

Name:

# The Murders in the Rue Morgue

## 1. Vocabulary: Read the definitions and match them with the words from the box

AGILE - BRUISE - FOREIGNER - NAIL - ORANG-OUTANG - PECULIAR - RAZOR - SAILOR - SHUTTERS - WITNESS

- a. A dark mark on your skin (sometimes dark brown, purple or green) that shows you have been hit by something \_\_\_\_\_
- b. A kind of knife used by men to shave their beards \_\_\_\_\_
- c. A person who hears or sees something happening and can tell the police details about it \_\_\_\_\_
- d. A person who is not from your country \_\_\_\_\_
- e. A small piece of metal, which you hit into wood to join things together \_\_\_\_\_
- f. A thing like a door which covers the outside of a window \_\_\_\_\_
- g. An animal like a large monkey, with long arms and big hands \_\_\_\_\_
- h. A person who works and lives on a boat or ship \_\_\_\_\_
- i. Someone who can move very quickly and easily \_\_\_\_\_
- j. Very strange and unusual. Not common \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Complete the newspaper first newspaper article about the murders. Write ONE word in each blank. You have the initials to help you

### EXTRAORDINARY MURDERS

This morning at about three o'clock, a number of terrible screams awoke the inhabitants<sup>1</sup> of the Quartier St. Roch. The screams were coming from the fourth **f** of a house in the Rue Morgue. Only **t** people lived there: Madame<sup>2</sup> L'Espanaye and her **d** Mademoiselle<sup>3</sup> Camille L'Espanaye. After several attempts, neighbours finally entered the house together with two policemen. By this time there were no more screams. But as the group ran up the stairs, they heard two more angry **v** coming from the upper part of the house. However, when they got to the fourth floor there was again silence. They divided up into small groups, moving from room to room. They finally arrived at a back room. The scene they discovered there was almost too horrible to describe.

The apartment was in great disorder. The furniture was broken and the bed lay in the middle of the floor. On a chair was a razor covered in **b**. Bloody lengths of

human hair lay in the fireplace. On the floor there were three large **s** spoons, an ear-ring and two bags containing four **f** francs in gold. The

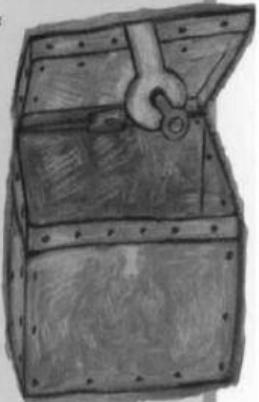
drawers of a desk which stood in one corner were open and papers were scattered about.<sup>1</sup>

Under the bed was an open safe with the key still in the door. It contained a few letters and other papers but nothing of any importance.

There was no sign of Madame L'Espanaye. But somebody noticed there was an extraordinary quantity of soot<sup>2</sup> in the fireplace. And so they searched the **ch**. There they found the dead body of the daughter. The body was quite warm. A doctor examined it and found many bruises<sup>3</sup> and cuts. On the throat there were several dark bruises and **f** marks. This suggested only one thing. Strangulation.<sup>4</sup>

They searched the rest of the house but found nothing. Finally they went into the small **g** at the back of the house. There they found the body of the old lady. Her throat was completely cut and when two men tried to raise her, the head fell off. The body itself was completely mutilated.<sup>5</sup> It didn't look human.

No one has yet found a clue that could help to solve this mystery.



**3. Read and choose the correct option**

**a. *What did the narrator and Auguste Dupin have in common?***

- a. They were childhood friends
- b. They loved reading and preferred nighttime
- c. They loved detective stories

**b. *How did they find out about the murders in the rue Morgue?***

- a. They read about them in the Gazette
- b. They heard the news on the radio
- c. They were walking at night and heard the screams

**c. *Why were the police so confused about the murders?***

- a. Because Madame L'espanaye had had a lot of enemies
- b. Because the crimes were very brutal and the murderer didn't steal anything
- c. Because nothing was broken in the room

**d. *According to the witnesses, the languages spoken by the second voice were:***

- a. Spanish, Russian, Indian, French and English
- b. Spanish, Russian, German, Indian and English
- c. Spanish, Italian, Russian, German and English

**e. *How did the murderer get in and out of the room?***

- a. It climbed up and down using the shutters and the lightning rods
- b. It got in through the door and escaped through the window using the shutters
- c. It jumped from the fourth floor to the street

**f. *What did Dupin take from Madmoiselle L'espanaye's hand?***

- a. Some gold coins
- b. Some animal hair
- c. Some blood

**g. *What was special about the finger marks on Madame L'espanaye's neck?***

- a. The hands were too big to be human
- b. The hands were too small to be human
- c. The hands belonged to a strong man

**h. *How did Dupin contact the sailor?***

- a. He phoned him and told him he had found an orang-outang
- b. He wrote him a letter and told him he had found an orang-outang
- c. He put an advertisement in the newspaper and told him he had found an orang-outang

**i. *What was the monkey doing when the sailor went back to his apartment?***

- a. He was eating a banana
- b. He was trying to shave his face
- c. He was jumping on the bed

**j. *What happened to the monkey in the end?***

- a. It was taken back to the African jungle
- b. It was taken to prison
- c. It was sold to a zoo



4. Match the 2 halves of the sentences

1. The police arrested Adolphe Le Bon...  
a. *spoke a foreign language but they didn't know exactly which one*
2. Dupin was waiting for a visitor...  
b. *belonged to a Frenchman*
3. The witnesses said that the first voice...  
c. *but they didn't have evidence to arrest him*
4. The witnesses said that the second voice...  
d. *and get into the room easily*
5. The windows were closed with nails on the inside...  
e. *because he was scared*
6. An agile person could climb up the shutters...  
f. *who had information about the murders*
7. The orang-outang killed the women...  
g. *but the nail in the second window was broken*
8. The sailor didn't want to go to the police...  
h. *because it was angry with the sailor*

5. Find the words in the wordsearch (use different colours!)



Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

CHIMNEY  
ENGLISH  
FIREPLACE  
FOREIGNER  
FRENCH  
GERMAN  
GOLD

ITALIAN  
MORGUE  
MURDER  
ORANGOUTANG  
PARIS  
RAZOR  
RUSSIAN

SAILOR  
SHUTTER  
SPANISH  
SPOON

6. **LISTENING:** Watch the video “10 COOL FACTS ABOUT ORANG OUTANGS” and write T (true) or F (false)

- a. The word ORANG OUTANG means “People of the forest” \_\_\_\_\_
- b. You can find orang outangs in America \_\_\_\_\_
- c. There are three different species of orang outangs \_\_\_\_\_
- d. They are found in 2 islands called Sumatra and Borneo and Indonesia \_\_\_\_\_
- e. There are more than 7500 Tapanuli orang outangs in the world now \_\_\_\_\_
- f. The males are heavier than the females \_\_\_\_\_
- g. They spend a lot of time up in the trees \_\_\_\_\_
- h. They eat fruit, insects and meat \_\_\_\_\_
- i. They can live up to 45 years \_\_\_\_\_
- j. They are in danger of extinction \_\_\_\_\_

