interesting, account of the old building, purchasable at the modest sum of one penny from the local tobacconist.' ...But when I tell you that there is some account of the taking of the place by a Parliamentary colonel in 1644, of the concealment of Charles for several days in the course of the Civil War, and finally of a visit there by the second George, you will admit that there are

various associations of interest connected with this ancient house... 'Ah, Mr Mac,' said Holmes, shaking a reproving forefinger, 'you would not read that excellent local compilation which described the concealment of King Charles.' [VALL]

""Reginald Musgrave had been in the same college as myself, and I had some slight acquaintance with him. He was not generally popular among the undergraduates, though it always seemed to me that what was set down as pride was really an attempt to cover extreme natural diffidence. In appearance he was a man of an exceedingly aristocratic type, thin, high-nosed, and large-eyed, with languid and yet courtly manners... ""We may find something else of Charles I," I cried, as the probable meaning of the first two questions of the Ritual broke suddenly upon me. "Let me see the contents of the bag you fished from the mere." 'We ascended to his study, and he laid the débris before me. I could understand his regarding it as of small importance when I looked at it, for the metal was almost black, and the stones lustreless and dull. I rubbed one of them on my sleeve, however, and it glowed afterwards like a spark, in the dark hollow of my hand. The metal-work was in the form of a double-ring, but it had been bent and twisted out of its original shape...""What is it, then?" he gasped in astonishment. ""It is nothing less than the ancient crown of the Kings of England."... They have the crown down at Hurlstone - though they had some legal bother, and a considerable sum to pay before they were allowed to retain it.' [MUSG]

39. Holmes investigated in two houses where a predecessor to [the king from number 38] would have felt at home. Which king? [1pt] Which two houses? [2pt]

Answer: James I and VI, High Gable, Birlstone

'My first days in this village were devoted to a series of walks, in which in the intervals of my botanical researches I made a reconnaissance of all the large houses and an examination of the family history of the occupants. One house, and only one, riveted my attention. It is the famous old Jacobean grange of High Gable, one mile on the farther side of Oxshott, and less than half a mile from the scene of the tragedy. The other mansions belonged to prosaic and respectable people who live far aloof from romance. But Mr Henderson, of High Gable, was by all accounts a curious man, to whom curious adventures might befall.' [WIST]

A short walk along the winding drive, with such sward and oaks around it as one only sees in rural England; then a sudden turn, and the long, low, Jacobean house of dingy, liver-coloured brick lay before us, with an old-fashioned garden of cut yews on either side of it...Don't look so impatient, for I assure you that even so bald an account as this raises some sort of picture of the past in one's mind. Permit me to give you a sample. "Erected in the fifth year of the reign of James I, and standing upon the site of a much older building, the Manor House of Birlstone presents one of the finest surviving examples of the moated Jacobean residence-"" [VALL]

Tracy, *Encyclopedia Sherlockiana*, p. 196: Jacobean, pertaining to James I or his times.

www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/KingsQueensofBritain:
JAMES I and VI of Scotland 1603 -1625
CHARLES 1 1625 – 1649 English Civil War

40. Many of the neighbors to [one of the houses in number 39] may have lived icily distant from *it*, but once Watson protested to Holmes that, as a matter of fact, *it* was there, and should not be tampered with. What *it*? [1pt] Where did Watson insist *it* was? [1pt]

Answer: Romance, in the Jefferson Hope Case [STUD]

‘One house, and only one, riveted my attention. It is the famous old Jacobean grange of High Gable, one mile on the farther side of Oxshott, and less than half a mile from the scene of the tragedy. The other mansions belonged to prosaic and respectable people who live far aloof from romance. But Mr Henderson, of High Gable, was by all accounts a curious man, to whom curious adventures might befall.’ [WIST]

‘But you have yourself had some experience of my methods of work in the Jefferson Hope case.’ ‘I was never so struck by anything in my life. I even embodied it in a small brochure, with the somewhat fantastic title of A Study in Scarlet.’ He shook his head sadly. ‘I glanced over it,’ said he. ‘Honestly, I cannot congratulate you upon it. Detection is, or ought to be, an exact science, and should be treated in the same cold and unemotional manner. You have attempted to tinge it with romanticism, which produces much the same effect as if you worked a love-story or an elopement into the fifth proposition of Euclid.’ ‘But the romance was there,’ I remonstrated. ‘I could not tamper with the facts.’ [SIGN]

41. Find Holmes’s insistence of what should always be considered without [the *it* from number 40], and determine why he was red faced in the previous case. Why? [1pt]

Answer: Flushed with pleasure because Watson flattered him

‘Detection is, or ought to be, an exact science, and should be treated in the same cold and unemotional manner. . You have attempted to tinge it with romanticism...’ [SIGN]

‘I shall never do that,’ I answered; ‘you have brought detection as near an exact science as it ever will be brought in this world.’ My companion flushed up with pleasure at my words, and the earnest way in which I uttered them. I had already observed that he was as sensitive to flattery on the score of his art as any girl could be of her beauty. [STUD]

42. Watson observed his [activity from number 41] caused a red Holmes; later a woman used the same tactic to get the result she wanted from Holmes. Which woman? [1pt]

Answer: Mrs. Warren

'I remembered his words when I was in doubt and darkness myself. I know you could if you only would.' Holmes was accessible upon the side of flattery, and also, to do him justice, upon the side of kindness. The two forces made him lay down his gum-brush with a sigh of resignation and push back his chair. 'Well, well, Mrs Warren, let us hear about it, then.' [REDC]

43. Because another woman with the same trade as [the woman in number 42] was not prepared, Watson was cross; however, because of the delay on this date, his burning question about Sherlock Holmes was answered. What date? [1pt]

Answer: March 4

'Well, Mrs Warren, I cannot see that you have any particular cause for uneasiness, nor do I understand why I, whose time is of some value, should interfere in the matter. I really have other things to engage me.' So spoke Sherlock Holmes, and turned back to the great scrap-book in which he was arranging and indexing some of his recent material. But the landlady had the pertinacity, and also the cunning, of her sex.' [REDC]

Again I had an opportunity of asking him a point-blank question, and again my delicacy prevented me from forcing another man to confide in me. I imagined at the time that he had some strong reason for not alluding to it, but he soon dispelled the idea by coming round to the subject of his own accord. It was upon the 4th of March, as I have good reason to remember, that I rose somewhat earlier than usual, and found that Sherlock Holmes had not yet finished his breakfast. The landlady had become so accustomed to my late habits that my place had not been laid nor my coffee prepared. With the unreasonable petulance of mankind I rang the bell and gave a curt intimation that I was ready. Then I picked up a magazine from the table and attempted to while away the time with it, while my companion munched silently at his toast....'The theories which I have expressed there, and which appear to you to be so chimerical, are really extremely practical - so practical that I depend upon them for my bread and cheese.' 'And how?' I asked involuntarily. 'Well, I have a trade of my own. I suppose I am the only one in the world. I'm a consulting detective, if you can understand what that is.' [STUD]

44. Go forward three months from [the date in number 43], in a different year, and determine who never returned from the walk. Who? [1pt]

Answer: Sir Charles Baskerville

'Sir Charles Baskerville was in the habit every night before going to bed of walking down the famous Yew Alley of Baskerville Hall. The evidence of the Barrymores shows that this had been his custom. On the 4th of June Sir Charles had declared his intention of starting next day for London, and had ordered Barrymore to prepare his luggage. That night he went out as usual for his nocturnal walk, in the course of which he was in the habit of smoking a cigar. He never returned.' [HOUN]

45. Two were walking because of the weather, but, like [the answer to number 44], one did not come back, and the other went home alone. Who went home alone? [1pt]

Answer: Violet Westbury

'Go on, Miss Westbury... 'Yes, quite recently.' 'Now tell us of that last evening.' 'We were to go to the theatre. The fog was so thick that a cab was useless. We walked, and our way took us close to the office. Suddenly he darted away into the fog.' 'Without a word?' 'He gave an exclamation, that was all. I waited, but he never returned. Then I walked home.' [BRUC]

46. A professional man, like the companion of [the answer to number 45], went for a walk in the worn house following a fat man and a thin man. Who is the professional? [1pt] What is his profession? [1pt]

Answer: Victor Hatherley, Hydraulic Engineer

'Mr Victor Hatherley, hydraulic engineer, 16a Victoria Street (3rd floor)... He brought up a card, too, with the name of "Colonel Lysander Stark" engraved upon it... Close at his heels came the Colonel himself, a man rather over the middle size but of an exceeding thinness. I do not think that I have ever seen so thin a man...We went upstairs together, the Colonel first with the lamp, the fat manager and I behind him. It was a labyrinth of an old house, with corridors, passages, narrow winding staircases, and little low doors, the thresholds of which were hollowed out by the generations who had crossed them. There were no carpets, and no signs of any furniture above the ground floor, while the plaster was peeling off the walls, and the damp was breaking through in green, unhealthy blotches. I tried to put on as unconcerned an air as possible, but I had not forgotten the warnings of the lady, even though I disregarded them, and I kept a keen eye upon my two companions.' [ENGR]

47. Like the complicated network of rooms in [the house from number 46], a similar network can be found in a set of little streets when avoiding officials. Where? [1pt]

Answer: Tottenham Court Road

'Peterson had rushed forward to protect the stranger from his assailants, but the man, shocked at having broken the window and seeing an official-looking person in uniform rushing towards him, dropped his goose, took to his heels, and vanished amid the labyrinth of small streets which lie at the back of Tottenham Court Road.' [BLUE]

48. From [the location in number 47] find the item whose value could be conjectured. What item? [1pt]

Answer: Stradivarius violin

We had a pleasant little meal together, during which Holmes would talk about nothing but violins, narrating with great exultation how he had purchased his own Stradivarius, which was worth at least five hundred guineas, at a Jew broker's in Tottenham Court Road for fifty-five shillings. [CARD]

49. With the splendid use of [the item in number 48] in mind, find the red connector. What? [1pt]

Answer: scarlet thread

‘I might not have gone but for you, and so have missed the finest study I ever came across: a study in scarlet, eh? Why shouldn't we use a little art jargon? There's the scarlet thread of murder running through the colourless skein of life, and our duty is to unravel it, and isolate it, and expose every inch of it. And now for lunch, and then for Norman Neruda. Her attack and her bowing are splendid.’ [STUD]

50. The final treasure—find the [answer to #49] who runs through all the sixty adventures of Holmes and Watson, although he is mentioned only once in the Canon. Who? [1pt]

Answer: Arthur Conan Doyle

‘...His career has been a long one — though it is possible to exaggerate it; decrepit gentlemen who approach me and declare that his adventures formed the reading of their boyhood do not meet the response from me which they seem to expect. One is not anxious to have one's personal dates handled so unkindly. As a matter of cold fact, Holmes made his debut in *A Study in Scarlet* and in *The Sign of Four*, two small booklets which appeared between 1887 and 1889. It was in 1891 that “*A Scandal in Bohemia*,” the first of the long series of short stories, appeared in *The Strand Magazine*. The public seemed appreciative and desirous of more, so that from that date, thirty-nine years ago, they have been produced in a broken series which now contains no fewer than fifty-six stories, republished in *The Adventures*, *The Memoirs*, *The Return*, and *His Last Bow*, and there remain these twelve published during the last few years which are here produced under the title of *The Case Book of Sherlock Holmes*. He began his adventures in the very heart of the later Victorian era, carried it through the all-too-short reign of Edward, and has managed to hold his own little niche even in these feverish days...And so reader, farewell to Sherlock Holmes! I thank you for your past constancy, and can but hope that some return has been made in the shape of that distraction from the worries of life and stimulating change of thought which can only be found in the fairy kingdom of romance.’

— Arthur Conan Doyle. [Preface to the Case-Book]

