


# The Great Detective

One of the most famous detectives in the world is not a real person but a fictional character. He is Sherlock Holmes, the main character in a series of stories by the British writer Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. In the stories, Sherlock Holmes solves mysteries with the help of his best friend, Dr. Watson.

Holmes can find clues to a crime where other people see nothing. What they barely **glimpse**, Holmes **inspects** thoroughly. When others give their **opinions** about who is **guilty**, he gives **facts**. Holmes never falsely accuses an **innocent** person. He is **familiar** with methods of finding criminals that are **unknown** to the police.

Holmes and Watson share a second-story apartment in London. Many **frantic** people **ascend** the stairs to ask for help. By the time the worried person **descends** the stairs, he or she feels **calm** and assured that Holmes can solve the problem.

Sherlock Holmes is an **unusual** character with amazing gifts. His friend Dr. Watson, on the other hand, is more **ordinary**. The two work together very well. They **agree** about most things, but sometimes they **quarrel**. Watson **praises** Holmes for his brilliant mind, but Holmes sometimes **insults** Watson.

The great detective thinks Watson allows his emotions to get in the way of his ability to reason or think clearly. Watson, however, has more sympathy for human weakness than the ever-logical Holmes. The number of Sherlock Holmes fans **expands** every year.

Millions have read about his adventures, and millions more may have seen stories about him on television or in movies. Since the interest in detective fiction seems to grow more popular every year, there is little chance that the number of Holmes fans will **shrink** any time soon.

agree
ascend
calm
descend
expand
fact
familiar
frantic
glimpse
guilty
innocent
inspect
insult
opinion
ordinary
praise
quarrel
shrink
unknown
unusual

LIVEWORKSHEETS

# Connect Words and Meanings

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| agree | expand | glimpse | insult | quarrel |
| ascend | fact | guilty | opinion | shrink |
| calm | familiar | innocent | ordinary | unknown |
| descend | frantic | inspect | praise | unusual |

Directions - Read both clues in each item below. Then write the antonyms on the lines in the order that matches the definitions. You may use the glossary to help you.

1. to argue and to share the same ideas

2. to say something good about someone and to say something bad about someone

3. to go up and to go down

4. peaceful and very upset

5. not common and common or everyday

6. unproven information and proven information

7. get larger and get smaller

8. known by a lot of people and not known by anyone

9. to look briefly and to look carefully

10. not having done something wrong and having done something wrong

LIVEWORKSHEETS

# Connect More Words and Meanings

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| agree | expand | glimpse | insult | quarrel |
| ascend | fact | guilty | opinion | shrink |
| calm | familiar | innocent | ordinary | unknown |
| descend | frantic | inspect | praise | unusual |

**Directions** - Write the letter of the correct vocabulary word on the line next to each definition in the first column.

1. _____belief or idea
2. _____to get smaller
3. _____to argue
4. _____to say words of approval
5. _____not troubled
6. _____to move or go up
7. _____well known and easily recognized
8. _____to look at briefly
9. _____not to be blamed
10. _____common or everyday

**A.** glimpse
**B.** ordinary
**C.** quarrel
**D.** calm
**E.** opinion
**F.** familiar
**G.** shrink
**H.** innocent
**I.** praise
**J.** ascend

LIVEWORKSHEETS

# Use Words in Context

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| agree | expand | glimpse | insult | quarrel |
| ascend | fact | guilty | opinion | shrink |
| calm | familiar | innocent | ordinary | unknown |
| descend | frantic | inspect | praise | unusual |

Directions - Replace the boldface words in each item with a pair of antonyms from the list. Write the replacement words on the blanks after each item.

1. The television detective Columbo is very smart. He has an **extraordinary** intelligence, but he acts like an **everyday** person.

2. Columbo never gets **upset**. No matter what happens, he seems **peaceful**.

3. Detectives working in pairs need to **have the same ideas** on how to solve crimes. If partners **argue**, they lose time and fail to catch the criminals.

4. Columbo and other detectives **look closely at** clues and speak to witnesses. Witnesses who only **briefly see** a suspect are not very helpful.

5. Detectives cannot rely on **beliefs** that are not backed up by evidence. They need to find **true pieces of information** that will hold up in court. (Make the vocabulary words plural.)

6. Sometimes the real criminal is **not known** for a long time. He or she might be a **well-known** person that nobody thinks would ever commit a crime.

7. To gain his suspect's trust, Columbo goes out of his way to **say approving things about** them. He is careful never to **say upsetting things to** his suspects.

8. You would think the pool of criminals would **get smaller** because of great detectives like Columbo, but the numbers of wrongdoers continue to **get bigger** each day—at least on television.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

# Review and extend

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| agree | expand | glimpse | insult | quarrel |
| ascend | fact | guilty | opinion | shrink |
| calm | familiar | innocent | ordinary | unknown |
| descend | frantic | inspect | praise | unusual |

Directions - Complete the analogies below by filling in the correct word from the vocabulary list in the blank.

1. **Glance** is to **examine** as **glimpse** is to_____.
2. **Light** is to **dark** as **innocent** is to_____.
3. **Peaceful** is to **upset** as **calm** is to_____.
4. **Rise** is to **fall** as **ascend** is to_____.
5. **Run** is to **walk** as **expand** is to_____.
6. **Knowledge** is to **belief** as **fact** is to_____.
7. **Love** is to **hate** as **praise** is to_____.
8. **Laugh** is to **cry** as **agree** is to_____.
9. **Exciting** is to **boring** as **unusual** is to_____.
10. **Lost** is to **found** as **unknown** is to_____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

# Check Your Mastery

**Directions** Fill in the blanks in the items below with words or phrases of your own that show you understand the meaning of the boldface words.

1. If you **insult** people, they will_____you. If you **praise** them, they will_____you.

2. You can **ascend** and **descend** on a(n)_____.

3. My stomach will **expand** if I_____, but it will **shrink** again if I_____.

4. A **fact** is_____while an **opinion** is_____.

5. The student was **frantic** after the_____. She became **calm** when_____.

6. If the man is found **guilty**, he will_____. If the jury believes he is **innocent**, he will_____.

7. When an **unknown** person comes to the door, I_____. If the face is **familiar**, I_____.

8. When friends **quarrel**, they feel_____. When they find a way to **agree**, they feel_____again.

9. If you **glimpse** at a photograph, you will_____the details, but if you **inspect** it, you will_____them.

10. In the state where I live,_____is **unusual** in the summer but quite **ordinary** in the_____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS