



# A Scandal in Bohemia

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## A Scandal in Bohemia

### 1 Answer these questions.

- a Why does Dr Watson visit Holmes?
- b Why does the King of Bohemia visit Holmes?
- c What does Holmes find out about Irene Adler when he dresses as a driver?
- d What does Holmes want Watson to do at Briony Lodge?
- e How is Holmes dressed when he goes to Briony Lodge?

### 2 Write down five things that tell Holmes that his visitor is the King of Bohemia.

### 3 What happened first? Put these sentences in order.

- a  There is a fight.
- b  People carry Holmes into Irene's house.
- c  Irene Adler's carriage arrives.
- d  Holmes finds out where the photo is.
- e  Holmes, who is dressed as a priest, goes to help Irene.
- f  Watson throws the smoke bomb and shouts 'Fire!'

### 4 Write down what you think about Irene.

Is it a surprise to you that the only person ever to beat Holmes is a woman? Why/why not?

## The Red-Headed League

### 5 What are the names of these people?

- a He works for Mr Wilson.
- b He started the Red-Headed League.
- c He has a shop in Coburg Square.
- d He asks Mr Wilson to copy the dictionary.

### 6 Choose the right words.

- a Mr Wilson and Mr Holmes were *surprised / worried* that Mr Spaulding spent such a long time in the underground room.
- b Mr Ross told Mr Wilson that he had to copy a *dictionary / a book*.
- c After Mr Wilson told his story to Homes and Watson, they *both laughed / were surprised*.
- d Watson and Holmes went to the concert *in a carriage / on foot*.

### 7 Finish the sentences.

- a After the concert, Holmes tells Watson that they should meet at Baker Street at ten and that he should bring a ..... because .....

- b Soon after 10 o'clock Homes went to Coburg Square with Scotland Yard Inspectors because he knew .....
- c Holmes realised that Spaulding was actually John Clay.....
- d Holmes caught John Clay, but his partner was able to run away. Holmes was not worried because .....
- e Holmes discovered that John Clay spent most of his time at Mr Wilson's shop underground .....

### 8 Who thought this and when?

- a 'It is a lot of money for a simple job. I'll take it!'
- b 'This is one of the strangest and craziest stories I've ever listened to!'
- c 'Thirty and a white mark ... Why do I feel I know the man?'
- d 'Who are these two? What do they want?'

### 9 Write right (✓) or wrong (X).

- a Inspector Merryweather had nothing to do on his Saturday night.
- b Homes took all the men to Coburg Square because he did not know where the crime would happen.
- c Holmes took his gun with him to Coburg Square.
- d Watson and Holmes were able to catch John Clay.

## The Boscombe Lake Mystery

### 10 Answer these questions.

- a Why do the police think that Charles McCarthy's son killed him?
- b Does James McCarthy say that he killed his father?
- c What did James see about 30 feet from his father's body?
- d Why did James have a fight with his father?
- e What good news does James hear from his 'wife'?

### 11 How does Holmes know that ...:

- a the stone was used to kill Mr McCarthy?
- b the man who killed McCarthy uses his left hand?
- c the man who killed McCarthy has a bad right leg?
- d the man who killed McCarthy is tall?



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**12 Write right (✓) or wrong (X).**

- a Turner did not want his daughter to marry McCarthy's son.
- b McCarthy wanted to meet Turner in the forest.
- c McCarthy and his son were planning to kill Turner.
- d Young McCarthy saw Turner kill his father.
- e Young McCarthy will stay in jail.

**13 Finish the sentences.**

- a Young McCarthy thought that he could not marry Miss Tuner because he was .....
- b The last two things that McCarthy said were .....
- c Turner was a tall man who walked slowly because .....
- d Turner told Holmes that he was very ill and that.....
- e Holmes promised Turner that if.....

**The Blue Diamond**

**14 Match a–g and 1–7 to make sentences.**

- a Peterson was walking along Goodge Street .....
  - b A chicken and a hat .....
  - c Peterson looks like a policeman .....
  - d Peterson is very excited .....
  - e The police think Horner stole the diamond .....
  - f Holmes knows that Henry Baker did not steal the diamond .....
  - g Holmes makes Mr Breckenridge angry .....
- 1) because he once stole money from a hotel room.
  - 2) when he saw two men attack a tall man.
  - 3) so that he tells him where he bought his chickens.
  - 4) because he finds a diamond in the chicken.
  - 5) because he only wants to eat the chicken.
  - 6) because he is dressed as a hotel doorman.
  - 7) were left on the ground.

**15 Finish the sentences.**

- a The famous blue diamond was stolen from ..... at the .....

- b Horner was known to the police because .....
- c When Watson and Holmes caught the little man .....

**The Single Man**

**16 Find five mistakes and correct them:**

Robert Simon is the son of the Duke of Windsor. He is forty-two years old and plans to marry Hatty, the second daughter of a rich Australian. On the day before the wedding, Hatty jumps in the lake.

**17 Write right (✓) or wrong (X) or does not say (?)**

- a After the wedding, Lord Simon will have a lot of money and Hatty Doran will get a title.
- b Lord Simon was worried because he thought someone killed his wife.
- c Lord Simon told Holmes and Watson that all the stories in the newspapers were false.
- d Holmes knew Hatty Doran was not in the lake because he found her wedding dress on a bag inside the lake.
- e Hatty Doran said that when she wanted to marry Frank, her father refused so they married in secret.

**The Copper Beeches**

**18 Who says this? Who to? Why?**

- a 'I don't like short hair.'
- b 'We shall see her again very soon.'
- c 'Will you go and put it on?'
- d 'There's a man on the road looking at Miss Hunter.'

**19 Answer these questions.**

- a Why does Mr Rucastle say to Miss Hunter, 'If you do, I'll throw you to the dog.?'
- b When Mr and Mrs Rucastle and Mr Toller are out, Holmes, Watson and Miss Hunter go into the upstairs room. What do they see?
- c How does Watson save Mr Rucastle?
- d Why doesn't Alice Rucastle's father want her to marry Mr Fowler?



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- 1 **There are mistakes in these sentences. Write the correct information.**
- a When Sherlock Holmes sees the King of Bohemia for the first time, he is surprised by his hat.
  - b Irene Adler was a famous dancer.
  - c The King needs Irene Adler to give him back the ring he gave her.
  - d Irene Adler never stops loving the King.
  - e Finally Irene decides to give the photograph back to the King.

## The Red-Headed League

- 2 **Write right (✓), wrong (X) or it does not say (?)**
- a There were very few men at Fleet Street who wanted to work for the Red-Headed League.
  - b When Mr Wilson decided to start working for the Red-Headed League, he needed someone to look after his shop.
  - c Mr Ross came to see Mr Wilson every day to check on his work during the first two months.
  - d After the league closed, Mr Wilson tried to find where Mr Ross was but he could never find him.
  - e Wilson chose Mr Spaulding as his assistant because he was the best.
- 3 **Choose the right sentence.**
- a Holmes asked Wilson about Spaulding's work and he found that .....
    - 1) he spent long hours in the underground.
    - 2) he was a hard worker.
  - b When Holmes first visited Wilson's shop .....
    - 1) he felt strange.
    - 2) he hit the ground with his stick.
  - c When Holmes, Watson and the Inspectors went into the underground of the City Bank .....
    - 1) they found piles of big boxes.
    - 2) they found two criminals.
  - d Mr Merryweather explained to the men that .....
    - 1) the City Bank bought thirty thousand gold pieces.
    - 2) the City Bank had a lot of money.

## The Boscombe Lake Mystery

- 4 **What are the right words?**
- a Mr Turner and Mr McCarthy seemed to be very good *neighbours / friends*.
  - b Mr McCarthy's son was seen by the lake together with his father and he had a *gun / knife* under his arm.
  - c Patience saw that Mr McCarthy was shouting at his son and she thought that the son was going to *shout at him / hit him*.

- d Mr McCarthy's son heard his father crying out '*Cooee*' / '*Help*' so he ran towards him.
- e When young McCarthy found his father by the lake it was clear he was *terribly angry / badly hurt*.
- f When Holmes and Watson arrived in the town of Ross, they *were driven in a carriage / took a train*.

## The Blue Diamond

- 5 **Write right (✓) or wrong (X).**
- a The men attacking Mr Baker thought that Peterson was a policeman.
  - b Sherlock Holmes knew about the blue diamond because Inspector Lestrade told him.
  - c Sherlock Holmes thought that Baker had stolen the diamond.
  - d Baker told Holmes that he bought the chicken from a hotel owner.
  - e Beckenridge told Holmes that he still had some chicken.
  - f When Holmes showed the diamond to Ryder the little man practically fell to the floor.

## The Single Man

- 6 **Write right (✓) or wrong (X).**
- a Lord Simon thought that Flora was going to hurt his wife.
  - b Hatty Doran saw her real husband at the church and decided to run away.
  - c Miss Doran's father became rich after he stole gold.
  - d Hatty Doran thought that Frank was dead.
  - e Frank found that Hatty was getting married when he was reading the newspaper.
  - f Lord Simon was kind to Hatty Doran after she told him everything about Frank.

## The Copper Beeches

- 7 **What happened first? Number these sentences 1–5.**
- a Violet Hunter lost her job as a teacher and was offered a lot of money for a new one.
  - b The job at the Copper Beeches consisted of teaching, wearing a blue dress, and sitting by the window and cutting her hair short.
  - c Miss Hunter realises that there is someone living in a locked room of the house.
  - d Mr Rucastle promised to pay more money and Miss Hunter finally accepted.
  - e Miss Hunter refused to cut her hair short so she decided not to take the job.



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### Book key

- 1 Bohemia was in the area of the present-day Czech Republic.
  - 2 Open answers
  - 3 **a** inspector, lawyer, priest  
**b** count, duke, lord  
**c** diamond, ring  
**d** bomb, scandal / Open answers
  - 4 **a** Sherlock Holmes  
**b** the King of Bohemia  
**c** Irene Adler  
**d** the daughter of the King of Scandinavia  
**e** Irene Adler  
**f** Godfrey Norton  
**g** Sherlock Holmes  
**h** Dr Watson  
**i** Sherlock Holmes
  - 5 **a** Irene Adler  
**b** Irene Adler and the King of Bohemia together  
**c** The King of Scandinavia is afraid of any scandal. He will stop the King of Bohemia's marriage to his daughter if he sees the photograph.  
**d** No. Irene Adler leaves the country and takes the photograph with her. While she has it, the King of Bohemia will not hurt her.
  - 6 **a** Holmes dresses as a driver to watch Irene Adler's house. He talks to another driver about Irene Adler and learns a lot about her. Then he follows her carriage and is the witness at her marriage to Godfrey Norton.  
**b** Holmes dresses as a priest to get into Irene Adler's house after a street fight. He learns where Irene keeps the photograph.
  - 7 Irene Adler beat Sherlock Holmes because she took the photograph of her and the King of Bohemia with her. Holmes could not give the photograph to the King. She beat Holmes because she followed him, as the old priest, to Baker Street. She learned who he really was.
  - 8 **a** Irene Adler: I am happy because I have a good husband. He is a better man than the King of Bohemia. I also have the photograph so the King cannot hurt me.  
**b** the King of Bohemia: I am happy because I married the King of Scandinavia's daughter. Nobody will ever see the photograph because Irene Adler has it. She promised to keep it secret.
- 9 Open answers
  - 10 **a** 8 **b** 5 **c** 7 **d** 2 **e** 9 **f** 3 **g** 1 **h** 4 **i** 6
  - 11 **a** To catch the bank robbers.  
**b** Dr Watson, Inspector Lestrade and Mr Merryweather  
**c** John Clay and Duncan Ross  
**d** No. Sherlock Holmes stops the crime.
  - 12 **a** Vincent Spaulding spends a lot of time in the underground room of Mr Wilson's shop. Spaulding shows Mr Wilson the notice about the Red-Headed League. The Red-Headed League pays its men very well. Mr Wilson gets a place in the League because his hair is very bright red. The League gives Mr Wilson the strange job of copying a dictionary. The League closes suddenly. Nobody in the building knows about the League or about Duncan Ross. Vincent Spaulding works for half the usual pay. The City Bank is behind Mr Wilson's shop. There are 30,000 gold pieces in boxes in an underground room there. Spaulding is alone in Mr Wilson's shop every morning. Holmes hits the ground near the shop. Then he knows there is a hole under it. Holmes sees earth on Spaulding's trousers. Spaulding's real name is John Clay. Holmes knows that he is a famous thief.  
**b** The Red-Haired League was a strange idea. It didn't seem real. Mr Wilson's job of copying a dictionary was also strange. They closed the League suddenly and before they finished their job at the City Bank. People saw Spaulding with earth on the knees of his trousers.
  - 13 Open answers
  - 14 **a** ✓ **b** ? **c** ✗ **d** ✓ **e** ? **f** ✓ **g** ✗ **h** ✓  
**i** ✓ **j** ✗ **k** ✗ **l** ?
  - 15 **a** He was a criminal in Australia, and he gets very rich. He murders Charles McCarthy. He is Alice's father.  
**b** He is the dead man. He hates John Turner. He doesn't want his son, James, to marry Alice Turner.  
**c** He is Charles McCarthy's son. The police think that he killed his father.



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- d** She is John Turner's daughter. She loves James McCarthy and asks Sherlock Holmes to help him.
- e** James McCarthy thinks that he married her. But she was already married.
- 16 a** Sherlock Holmes sees the marks of these shoes near the murder.
- b** This is used to kill Charles McCarthy.
- c** It belongs to the murderer. James sees it, but it disappears after the murder.
- d** This is part of Charles McCarthy's last word: Ballarat. It ties John Turner to the murder.
- e** Charles McCarthy often shouts this at an Australian or at his son.
- 17** He probably makes it because John Turner is going to die soon.
- 18** Open answers
- 19 a** hotel doorman
- b** hotel worker/repairman
- c** hotel waiter
- d** unemployed
- e** hotel owner
- f** market seller
- g** farmers (they keep and sell chickens)
- h** works for Lady Morcar
- 20** Lady Morcar has the blue diamond with her at the Cosmopolitan Hotel. James Ryder steals the diamond and puts it in a chicken at the farm of his sister (Mrs Oakshott). Then he takes the wrong chicken when he leaves the farm. The chicken with the diamond is sold to Mr Breckenridge at Covent Garden market. He sells it and about twenty more to Mr Windigate at the Alpha Hotel. Henry Baker buys the chicken from Mr Windigate. Then Henry Baker is attacked at three o'clock in the morning. He runs away and Peterson gets his hat and chicken. Mr and Mrs Peterson eat the chicken and find the diamond. Peterson takes it to Sherlock Holmes. Holmes returns it to Lady Morcar.
- 21–22** Open answers
- 23 a** LS **b** HD **c** LS **d** HD **e** LS **f** LS  
**g** LS **h** HD **i** HD **j** LS **k** HD **l** HD  
**m** HD **n** LS
- 24 a** the Duke of Balmoral
- b** a rich Californian/Mr Aloysius Doran
- c** Frank Moulton
- d** California
- e** dead
- f** St George's Church
- g** a white dress, a pair of white shoes and some flowers
- h** the country/England
- 25–26** Open answers
- 27 a** poor, no job
- b** a lot of money, his son
- c** short, blue
- d** dangerous
- e** second, isn't, is
- f** window, funny
- g** small, grey
- h** a dangerous dog
- i** similar to, locked, a frightening noise
- j** Alice Rucastle
- k** Mr Rucastle
- l** Mr Fowler, Australia
- 28 a** Before: She was a teacher for five years for Mr Munro's children. It was difficult for her to find a new job. She was poor and hungry.  
During: She works for Mr Rucastle and discovers many strange things at Copper Beeches.  
After: She becomes a well-loved teacher in London.
- b** Before: He had a first wife and a daughter, called Alice. He didn't want Alice to marry Mr Fowler. He didn't want to give her the money from her mother. He wanted to keep it. He locked her in a room at the top of Copper Beeches.  
During: He gives Miss Hunter a job. She has to teach his son and has to cut her hair. He tells her funny stories when she sits near a window in a blue dress. Carlo, the dog, almost kills him.  
After: He is never very well.
- c** Before: no information  
During: She is not ill, but she is sad. She gives Miss Hunter a blue dress to wear.  
After: No information
- d** Before: Her mother died. She wanted to marry Mr Fowler but her father said no. She was locked in a room in Copper Beeches. She became ill. Her father and his wife cut her hair.  
During: Miss Hunter hears her in the room upstairs. She escapes with Mrs Toller's and Mr Fowler's help.  
After: She marries Mr Fowler and lives happily with him in Australia.



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- e** Before: He met Alice Rucastle, fell in love with her and wanted to marry her.  
During: He watches Miss Violet Hunter sitting near a window in Copper Beeches. He thinks she is Alice. With Mrs Toller's help, he helps Alice escape.  
After: He marries Alice and moves to Australia with her.
- f** Before: Mrs Toller tried to help Alice.  
During: They work for Mr Rucastle. They are not very nice to Miss Hunter. Only Mr Toller can do anything with Carlo, the dangerous dog. Mrs Toller helps Alice to escape because Mr Fowler gives her money.  
After: no information

29–39 Open answers

### Discussion activities key

1–16 Open answers

### Activity worksheets key

- 1 Suggested answers:
- Because he walks past his house and sees him at the window. He is thinking about something, so Watson decides to visit him.
  - Because he needs Sherlock Holmes's help.
  - She is very beautiful. She lives quietly and sings at concerts. She goes for a drive every day at five o'clock and always returns at seven o'clock for dinner. Only one man visits her. He is a lawyer and visits her every day. On the day that Sherlock Holmes watches her house, she gets married to the lawyer, Godfrey Norton.
  - He wants him to stand by the sitting room window. When Sherlock Holmes lifts his hand, Watson must throw a smoke bomb into the room, shout 'fire, fire!', then go to the end of the street and wait there.
  - He is dressed as a priest.
- 2 He has a beautiful carriage; he is rich; he tells Holmes to tell no one about his visit; he talks about a request from a King; he is from Bohemia; the newspapers say the King of Bohemia is in London.
- 3 **a** 2 **b** 4 **c** 1 **d** 6 **e** 3 **f** 5
- 4 Open answers
- 5 **a** Vincent Spaulding **b** Ezekiah Hopkins  
**c** Jabez Wilson **d** Duncan Ross
- 6 **a** surprised **b** dictionary **c** both laughed  
**d** in a carriage
- 7 **a** a gun / the men were dangerous criminals.  
**b** that there was going to be a crime.  
**c** because when he saw him he remembered who he was, a dangerous criminal.  
**d** the police inspectors were waiting for him at the other end of the Square.  
**e** digging a hole towards the City Bank.
- 8 Suggested answers:
- Mr Wilson, when he is offered a lot of money to work only a few hours a day to copy a dictionary.
  - Holmes, or Watson, after hearing about the Red-Headed League.
  - Holmes when he listens to the description of Spaulding, actually John Clay.
  - Spaulding, actually John Clay, when Holmes and Watson knock on the door of Mr Wilson's shop very late at night.
- 9 **a** ✗ He had a card game  
**b** ✗ He knew it would happen at the City Bank  
**c** ✗ Watson did  
**d** ✓
- 10 **a** Because a man saw him following his father with a gun under his arm. A girl saw him and his father. They seemed to be fighting. Later, James McCarthy arrived at the girl's house, without his hat or gun and with blood on his shirt. The gun and hat were found near his father's body.  
**b** No, he says that he didn't kill his father.  
**c** He saw something grey. Perhaps it was a coat.  
**d** Because Charles McCarthy wanted his son to marry Alice. James was already married, but couldn't tell his father.  
**e** She tells him that they were never really married. She already had a husband when they married.
- 11 **a** Because the grass was growing under it, so it was only put there a few days ago. And the shape of the stone fits the mark on McCarthy's head.  
**b** Because he stood behind McCarthy and hit him on the left side of his head.  
**c** Because his left foot made a deeper mark in the mud, as he puts less weight on his right foot. He does this because he has a bad right leg.  
**d** Because he takes long steps when he walks.
- 12 **a** ✓  
**b** ✗ by the lake  
**c** ✗ the son did not know anything  
**d** ✗  
**e** ✗



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- 13 Suggested answers:  
**a** already married.  
**b** 'cooe' and 'rat'.  
**c** he had a bad right foot.  
**d** he had about a month to live.  
**e** he signed a letter telling what he did, his daughter would never know his secret.
- 14 **a** 2 **b** 7 **c** 6 **d** 4 **e** 1 **f** 5 **g** 3
- 15 Suggested answers:  
**a** Lady Morcar / Cosmopolitan Hotel.  
**b** he had stolen something before.  
**c** he looked really frightened.
- 16 Robert Simon is the son of the Duke of *Balmoral*. He is *forty-one* years old and plans to marry Hatty, the *only* daughter of a rich *American*. On the day *of* the wedding, Hatty *disappears*.
- 17 **a** ✓ **b** ? **c** ✗ **d** ✓ **e** ✓
- 18 **a** Violet Hunter to Mr Rucastle, because he wants her to cut her hair.  
**b** Holmes to Watson, because he knows Violet Hunter will need their help soon.  
**c** Mr Rucastle to Miss Hunter, asking her to put a blue dress on.  
**d** Mrs Rucastle to Mr Rucastle, because Violet has seen the man in her mirror.
- 19 **a** Because she goes to the top floor of the house. Mr Rucastle is very angry with her. He tells her not to go there again.  
**b** They see nobody in the room. The window is open. There are some wooden steps resting against the roof.  
**c** He shoots the dog.  
**d** Because Mr Rucastle wants to keep the money that her mother left her.

### Progress test key

- 1 **a** When the King visits Sherlock Holmes, he is wearing a mask.  
**b** Irene Adler was a singer.  
**c** The King needs Irene to give him back a photograph of them together.  
**d** Irene falls in love with Godfrey Norton and marries him.  
**e** Irene decides to keep the photograph but promises not to show it to anybody.
- 2 **a** ✗ There were many men.  
**b** ✓  
**c** ✗ Every day during the first month and only on Saturdays afterwards.  
**d** ✓  
**e** ✗ He was the cheapest.
- 3 **a** 1 **b** 2 **c** 1 **d** 1
- 4 **a** friends  
**b** gun  
**c** hit him  
**d** 'Cooee'  
**e** badly hurt  
**f** were driven in a carriage
- 5 **a** ✓ **b** ✗ **c** ✗ **d** ✓ **e** ✗ **f** ✓
- 6 **a** ✗ **b** ✓ **c** ✗ **d** ✓ **e** ✓ **f** ✗
- 7 **a** 1 **b** 2 **c** 5 **d** 4 **e** 3