



DEATH OF AN ENGLISHMAN



ACTIVITY BOOK



EXERCISES

A Checking your understanding

Chapters 1-3 Find answers to these questions in the text.

- 1 Why was Carabiniere Bacci sleeping in the office on the night of the murder?
- 2 Why didn't Bacci wake the Marshal?
- 3 What was the cleaner doing when the Marshal arrived at Langley-Smythe's flat?
- 4 Why did two Scotland Yard detectives come to Florence?
- 5 What was the first bang that Giovanna heard?

Chapters 4-6 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 There were only the Englishman's fingerprints on the furniture in his flat.
- 2 The Englishman changed his furniture about once a month.
- 3 Miss White did not recognize any of the Englishman's visitors.
- 4 The Captain suspected that the antique-dealer was the murderer.
- 5 The Englishman had not been expecting a visitor.

Chapters 7-9 How much can you remember? Check your answers.

- 1 How did Cesarini get into Langley-Smythe's flat?
- 2 How much rent did Langley-Smythe pay Cesarini for the flat?
- 3 Why was the Marshal in the church of San Felice?
- 4 Why wasn't Giovanna with the maid when the maid was shot?
- 5 Why didn't Bacci know if the lift was empty when it came down?

Chapters 10-11 Write answers to these questions.

- 1 What did Cipolla do with the gun after he had thrown it into the courtyard?



EXERCISES

- 2 Why did the Marshal feel sorry for Cipolla?
- 3 What kind of life did Cipolla have when he was a child?
- 4 Why did Cipolla's wife get a job for a few weeks?
- 5 Why did the Englishman refuse to pay Milena?
- 6 Why did Cipolla pick up the gun?
- 7 What advice did the Marshal give Carabiniere Bacci?

8 Working with language

1 Choose the best linking word and complete these sentences with information from chapters 1-5.

- 1 There was no possibility that the Englishman had killed himself so/because....
- 2 No money had been stolen from the Englishman's flat although/as....
- 3 Langley-Smythe wouldn't turn his back to a visitor unless/if....
- 4 The Marshal lay in bed, looking at his sons' photograph, since/until....
- 5 Miss White heard something on the night of the murder but/so.....

2 Put this summary of chapters 6-11 in the right order and then join the parts together to make five sentences.

- 1 Langley-Smythe had many valuable antiques in his flat
- 2 when the Captain discovered this
- 3 so the Captain prepared a trap for Cesarini
- 4 because he had been working with an illegal dealer
- 5 Cesarini was then taken to the station and questioned
- 6 he suspected that Cesarini was the dealer and perhaps the murderer as well
- 7 and that it was Cipolla who had killed Langley-Smythe
- 8 but he was clearly not worried about the murder
- 9 however, the Marshal realized that the stolen antiques had nothing to do with the murder
- 10 and caught him when he came to the flat in the middle of the night



EXERCISES

C Activities

1 Write a short description of a character that you like in the story.

2 When Carabinieri Bacci returns to college to finish his training, the Marshal has to write a report about him. What does the Marshal say about Bacci? Write his report for the college.

3 You are Carabinieri Bacci. Some years later, when you are an experienced officer, you tell a friend about your first murder investigation. Write down your conversation with your friend.

4 Imagine you are a lawyer at Cipolla's trial for the murder of Langley-Smythe. You believe that was accidental death, not murder. Write the lawyer's speech to defend Cipolla.



GLOSSARY

angel: a messenger of God (in the Christian religion); pictures usually show angels dressed in white, with wings

antique: something, e.g. furniture or paintings, which is old and valuable

aspirin: a medicine used to control pain or fever carabinieri (plural carabinieri) an Italian policeman (there are two police forces in Italy; the carabinieri are more like soldiers who do police work)

clothes-peg a wooden or plastic clip for fastening wet clothes to a washing-line

consulate the offices of a consul, who is an official from a foreign country

courtyard an unroofed space surrounded by the walls of buildings dealer a person who buys something to sell to someone else dressing-gown a coat that is worn in the house, usually over nightclothes

drunk (adj) excited or confused by too much alcoholic drink

duty work that somebody must do electronic controlled electrically

export (v) to send something to another country for sale

fingerprints marks made by someone's fingers on a surface

'flu (influenza) an illness, like a very bad cold, which causes fever

funeral the burying of someone who is dead

government the group of people who control the country headquarters the main office of an organization hook (n) a small piece of wood or metal fixed to a wall, on which

grappa a strong, Italian alcoholic drink

greengrocer a person who sells fruit and vegetables

headquartes the main office of an organization

hook (n) a small piece of wood or metal fixed to a wall, on wich you can hang things

import(v) to bring something from a foreign country into your own conuntry

legal allowed by the laws of a country

maid a woman servant who works in the house

majolica a kind of white pottery with coloured patterns on it



GLOSSARY

morphine a very strong drug, used to prevent pain

museum a building where people can look at old, or interesting, or beautiful things

operation cutting open someone's body in order to repair or take out something bad

overall (n) a thin coat worn over clothes to keep them clean

passage a narrow way through a building with walls on both sides

permit (n) an official paper which allows a person to do something

poet a writer of poems (short pieces of writing in beautiful language)

prescription a piece of paper on which a doctor writes down the medicine that a person needs

priest a man of the church, who does God's work

rent (n) money paid regularly for the use of a house or apartment which is owned by someone else

safe (n) a kind of strong box for keeping valuable things

Scotland Yard the headquarters of the London police

seal (n) a piece of wax or metal fixed to something to show that it is official or genuine

shutter a kind of door that can be closed over a window to keep out light

signor / signora Italian words for Mr and Mrs

sweep (v) to clean dust and dirt off the floor with a brush

switch (n) something you push to turn something on or off

tax money which has to be paid to the government

temporary lasting for a short time only, not for always

toy something that children play with

van a kind of car, with no side windows, for carrying things

wine an alcoholic drink made from grapes

wink (v) to close one eye very quickly, as a private message to someone