# Who killed Mrs. Perkins?

One night of November Mr. William Perkins and his wife, Amelia, invited some friends to dinner. It was their twentieth wedding anniversary and Mrs. Perkins had ordered the cook to make a delicious dinner. The Perkins lived in a very big house in Edinburgh, but far from the city centre. Their friends were Mr. George Atkinson, a lawyer with his wife Margaret, Mr. Harry Brandon, a professor at St Andrews University, and the Molstones. Mr. Anthony Molstone and his wife Elizabeth were a popular surgeon and a physicist, respectively. Everyone had a good time that night, or at least it seemed so... At about 11.30 pm, dinner was over and Mrs. Atkinson was telling a joke when a terrible scream was heard from upstairs. The maid had shouted. Mr. Perkins and all the guests went upstairs in a twinkle of an eye, and they saw Amelia laying on the floor. There was a knife in her back and there was a lot of blood on the floor. She had been murdered.

When the chief of police arrived, he questioned all the people in the house trying to get some clues about the facts. Mr. Perkins declared he had never left the living room, Mr. Atkinson said that he was with the other guests when Amelia was upstairs, Professor Brandon declared he had just gone in the garden for a few minutes to smoke a cigar, but that he had never gone upstairs; the Molstones said they were near the fireplace listening to Margaret's joke when Amelia was away. The cook and the maid were questioned too. The cook, Alfred, declared he had been in the kitchen all the time and that the maid could confirm it, while the woman said she had served the guests from the very beginning until the police's arrival. What a mystery! Who had murdered Amelia Perkins?

## TRUE OR FALSE?

1 The facts took place in autumn. ___
2 The Perkins had been married for twenty years. ___
3 The Perkins lived in England. ___
4 The dinner was cooked by Amelia Perkins. ___
5 Mrs. Molstone was a scientist. ___
6 Amelia's body was on the floor. ___
7 Amelia had been shot. ___
8 Amelia had been stabbed. ___
9 Someone smoke in the garden. ___
10 The cook said that the maid was guilty. ___

## ANSWER THE QUESTIONS.

1 Where did the Perkins live?

_____

2 What were they celebrating when Mrs. Perkins died?

_____

3 What was Mr. Atkinson's job?

_____

4 What happened while Mrs. Atkinson was telling her joke?

_____

5 Why did the maid shout?

_____

6 What did the chief of police do?

_____

7 What did Professor Brandon declare?

_____

8 What did Mr. Perkins declare?

_____

9 What was the cook's name?

_____

10 What did the maid say when she was questioned?

_____

*Try to imagine the final of this story. Say who murdered Amelia and why...*

LIVEWORKSHEETS