

## UNIT 2: SHORT STORY - THE RAILWAY CROSSING

ACTIVITY 1: Thwaite has made a check-list for his murder plan and his alibi. "Put the list in the right order, and then say what went wrong with his plan.

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| Put body on railway line for freight train to run over. |
| Shout "Goodnight" and close front door loudly.          |
| Move hands of watch and clock forward by ten minutes.   |
| Walk home, go into the house through the study door.    |
| Walk to the railway station with Dunn.                  |
| Put sleeping powder in whisky bottle.                   |
| Call Jane, ask for coffee, make sure she sees clock.    |
| Put hands of clock and watch to the right time.         |
| Hit Dunn on head with hammer.                           |
| Put hammer and torch in my coat pockets.                |

ACTIVITY 2: Complete this newspaper story about the "Railway crossing" murder with the linking words below. (Use each one once.)

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Did Dunstan Thwaite really murder John Dunn? \_\_\_\_\_ he told the police that he planned to kill Dunn, he said that he did not actually do it. This was Thwaite's story. He invited Dunn, \_\_\_\_\_ was blackmailing him, to his home, \_\_\_\_\_ gave him some whisky with a sleeping powder in it. He changed the time on his clock and his watch, \_\_\_\_\_ give himself an alibi, \_\_\_\_\_ his murder plan went wrong. He forgot to take his keys with him \_\_\_\_\_ he walked with Dunn to the railway crossing, \_\_\_\_\_ he went home, leaving Dunn to walk to the station alone. Dunn probably stopped to rest on the crossing \_\_\_\_\_ he was feeling sleepy, \_\_\_\_\_ was killed by the train \_\_\_\_\_ went through at 10.30. \_\_\_\_\_ Thwaite's story was true, was that murder or an accidental death? The police did not believe Thwaite, \_\_\_\_\_ Dunn was killed at 10.30, and this was seven minutes \_\_\_\_\_ the servant opened the front door to let Thwaite back in. Now both men are dead, \_\_\_\_\_ we will never know \_\_\_\_\_ really happened.

ACTIVITY 3: What do you think about this murder story? Do you agree or disagree with these ideas?

- A. Thwaite was a murderer. He left Dunn near the railway crossing when he knew that he was feeling ill and sleepy.
- B. Thwaite planned to murder Dunn, so it was right for him to get the death punishment.