Sherlock Holmes and the Mystery of Boscombe Pool

While reading
Pages 1–10
1. Choose the right answers.
   a. Who is telling the story? …
      1. Sherlock Holmes
      2. Dr Watson
      3. Dr Watson’s wife
   b. What happened when Dr Watson was having breakfast with his wife? …
      1. There was a telephone call.
      2. Sherlock Holmes came to see them.
      3. A telegram arrived.
   c. Where did Dr Watson meet Sherlock Holmes? …
      1. Paddington Station
      2. Baker Street Station
      3. King’s Cross Station

2. Put the words from the box in the right places. You can use the same words more than once.
   about six Australia Boscombe Boscombe Pool eighteen gun Hatherley James John Turner Monday, 3 June three o’clock two

Notes about John Turner
   b. Turner made his money in …………
   c. Daughter’s age: …………
   d. Number of servants: …………

Notes about Charles McCarthy
   e. Charles McCarthy lives in ………… Valley.
   f. Name of farm: …………
   g. Owner of farm: …………
   h. Son’s name: …………
   i. Son’s age: …………
   j. Number of servants: …………
   k. Charles McCarthy first met John Turner in …………

Notes about the murder
   l. Day and date of murder: …………
   m. Probable time of murder: …………
   n. Probable place: …………
   o. The person who said he found the body: …………
   p. The murderer possibly killed the man with the wooden part of a …………

q. They found James McCarthy’s ………… by the dead man.

3. Put the sentences in order, 1–6.
   a. Patience Moran ran away and told her mother.
   b. William Crowder saw James McCarthy. James was going the same way as his father, with a gun.
   c. James McCarthy ran to the Moran’s house and told them his father was dead.
   d. Patience Moran saw Charles and James McCarthy by the lake. They were arguing.
   e. An old woman and William Crowder saw Charles McCarthy. He was walking alone.
   f. Charles McCarthy left his house and walked to Boscombe Pool.

Pages 11–15
4. Put the words in the right order to make a sentence.
   a. pass / see / shall / takes / that / us / We / where. …………
   b. all / and / becomes / clear / clearer / every / fact / is / It / it / new / quite / with. …………
   c. ever / girls / have / I / in / life / my / of / one / prettiest / seen / She / that / the / was. …………
   d. behind / Clearly / from / him / hit / murderer / the. …………

Pages 17–26
5. Answer these questions. Use the words so that, because or to.
   a. Why can’t James McCarthy marry Miss Turner? …………
   b. Why did James McCarthy go to Bristol? …………
   c. Why is James McCarthy a lot happier now? …………
   d. Holmes thinks that Charles McCarthy went to the pool to meet someone else, not his son. Why does he think this? …………
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6 Who says these? Write H for Holmes, L for Lestrade and W for Watson.

a 'I don't think much of his taste if he really does not want to marry Miss Turner.' □

b 'This boy is deeply in love with her.' □

c ‘Everyone round here speaks of his kindness to McCarthy.’ □

d ‘You do find it difficult to notice the facts.’ □

e ‘I thought that maybe there was a gun or a piece of clothing or something like that in the water.’ □

7 Answer these questions.

a What is the connection between Australia and ‘Cooee’?
………………………………………………

b What is the connection between Australia and a rat?
………………………………………………

Pages 26–29

8 Match the two parts of the sentences.

a Sherlock Holmes thinks people will talk …

b John Turner promises to tell the police everything if …

c It will break Alice Turner’s heart if …

d Sherlock Holmes will only use the true story if …

1 she hears that her father is a prisoner.

2 if/when they see him going to John Turner’s house.

3 he needs it to save James McCarthy’s life.

4 the case goes against James McCarthy.

9 Put the sentences in the correct order. Write 1–12.

a The Ballarat Boys stopped a carriage which was carrying gold.

b Turner went back to England.

c Turner bought the big house at Boscombe.

d John Turner was working in the gold mines in Australia.

e During the robbery, Turner decided not to kill McCarthy.

f Turner left the gold mines and became a robber.

g McCarthy’s murder happened.

h McCarthy wanted John Turner’s daughter to be his son’s wife, and told John Turner.

i Turner gave McCarthy money and a house.

j Turner met McCarthy in London.

k Turner saw Charles McCarthy and his son. They were arguing.

l McCarthy followed Turner to the West Country.

10 Match the two parts of the sentences to show that the story has a happy ending.

a The court decides that James McCarthy …

b Sherlock Holmes doesn’t have to tell …

c The mystery of Boscombe Pool will …

d James and Alice will soon …

e James and Alice will never …

1 know about the past.

2 be married.

3 John Turner’s story to the police.

4 did not murder his father.

5 stay a mystery forever.

11 Find these numbers in the book and write them in the correct places to complete the sentences.

_a hundred fifteen one hundred and fifty_

a When James was about …………………… yards from the pool, he heard someone call ‘Cooee’!

b James went back towards Hatherley Farm. After only …………………… yards, he heard a terrible scream.

c James saw something on the ground about …………………… yards away from the body.

12 Answer these questions.

a What are the facts that made Holmes think James McCarthy is innocent?
………………………………………………

b What are the facts that made Holmes think John Turner is the real murderer?
………………………………………………
1 Are these sentences right (√) or wrong (✗)?
   a Dr Watson’s wife didn’t want him to go with Sherlock Holmes. √
   b Holmes read a large number of newspapers on the train. √
   c A large part of the land in Boscombe Valley belongs to Mr Charles McCarthy. √
   d Mr McCarthy was murdered near Boscombe Pool. √
   e Patience Moran saw Mr McCarthy and his son James having a quarrel. √
   f James’ left hand was red with blood. √
   g Mr McCarthy said something about a rat to James before he died. √
   h Lestrade is a private detective. √

2 Put the correct places in each sentence.

   Australia Boscombe Bristol Herefordshire Hatherley

   a Boscombe Valley is in …………………….
   b Mr John Turner and Mr McCarthy first met in …………………….
   c …………………… Farm belongs to Mr Turner.
   d The land around …………………… Pool is full of trees with a little grass in the open parts beside the water.
   e James was away from home, and he was in …………………….

3 Choose the right words in italics.
   a Miss Turner knows that James is soft-hearted / cold-hearted.
   b The murderer hit Mr McCarthy from behind / the front.
   c It was rainy / sunny the night before Lestrade, Holmes and Watson went to Boscombe Valley.
   d Holmes lay down on his front / back by the side of a big tree.
   e Holmes picked up a big, rough / smooth stone.

4 Match the two parts of the sentences.
   a John Turner left the mines and became … …
   b John Turner and his old friends rode away with the gold and became … …
   c John Turner began to put his money to good uses, unlike … …
   d Even when Alice was a baby, her little hand seemed to show John Turner … …
       1 rich men
       2 the right way to live
       3 a gangster
       4 what he did when he first got it
   e Mr McCarthy knew that James had married a woman in Bristol secretly.

5 There is one mistake in each sentence. Cross out the mistake and correct it.

   a Boscombe Pool lies at the end of the Hatherley Farm land where it joins the land belonging to Mr McCarthy.
   b Mr McCarthy knew that James had married a woman in Bristol secretly.
   c James McCarthy is the murderer.
   d Holmes studied the ground and the sides of the tree with his glasses.
   e Mr Turner was called Black Jack of Ballarat when he was in London.

6 Choose the right answers to complete the sentences.
   a How did Holmes know that the murderer was tall? …
       1 The space between the footmarks showed a man with long legs.
       2 He just guessed it.
   b How did Holmes know that the murderer had a bad right leg? …
       1 The mark of the left foot was always less clear than the mark of the right.
       2 The mark of the right foot was always less clear than the mark of the left.
   c How did Holmes know that the murderer was left-handed? …
       1 Watson told him so.
       2 The wounds were in a group on the back part of McCarthy’s head, on the left side.
   d How did Holmes know that the stone he picked up was used for the murder? …
       1 It was the right colour.
       2 It was the right shape.
   e How did Holmes know that the murderer smoked Indian cigars? …
       1 He found the ash from an Indian cigar.
       2 He doesn’t like the smell of the cigar.