

The five orange pips

by Conan Doyle



Read the summary of the story and fill in the gaps.

Drag and drop.

Ku Klux Klan a letter on board dead murderers
five orange pips a sea port

Why should Elias Openshaw, an ex-planter from the southern states of America, now living in Horsham, England, be afraid of _____ which arrive one day in an envelope marked KKK? Whatever the reason, his fears are justified as, within ten weeks, he is _____ following an apparent accident. His brother, Joseph, inherits the house and eventually also receives five orange pips. This time it is only four days before he dies, again apparently accidentally. Now it is John Openshaw's turn to inherit the house and, it seems, the danger, as he too receives _____ with five orange pips. He goes to Sherlock Holmes but it is too late. On his way home, he also meets with an 'accident'.

Holmes does some research and discovers that KKK means _____, a secret organisation against black people in the southern United States. He also realises that each letter with the pips was posted from _____, and the distance from the port to Horsham equates to the time before the letter and the death.

Therefore, the sender was _____ a ship, and only one ship from America matches the dates at each seaport. Holmes sends a letter to the ship, warning the _____ that he is on their trail, but the ship goes down and a higher authority exacts revenge.

Who said these? Or who is who in the story? Drag and drop.

the KKK men

Dr. Watson

Joseph Openshaw

Uncle Elias

John Openshaw

the police

- 1) I looked at my friend in surprise. (p. 28) _____
- 2) He didn't like black Americans, so during the Civil War he fought against the men from the North, and with those from the South. (p. 28) _____
- 3) But he liked me, and when I was twelve, I moved to Uncle Elias's house. (p. 29) _____
- 4) My brother, your father, will have all the money and my house after my death. (p.p. 29-30) _____
- 5) They decided it was an accident, but I didn't agree. (p. 32) _____
- 6) I hope your enemies will be happy with that, and then you won't be in danger any more. (p. 34) _____

Are these sentences true or false?

- 1) John Openshaw's uncle was born in the United States. **True / False**
- 2) During the war, Uncle Elias fought for the South against the North. **True / False**
- 3) Uncle Elias died three months after he received the orange pips. **True / False**
- 4) John's father had been sent five orange pips from Dundee and a few days later he died. **True / False**
- 5) After John had received the letter with the pips, Sherlock Holmes found out that Uncle Elias's papers had belonged to the secret group, the KKK, and that was why they were looking for him. **True / False**
- 6) John couldn't return the papers of the KKK, since he was found dead. **True / False**
- 7) John's murderers escaped to America and would never be caught . **True / False**