

A Theory Takes Shape

The Red-Headed League — Part Five



Exercise 1 — Matching

Match each word to its correct meaning.

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| 1. theory | a. confused, not understanding |
| 2. lure | b. an idea that explains something, not yet proven |
| 3. hidden | c. to attract someone with something tempting |
| 4. cellar | d. a room below ground level, used for storage |
| 5. suspect | e. a person who might have done something wrong |
| 6. reveal | f. to make something known that was secret |
| 7. uncover | g. to find something that was hidden or unknown |
| 8. puzzled | 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

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

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

Exercise 4 — Comprehension Questions

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