

Word of the Month: CLUE

By Sarah Gudgeon

1. Write each word next to the correct definition.

clue evidence investigate detective witness crime

- a. a police officer whose job is to discover information about crimes and catch criminals

- b. an object or piece of information that helps someone solve a crime or mystery:

- c. facts or signs that show clearly that something exists or is true. _____
- d. illegal activities in general _____
- e. to try to find out the truth about or the cause of something such as a crime, accident, or scientific problem. _____
- f. someone who sees a crime or an accident and can describe what happened.

2. Fill in the gaps in this newspaper report.

Diamonds with a commercial value of over one million pounds were stolen from a high street jeweller's last night. (1)_____ (2)_____ the case said that so far there were no (3)_____. The only (4)_____ police have is some CCTV footage of the gang entering the shop at midnight but they were all wearing black hats, scarves and gloves. It will be difficult to find them, but they did leave behind one (5)_____; a bus ticket from Piccadilly to Oxford street from the day of the (6)_____.

3. **Detective for a day.**

A painting has disappeared from an art gallery in London. The police are investigating but they haven't got a clue about who took the painting or where it is now. There are no witnesses. The painting was protected by an alarm system in a locked display case. The guard was in the bathroom at the time of the crime. The only clue is a gold tooth that detectives found on the floor.

Work with a partner. What do you think happened that day? Do you think it was a single thief or a gang? Do you think it was an 'insider job'? (that someone who works at the gallery helped the thieves) How do you think they got past the alarm system?

Teachers Notes

By *Sarah Gudgeon*

1.

- a. detective
- b. clue
- c. evidence
- d. crime
- e. investigate
- f. witness

2.

Diamonds with a commercial value of over one million pounds were stolen from a high street jeweller's last night. (1) Detectives (2) investigating the case said that so far there were no (3) witnesses. The only (4) evidence police have is some CCTV footage of the gang entering the shop at midnight but they were all wearing black hats, scarves and gloves. It will be difficult to find them, but they did leave behind one (5) clue; a bus ticket from Piccadilly to Oxford street from the day of the (6) crime.

3.

Elicit famous robberies from the students.... *the Great Train Robbery* etc.... ask them how these gangs usually work. Talk about how they organise the crime and how they try and get away with it afterwards. Then, put them into pairs or small groups if you prefer and ask them to read about the theft of the painting from a London gallery.

They then have to write notes about what they think happened that day ie.

One gang member, posing as a tourist, went into the gallery and as soon as the guard went to the bathroom he de-activated the alarm system. He used a laser cutter to get the painting from behind the glass. His friend, the night guard had given him the code for the alarm and had put the key to the cabinet in the cloakroom for him the night before. Another gang member had a job in the café bar and he was supposed to smuggle the painting out. He came to get the painting but he had decided he didn't want to share the painting with the rest of the gang. He hit the gang member disguised as a tourist in the mouth whose gold tooth fell on the floor as he chased after the cafe worker.