CASE FILE NO. 5

A Theory Takes Shape

The Red-Headed League — Part Five

Exercise 1 — Matching

Match each word to its correct meaning.

1. theory
2. lure
3. hidden
4. cellar
5. suspect
6. reveal
7. uncover
8. puzzled

a. confused, not understanding
b. an idea that explains something, not yet proven
c. to attract someone with something tempting
d. a room below ground level, used for storage
e. a person who might have done something wrong
f. to make something known that was secret
g. to find something that was hidden or unknown
h. not visible, kept out of sight

Exercise 2 — Fill in the Blank

Complete each sentence with the correct word from the box.

THEORY · LURE · HIDDEN · CELLAR · SUSPECT · REVEAL · UNCOVER · PUZZLED

1. They keep old wine bottles in the _____ of the house.
2. She looked _____ when she couldn't find her keys.
3. The company used a big discount to _____ new customers.
4. The magician will _____ his secret at the end of the show.
5. The treasure was _____ under a pile of old newspapers.
6. Scientists have a new _____ about how the universe began.
7. The police still don't know who the main _____ is.
8. Archaeologists hope to _____ new evidence at the site.

Read the Story

Holmes explained his **theory** to Watson. "The League was never real," he said. "It was invented only to **lure** Wilson away from his shop for four hours every day." Watson looked **puzzled**. "But why would anyone do that?" Holmes smiled. "Because something valuable is **hidden** nearby, perhaps in the **cellar** beneath the shop." He **suspected** the assistant was planning to **uncover** something no one was meant to find. That night, they decided to **reveal** the truth once and for all.

Exercise 3 — True or False

1. Holmes believes the League was a real organization.
2. The purpose of the League was to keep Wilson away from his shop.
3. Holmes thinks something valuable might be hidden in the cellar.
4. Watson immediately understood Holmes's theory.
5. They decided to do nothing and wait until morning.

Exercise 4 — Comprehension Questions

1. Why did Holmes think the League was invented?
2. What does Holmes suspect is hidden beneath the shop?
3. How did Watson react to Holmes's theory?
4. What did Holmes and Watson decide to do that night?

LIVEWORKSHEETS