PROSE

The Dying Detective

UNIT

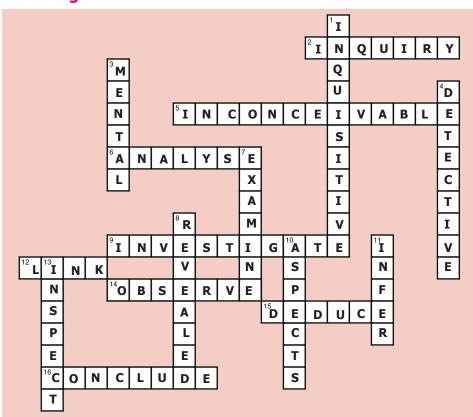
B.P.No. 188

Arthur Conan Doyle



Solve the crossword using the list of words and the clues.

Investigations



- infer
- observe
- examine
- revealed
- inconceivable
- aspects
- link
- detective
- inquisitive
- inspect
- conclude
- inquiry
- analyze
- mental
- deduce
- investigate

Across

- 2. a question
- 5. unimaginable
- to understand it
- 9. to look into a situation (often a crime, but it | 7. to look closely at something can also be a mystery
- 12. a connection; one part of a chain

Down

- 1. curious; wants to understand things
- 3. related to the mind
- 6. to examine all the parts of something in order 4. a person whose job is to find or recognize the hidden information needed to solve a crime

 - 8. shown or made known
 - 10. different sides or ways of looking at something



Across

- 14. to notice or watch
- 15. to figure out something unknown by considering all its known aspects and reasoning it through
- what is true or correct (OR to end something)

- 10. different sides or ways of looking at something
- 11. to make a logical guess that something is true based on the evidence, although the evidence is not clear enough to be absolutely certain
- 16. to consider the evidence and then decide 13. to look at something carefully to find problems or specific information

Answers

Across

- 2. inquiry, 5. inconceivable, 6. analyse, 9. investigate, 12. link, 14. observe, 15. deduce, 16. conclude
- 1. inquisitive, 2. mental, 4. detective, 7. examine, 8. revealed, 10. aspects, 11. infer, 13. inspect



Introduction

Mrs. Hudson was the land lady of Holmes. She met his assistant Watson and told him about Holmes, who was apparently dying of a rare tropical disease, Tapanuli fever, contracted while he was on a case. Watson was shocked, not having heard about his friend's illness. Mrs. Hudson said that Holmes had neither eaten nor drunk anything for three days.

Holmes instructed Watson not to come near him, because the illness was highly infectious. Although Watson wished to examine Holmes himself or send for a specialist, Holmes demanded that Watson should wait several hours before seeking help. So, Watson was forced to wait.

While Watson waited, he examined several objects in Holmes's room. Holmes grew angry when Watson touched the items explaining that he did not like his things touched. At six o'clock, Holmes told Watson to turn the gaslight on, but only half-full. He then instructed Watson to bring Mr Culverton Smith of 13 Lower Burke Street, but he should make sure that Watson would return to Baker Street before Smith arrived.

Watson went to Smith's address. Although Smith refused to see anyone, Watson forced his way in. Once Watson explained his errand on behalf of Sherlock Holmes, Smith's attitude changed drastically. Smith agreed to come to Baker Street within half an hour.

Believing that they were alone, Smith was frank with Holmes. It soon emerged, to Watson's horror, that Holmes had been sickened by the same illness that killed Smith's nephew Victor. Smith then saw the little ivory box, which he had sent to Holmes by post, and which contained a sharp spring infected with the illness. Smith removed it to avoid the evidence of his crime. He then resolved to stay there and watch Holmes die.

Holmes asked Smith to turn the gas up full, which Smith did. The full gaslight was the signal to Morton to move in. Holmes told Morton to arrest Culverton Smith for the murder of his nephew, and perhaps also for the attempted murder of Sherlock Holmes. Smith, still as arrogant as ever, pointed out that his word was as good as Holmes's in court, but Holmes then called for Watson to emerge from behind the screen, to present himself as another witness to the conversation.



ENGLISH Toppers

Holmes explained that his illness was feigned to induce Smith to confess to his nephew's murder. Holmes was not infected by the little box; he had enough enemies to know that he must always examine his mail carefully before he opened it. Starving himself for three days he appeared as if he had fallen sick. Thus, he revealed the fact that Mr. Smith killed his nephew. He wanted to kill Holmes the same way to avoid imprisonment.

GLOSSARY

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gaunt (adj.)

lean, especially because of suffering, hunger or age.
 give short, sudden jerking movements

twitched (v)

- give short, sudden jerking movements.

contagious (adj.)

- spreading of a disease from one person to another by direct contact

groan (v)

- a deep inarticulate sound conveying pain or despair.

plague (n) bolted (v) - a contagious bacterial disease characterized by fever .

months wises (w

- closed the door with a bar that slides into a socket.

mantle piece (n)

a structure of wood or marble above or around the fireplace.

half-crown (n)

a former British coin equal to two shillings and sixpence ($12\frac{1}{2}$ p).

tongs (n)

- a device used for picking up objects consisting of two long pieces free at one end and pressed together at the other end.

disturbed state of mind characterized by restlessness.

frail (adj.)

delirious (adj.)

weak and delicate.

startled (v) scuffle (v)

felt sudden shock or alarm.

a sudden short fight.

ADDITIONAL

horrified
 took to bed
 stayed in bed
 certainly
 dark

gaunt – lean
flushed – red-faced
twitched – trembled
listless – inactive
contagious – spreadable

contagious – spreadable
 symptoms – indicators
 ignorant – unaware
 groan – moan
 recent – latest
 dejection – unhappiness

stipulated-specifiedhesitant-unwillingdelirious-excited

persuade – influence,

convince

scuffle

plead – request, entreat

frail – weak
mere – bare, sheer
startled – frightened
coincidence – fluke, chance
evidence – proof

wrestle



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Ans: b)

Ans: a)

Ans: c)

Ans: c)

The Dying Detective

EXERCISE WITH ANSWER Choose the appropriate Synonym of the word underlined: 1. I told him I could not stand it anymore and would get a doctor. b) wait c) talk d) inform I was horrified for I had not heard about his illness before. 2. a) shocked b) unhappy c) joyful d) neglecting He took to bed on Wednesday afternoon and has never moved since 3. a) carried bed b) broke bed c) stayed in bed d) moved bed

	a) doubted	b) careful	c) strong	d) certainly	Ans: d)
5.	In the dim light o	f a foggy November da	y, the sick-room was	a gloomy spot.	
	a) dark	b) bright	c) short	d) known	Ans: a)
6.	But it was the gau	unt face staring form tl	he bed that brought o	chill to my heart.	
	a) strong	b) fat	c) lean	d) talkative	Ans: c)

- the time.
 a) red-faced b) whitish c) clean d) dirty Ans: a)

 8. His eyes had the brightness of fever, his cheeks were flushed, and his hand twitched all the time.
- a) strongb) trembled9. He lay listless.

He was indeed a sad sight.

4.

7.

c) raised

c) inactive

His eyes had the brightness of fever, his cheeks were flushed, and his hand twitched all

d) lowered **Ans: b)**

- a) activeb) noisy10. It is deadly and contagious.
 - a) controllable b) calm
- c) slight
- d) spreadable Ans: d)

d) deep

EXERCISE for SELF EVALUATION

Choose the appropriate Synonym of the word underlined:

1.	I will examine y	our <u>symptoms</u> and t	treat you.	
	a) indicators	b) strength	c) weakness	d) sensitiveness Ans:
2.	How <u>ignorant</u> ye	ou are! Watson!" he	said with a groan.	_
	a) great	h) foolish	c) unaware	d) knowledgeable Ans:

- 3. How ignorant you are! Watson!" he said with a groan.
 - c) fever d) understanding **Ans:**

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unable

dreadful

×

×

able

comforting



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	<u>:</u> [2

EXERCISE WITH ANSWER

1.	In the <u>dim</u> light of	a foggy November da	ay, the sick-room v	was a gloomy spot.
	a) dark	b) small	c) slight	d) bright

- 2. But it was the gaunt face staring form the bed that brought chill to my heart.
 - a) fat
- b) lean
- c) clean
- d) part
- Ans: a)

Ans: d)

- 3. But it was the gaunt face staring form the bed that brought chill to my heart.
 - a) cold
- b) heat
- c) water
- d) gas
- Ans: b)

- 4. He lay listless.
 - a) inactive
- b) bold
- c) active
- d) speaking
- Ans: c)

- 5. "Let me at least have someone in whom I have confidence."
 - a) uncertainty
- b) certainty
- c) boldness
- d) sadness
- Ans: a)

EXERCISE for SELF EVALUATION

Choose the appropriate Antonym of the word underlined.

1.	How	ignorant y	you are!

- a) foolish
- b) clear
- c) weak
- d) knowledgeable **Ans:**
- 2. Unable to settle down to reading, I walked slowly round and round.
 - a) able
- b) unknown
- c) unclear
- d) unfair
- Ans:
- 3. As I held it in my hand to examine it, I heard a dreadful cry.
 - a) frightened
- b) comforting
- c) clear
- d) loud
- Ans:

- 4. I was <u>hesitant</u> to leave him now.
 - a) willing
- b) unwilling
- c) disheartening
- d) irregular
- Ans: (

- 5. I hope you will be able to persuade him to come.
 - a) follow
- b) request
- c) plead
- d) dissuade
- Ans:

- 6. I saw a <u>frail</u> man with bald head sitting.
 - a) weak
- b) thin
- c) strong
- d) neat
- Ans:

- 7. "Is that you Mr. Smith?" Holmes whispered.
 - a) murmured
- b) shouted
- c) sighed
- d) suggested
- Ans:

- 8. There was a sharp spring inside it.
 - a) acute
- b) pointed
- c) blunt
- d) thin
- Ans:

- 9. "Turn up the gas, Smith," said Holmes in his natural voice.
 - a) artificial
- b) real
- c) clear
- d) unclear
- Ans: (



		_	_		
10. I	was	advan	cina '	toward	s him.

- a) progressing
- b) moving
- c) retreating
- d) walking
- Ans: (

TEXTUAL QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

a. How did Watson feel when he heard of Holme's illness?

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Watson felt horrified when he heard of Holmes' illness.

b. Why didn't the landlady call the doctor?

Holmes did not allow the landlady to call a doctor. She did not want to disobey Holmes.

c. What was the condition of Holmes when Watson saw him?

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Holmes' face was thin and his eyes were shining with fever. His cheeks were flushed, and his hand twitched all the time. He lay inactive.

d. What according to Holmes was the disease he was suffering from?

According to Holmes he was suffering from Tarpaunli fever or the black Formosa plague.

e. Who did Watson see when he entered the room?

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Watson saw the gaunt face of Holmes, his fevenish eyes and flushed cheeks.

f. What were the instructions given by Holmes to Watson?

Holmes asked Watson to place the ivory box on the table within his reach and slide the lid a bit with tongs. He further asked him to put the tongs on the table.

g. Why did Holmes plead with Smith?

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Holmes pleaded with Smith to cure him of the strange disease because he had a knowledge of the Eastern diseases. Moreover, he was the only one in London who could help him.

h. Who was responsible for Victor Savage's death? What was the evidence for it?

Smith was responsible for Victor Savage's death. His self-proclamation was the evidence for it.

i. What explanation did Holmes give for speaking rudely to Watson?

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Holmes asked excuse from Watson for ill-treating him. He said that he was rude with him just to get Smith there and he did not want Watson to know that he was not ill.

j. How was Holmes able to look sick?

Holmes did not eat for three days and he did some make-ups to look sick.

A. Answer the following questions in one or two sentences.

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1. Who was Mrs. Hudson? Why was she worried?

Mrs. Hudson was the landlady of Holmes. She was worried because Holmes was very ill.

2. Why didn't Holmes let Watson examine him?

Actually Holmes was not sick; he pretended to be sick to solve a murder case. So he did not let Watson examine him.





ENGLISH

3. Why did Holmes warn Watson against touching his things? What was Watson's reaction?

Watson touched the ivory box. It had a sharp needle that would pass dangerous disease. So Holmes was against Watson touching his things.

4. What did Watson find on the table near the mantle-piece?

Watson found an ivory box on the table near the mantle-piece.

5. Who is Mr. Culverton Smith?

Mr. Culverton Smith is a planter. He was the murderer of his nephew Victor Savage.

6. What did Holmes ask Watson to do before leaving his room?

Holmes asked Watson to keep the ivory box on the table within his reach and slide the lid a bit before leaving his room.

7. What instructions did Holmes give Watson to get Mr. Smith?

Holmes asked Watson to persuade Mr. Smith to come alone. He wanted Watson to come earlier than Mr. Smith.

8. Why did Holmes want Smith to treat him?

Holmes wanted Smith to talk about the disease and proclaim he had killed his nephew Savage. So he wanted Smith to treat him.

9. How did according to Smith Holmes get the disease?

According to Smith Holmes got the disease from the prick he had got from the ivory box.

10. Who arrested Smith? What were the charges against him?

Inspector Morton arrested Smith. Smith was the murderer of his nephew Savage and he attempted to murder Holmes.



Answer the following questions in one or two sentences.

1. What was the case Holmes had been working?

Holmes had been working on a case down at Rotherhithe near the river. It related to Mr. Culvertion Smith.

2. What did Holmes say about Watson in relation to treatment of his strange disease?

Holmes said that Watson was a general practitioner, not a specialist of the disease he had been suffering from.

3. Whom did Dr. Watson like to bring to specially treat Holmes' disease?

Dr. Watson liked to brings sir Japer Meck or Penrose Fisher or Dr. Ainstree or any other best man in London.

4. What did Watson tell Smith about Holmes?

Watson told Smith that Holmes was ill and he had a high opinion of Smith and thought he was the only man in London who could help him.





5. Why had Smith plotted to kill Holmes?

Smith came to understand that Holmes had known too much about Victor's death. He feared that he could be charged with murdering his nephew. In order to avoid imprisonment, he had plotted to kill Holmes.

- B. Answer the following questions in a paragraph of about 100-150 words.
- 1. How did Holmes trap Mr. Culverton Smith to confess the murder?

Prose The Dying Detective	
Author	Arthur Conan Doyle
Theme	Deceiver is captured by Deception

Deceits' favourite role is playing the victim.

Holmes pretended that he was affected by a sever disease. He did not allow Watson to treat him. At six o'clock, Holmes told Watson to turn the gaslight on, but only half-full. He then instructed Watson to bring Mr Culverton Smith of 13 Lower Burke Street to see Holmes, but to make sure that Watson returned to Baker Street before Smith arrived. Watson went to Smith's address. Although Smith refused to see anyone, Watson forced his way in. Once Watson explained his errand on behalf of Sherlock Holmes, Smith agreed to come to Baker Street within half an hour. Believing that they were alone, Smith was frank with Holmes. It soon emerged, to Watson's horror, that Holmes had been sickened by the same illness that killed Smith's nephew Victor. Smith then saw the little ivory box, which he had sent to Holmes by post, and which contained a sharp spring infected with the illness. Smith removed it to avoid the evidence of his crime. He then clearly proclaimed that he had killed Savage and he tried to kill Holmes. He set a fool-proof trap to make Smith come out with the truth by feigning illness and pleading cure.

'He wouldn't have it, sir. I did not dare to disobey him."

2. How did Watson help his friend to arrest the criminal?

Prose	The Dying Detective
Author	Arthur Conan Doyle
Theme	Deceiver is captured by Deception

One of the methods of manipulation is to inoculate individuals with the bourgeois appetite for personal success.

Watson was shocked to know that Holmes was ill with a dangerous disease. He went to his house to treat him but Holmes did not let him do it. He looked around the house and saw an ivory box. When he touched it Holmes asked him not to touch his things. Holmes asked Watson to go to Smith and persuade him to come to Holmes. Smith arrived after Watson had returned. Smith thought that he was alone with Holmes. He was sure that Holmes would die because of the disease he got from the ivory box which had been sent by him to Holmes. Watson was hiding in the next room. Smith revealed the truth that he had killed Savage and he was responsible for the trouble of Holmes. By the time he was arrested. The whole incident was possible only with the help of Watson.

Then I sat in silent dejection until the stipulated time had passed.



Prose The Dying Detective	
Author	Arthur Conan Doyle
Theme Deceiver is captured by Deception	

Appear weak when you are strong, and strong when you are weak.

Mrs. Hudson, the land lady of Holmes met Watson and told him about Holmes, who was apparently dying of a rare tropical disease, Tapanuli fever, contracted while he was on a case. Watson was shocked, not having heard about his friend's illness. Mrs. Hudson said that Holmes had neither eaten nor drunk anything in three days. Although Watson wished to examine Holmes himself or sent for a specialist, Holmes demanded Watson to wait. While Watson waited, he examined several objects in Holmes's room. Holmes grew angry when Watson touched items explaining that he did not like his things touched. He instructed Watson to bring Mr. Culverton Smith to see Holmes, but to make sure that Watson returned to Holmes before Smith arrived. Watson went to Smith's address. Once Watson explained his errand on behalf of Sherlock Holmes, Smith's attitude changed drastically. Smith agreed to come to Holmes. Believing that they were alone, Smith was frank with Holmes. He self-proclaimed that he was the murderer of Savage. Holmes explained that his illness was feigned to induce Smith to confess to his nephew's murder.

Three days, fasting and the makeup did the trick.



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Homophones

Homophones are words that sound the same but have different meaning and spellings. The text has many homophones such as: see-sea, hear-here, knew-new.

C. Complete the following sentences by choosing the correct options given.

- 1. Niteesh bought a new (knew/new) cricket bat.
- 2. The shepherd heard (herd/heard) the cry of his sheep.
- 3. Lakshmi completed her baking course (course/coarse) successfully.
- 4. Priya has broken her fore (four/fore) limbs.
- 5. Leaders of the world must work towards the peace (peace/piece) of human race.

The Dying Detective

Prose





10

Commonly Confused words

D. Complete the tabular column by finding the meaning of both the words given in the boxes. Use them in sentences of your own.

Word	Meaning	Sentence
pocket (n)	a small bag sewn into or on clothing to keep carry small things	Santa filled his <u>pocket</u> with candies.
packet (n)	a paper or cardboard container, typically one in which goods are sold	Maheswari carried a <u>packet</u> of ribbons.
fond (adj.)	having an affection or liking for	Puppies are <u>fond</u> of soft balls.
found(v)	having been discovered by chance or unexpectedly	Rosalin <u>found</u> a 100 rupee note on her way back home.
lost (v)	to stop having something or some quality	People <u>lost</u> confidence in the government.
last (adj.)	most recent or nearest to the present time	My friend was working in a bank when I met him last.
paused (v)	to stop speaking or doing something for a short time before starting again	She <u>paused</u> for a moment.
passed (v)	to come up to a particular place or person or object and go past them	We <u>passed</u> by a group of students near the hall.
pitcher (n)	a container for holding and pouring a liquid	She carried the water in a pitcher.
picture (n)	shapes lines etc. painted or drawn on a surface showing what something or someone looks like	I like the <u>picture</u> of the flowers.



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Ans: (d)

Ans: (a)

- Listen to the story and answer the question given below.
- 1. Where does this story take place?
 - a. in a bakery

b. at the police station

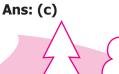
c. in Ms. Gervis' house

- d. in Ms. Gervis' apartment
- 2. Near the beginning of the story, "Ms. Gervis' eyes are full of tears. Her hands are shaking." How does Ms. Gervis probably feel?
 - a. She is upset

b. She is tired

c. She is hungry

- d. She is confused
- 3. What makes the detective sure that the robber did not come through the windows?
 - a. The windows are locked.
 - b. The windows face the police station.
 - c. The windows have not been used in months.
 - d. The windows are too small for a person to fit through.



- a. crystal
- b. jewellery
- c. money
- d. nothing
- Ans: (d)

5. "And the robber definitely did not use the front door." Which is the best way to rewrite this sentence?

- a. "And the robber may not have used the front door."
- b. "And the robber probably did not use the front door."
- c. "And the robber was not able to use the front door."
- d. "And the robber certainly did not use the front door."

Ans: (d)

- 6. What does Ms. Gervis do with her cakes?
 - a. She eats them.

b. She sells them.

c. She hides them.

d. She gives them away.

Ans: (d)

- 7. What does the detective seem to think will happen if he solves the mystery?
 - a. Ms. Gervis will start baking cakes again
 - b. Ms. Gervis will bake him extra cakes
 - c. Ms. Gervis will give him her secret recipe
 - d. Ms. Gervis will give him money and jewels

Ans: (a)

8. Do you like mysteries? What is your favorite kind of story? Explain.

Yes I like mysteries. My favourite story is detective stories. I like Sherlock Holmes' stories very much. Such stories keep us in suspense throughout the stories. When you start reading one story we cannot keep it without completing it. Our mind will be thinking about what will happen next.



B.P.No. 197

REVIEW

A review is a critical assessment of a book, play, film, an event, etc. published in a newspaper or magazine.

F. Exercise

1. Present the review of a movie that you have watched recently.

The African Queen

The African Queen (1951) is the uncomplicated tale of two companions with mismatched, "opposites attract" personalities who develop an implausible love affair as they travel together downriver in Africa around the start of World War I. This quixotic film by director John Huston, based on the 1935 novel of the same name by C. S. Forester, is one of the classics of Hollywood adventure filmmaking, with comedy and romance besides. It was the first colour film for the two leads and for director Huston. The acting of the two principal actors - Humphrey Bogart and Katharine Hepburn - is some of the strongest ever registered on film, although this was their first and only pairing together. They portray an unshaven, drinking and smoking captain of a cranky tramp steamer, and a prissy and proper, but imperious and unorthodox WWI-era African missionary spinster.





2. Give the review of a book that has interested you a lot.

If I Never Forever Endeavor

This book is about a bird which didn't yet know how to fly. The bird has to decide if it will try to fly, but it is not sure if it wants to. The bird thinks, "If I never forever endeavor" then I won't ever learn. On one wing, he worries he might fail and on the other wing he thinks of how he may succeed. He worries that if he tries, he may get lost in the world. That makes him want to stay in his nest where he's safe. I think this book would help children to learn that trying new things can be scary, but sometimes when we try, we can find things that make us happy too. And this book will help others know that mistakes are okay and part of learning.

3. Review an event which your school has hosted recently.

Twenty-first March was the day when my school celebrated its annual day. But the preparations began almost two to three weeks in advance with lots of rehearsals. The whole school became suddenly much more active. Since the weather also became pleasant, our enjoyment increased tremendously. The function began at 5 p.m. as per schedule. First of all our Principal welcomed the Chief Guest, Minister for Sports and Youths, Government of India, and detailed our school's achievements in studies and other activities. Then the Chief Guest gave a short but very hilarious speech full of anecdotes of his own school life. The programmes began with "Saraswati Vandana", sung by the choir of our school. It was followed by a short skit and the play I was acting in was presented. Although I had butterflies in my stomach when I made entry on the stage, I did my role well. I was awarded for it also. Afterwards there were some musical programmes and the celebrations closed with our National Anthem. It was a well-organized show and my parents also admired it. I cannot forget it.



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Read the story carefully and answer the questions asked below.

A Mystery Case

For a man of ease, John Mathew kept an arduous schedule. On Wednesdays, for example, he was awakened at 9.00 and served breakfast in bed by Emanuel, his chef. Next came a quick fitness session with Basky, his personal trainer. Then, at 10.30, John Mathew answered his mail, returned phone calls and rearranged his social calendar helped by Louise, his secretary. At noon, John Mathew drove his Jaguar to the station and took a commuter train into Guindy for his weekly lunch with Lalli and Lolly, his two oldest and dearest friends. Then, on to a little shopping. The 4:05 nonstop would bring him back to Tambaram. As John Mathew drove up to the house at 5:00, Basky would have already set up the massage table and warmed the scented oils for a soothing herbal wrap. It was a gruelling life but John seemed to thrive on it. On this Wednesday, however, there was an unexpected change of plans. Today John's shopping errand involved taking his diamond bracelet into the jeweller's for cleaning. He threw the expensive jewel into his purse and proceeded on to lunch.

As John waved his friends good-bye and exited the restaurant, he sensed he was being followed. The feeling continued until he reached Tenth Avenue. Then, as he joined the throng of shoppers, John felt a hug. Within a split-second, a man riding pillion on a bike rode past him, grabbing his purse. He couldn't guess who the culprit was.



1. A man of ease

John's trainer
 Mathew's secretary

4. John's chef

5. Mathew's friends

- a) Emanuel

b) Lalli and Lolly

c) John Mathew

d) Louise

– e) Basky

Ans: 1-c 2-e 3-d 4-a 5-b

H. State whether the given statements are true or false. If false correct the statements.

1. Mathew is a very busy man.

2. He woke up very late in the morning.

3. He always had lunch with his family.

He had weekly lunch with his friends Lalli and Lolly.

4. He exercised with Louise every day.

He exercised with Basky.

5. He preferred handling mail by himself.

Ans: True

Ans: True

Ans: False

Ans: False

Ans: True



B.P.No. 198

Pamphlet

- A Pamphlet is a small booklet or leaflet containing information or arguments about a single subject.
- They are helpful in presenting information in a more attractive way and also easily accessible and economical to distribute.
- They are generally used for describing the product or instructions, commercial information, promotion of events or promoting tourism.

I. Create a pamphlet for the following:

1. Make a pamphlet on 'Dengue Awareness' (Focus on its causes, preventions, symptoms and precautions).







2. Make an attractive pamphlet for your school Fair organised for raising funds for (any) relief (Specify the date, time, types of stalls and the reasons for the fair).

ANB School, Erode.

Food Fair on 12.07.2020

For fund raising for

FLOOD RELIEF

- All kinds of food will be available. both veg and non-veg.
- . Eat and donate for the flood relief.
- B. Make a pamphlet on the latest gadgets (Mention the variety of models, uses, need and availability).



Letter of Enquiry

A letter of enquiry is a formal letter, written to get more details / information about something. In this letter the word limit should not exceed 200 words. It is used to enquire and get details to purchase an item, to know about a course for study, a place for a trip, etc It must include sender's details.

- J. Write a letter of enquiry for the following.
- 1. You are a librarian in a newly established school. Write a letter to the book dealer inquiring about the list of newly arrived English children's story books and various subject books relevant to 10-14 age groups.

S. Manohar,

Librarian,

SST Higher Secondary School,

27, Amman Street,

Namakkal.

June 22, 2020



Higginbotham,

Chennai.

Sir,

Subject: Availability of children story books

I am the new librarian of SST Higher Secondary School, Namakkal. Our library needs some good reading books for children. I would like to know the titles and the price of children's story books available with you. Will you please send the list of the books so that I will be able to choose the books for the library.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

S. Manohar.

2. Venkat hails from a remote village of Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu who aspires to become an IAS officer. Currently, he is in class X. He notices an advertisement on free classes for the IAS aspirants by a trust in a newspaper. He writes a letter to the coordinator of the trust inquiring for further details.

M. Kumaran,

35 - Park Avenue,

Coimbatore - 8.

Aug 12, 2020

То

The Coordinator,

Nehru Coaching Centre,

Coimbatore.

Sir,

Subject: Enquiring details about IAS coaching.

I am Kumaran studying Std. 10. I am interested to become an IAS officer. I know I have to prepare well under the guidance of coaching centres like you. I saw the ad saying that you are giving free coaching to the IAS aspirants. I would like to know some more details about this. I will be grateful to you if you send the details regarding the following.

- 1. Eligibility Criteria
- 2. **Duration of Classes**
- 3. Weekend classes
- 4. Separate classes for boys and girls

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Kumaran.

10

The Dying Detective







3. Write a letter to the head of the BSNL office enquiry regarding about the internet broadband scheme launched recently.

T. Rajavinayagam,

22, Nadesan Street,

Amman Palayam,

Tirunelveli – 2.

Aug 2, 2020

The Manager,

BSNL,

Tirunelveli.

Sir,

Subject: Detail about the internet broadband scheme

I have been using the BSNL broadband for nearly five years. I want to continue to get your service. From the newspapers, I have come to know that you have recently launched some new scheme with the broadband internet. Will you please give detail about the schemes launched recently?

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Rajavinayagam



B.P.No. 200

- A. Transform the following sentences as instructed.
- 1. On seeing the teacher, the children stood up. (into Complex)

When the children saw the teacher they stood up.

2. At the age of six, Varsha started learning music. (into Complex)

When Varsha was six she started learning music.

3. As Varun is a voracious reader, he buys a lot of books. (into Simple)

Being a voracious reader, Varun buys a lot of books.

4. Walk carefully lest you will fall down. (into Complex)

Unless you walk carefully you will fall down.

5. Besides being a dancer, she is a singer. (into Compound)

She is not only a dancer but also a singer.

6. He is sick but he attends the rehearsal. (into Simple)

Inspite of being sick, he attends the rehearsal.







7. If Meena reads more, she will become proficient in the language. (into Compound)
Meena should read more and she will become proficient in the language.

- 8. He confessed that he was guilty. (into Simple)
 He confessed his quilt.
- 9. The boy could not attend the special classes due to his mother's illness. (into Compound)
 The boy's mother was ill so he could not attend the special classes.
- **10.** He followed my suggestion. (into Complex) He followed what I suggested.
- B. Combine the pairs of sentences below into simple, complex and compound.
- Radha was ill. She was not hospitalised.
 In spite of being ill Radha was not hospitalised. (Simple)
 Radha was ill but she was not hospitalised. (Compound)
 Though Radha was ill she was not hospitalised. (Complex)
- 2. The students were intelligent. They could answer the questions correctly.
 Being intelligent, the students could answer the questions correctly. (Simple)
 The students were intelligent and so they could answer the questions correctly. (Compound)
 As the students were intelligent they could answer the questions correctly. (Complex)
- 3. I must get a visa. I can travel abroad.
 I must get a visa to travel abroad. (Simple)
 I have to travel abroad so I must get a visa. (Compound)
 If I get a visa, I can travel abroad. (Complex)
- 4. I saw a tiger. I was wounded.
 I saw a wounded tiger. (Simple)
 I saw a tiger and it was wounded. (Compound)
 I saw a tiger which was wounded. (Complex)
- 5. There was a bandh. The shops remained closed.
 Because of bandh, the shops remained closed. (Simple)
 There was a bandh so the shops remained closed. (Compound)
 The shops remained closed because there was a bandh. (Complex)







The House on Elm Street

UNIT 7

Nadia Bush



POEM

Nadia Bush in her poem 'The House on Elm Tree' describes a mysterious house. Nobody knows what happens inside the house. It is still there but still people do not know what happens inside the house. The house has plenty of space inside and it is a very big house. But nobody lives there; it is bare. At night the house seems to have some life. Some light comes and goes. The poet is often tempted to go inside the house just to see what is inside. But fear never allows her to take any step towards that. Every day the poet drives past the house. In summer the house seems to be little brighter. It is always in her mind; it never leaves her mind.

Near the house there is a tree. It never has any leaves on it. In all the seasons it looks the same. It neither grows nor becomes small. She wonders how it is possible. Some rumors are going round saying that the house begins to fade away. The poet does not know what is going on inside the house and it will always remain a mystery to the poet.

A. Read the given lines and answer the questions given below.

B.P.No. 203

1. It sat alone.

What happened there is still today unknown. It is a very mysterious place,
And inside you can tell it has a ton of space,
But at the same time it is bare to the bone.

a. What does 'It' refer to?

'It' refers to the mysterious house.

b. Pick out the line that indicates the size of the house.

'And inside you can tell it has a ton of space.'

I drive past the house almost every day.
 The house seems to be a bit brighter.
 On this warm summer day in May.
 It plays with your mind.

a. Who does 'I' refer to?

'I' refers to the poet.

b. Pick out the alliterated words in the 2nd line.

be – bit – brighter.











ENGLISH

3. It never grows leaves, Not in the winter, spring, summer or fall. It just sits there never getting small or ever growing tall

What does 'it' refer to?

'It' refers to the tree.

b. In what way is the tree a mystery?

The tree does not have any leaves. It never grows nor does it become small.

Rumors are constantly being made, And each day the house just begins to fade. What happened inside that house?

> a. Does the house remain the same every day?

> > No, the house seems to begin to fade.

b. Why does the poet consider the house to be a mystery?

Nobody knows what happens inside the house. So the poet considers the house a mystery.

5. What happened inside that house? I really don't know

I guess it will always be a mystery

a. Does the poet know what happened in the house?

No, the poet does not know what happened in the house.

b. What is the mystery about the house?

As nobody knows what happens inside the house, it is a mystery.



Read the given lines and answer the questions given below.

1. Beside the house sits a tree. It never grows leaves, Not in the winter, spring, summer or fall.

> Do leaves grow in the tree? a.

> > No, leaves don't grow on the tree.

b. What is near the house?

A tree is near the house.

- 2. And each day the house just begins to fade. What happened inside that house?
 - When does the house seem to fade?

Every day the house seems to fade.

b. Identify the words in alliteration.

happened, house.



3. How could this be?

a. What is the figure of speech.

"Rhetorical Question".

- 4. It just sits there, never getting small or ever growing tall.
 - a. What is the figure of speech mentioned here.

Paradox

- B. Answer the following in a paragraph.
- 1. Where is the house located? Why is it a mysterious place?

Poem	The House on Elm Street
Poet	Nadia Bush
Theme	An enigmatic mysterious house

It sat alone What happened there is still today unknown

Nadia Bush in her poem 'The House on Elm Tree' describes a mysterious house. Nobody knows what happens inside the house. It is still there but still people do not know what happens inside the house. The house has plenty of space inside and it is a very big house. But nobody lives there; it is bare. At night the house seems to have some life. Some light comes and goes. In summer the house seems to be little brighter. It is always in her mind; it never leaves her mind.

Near the house there is a tree. It never has any leaves on it. In all the seasons it looks the same. It neither grows nor becomes small. She wonders how it is possible. Some rumors are going round saying that the house begins to fade away. The poet does not know what is going on inside the house and it will always remain a mystery to the poet.

Besides the house sits a tree It never grows leaves

2. How is the mystery depicted in the poem?

Poem	The House on Elm Street	
Poet	Nadia Bush	
Theme An enigmatic mysterious house		

At night the house seems to be alive Lights flicker on and off

Nadia Bush in her poem 'The House on Elm Tree' describes a mysterious house. Nobody knows what happens inside the house. It is still there but still people do not know what happens inside the house. The house has plenty of space inside and it is a very big house. But nobody lives there; it is bare. At night the house seems to have some life. Some light comes and goes. The poet is often tempted to go inside the house just to see what is inside. But fear never allows her to take any step towards that. Every day the poet drives past the house. In summer the house seems to be little





brighter. It is always in her mind; it never leaves her mind. Near the house there is a tree. It never has any leaves on it. In all the seasons it looks the same. It neither grows nor becomes small. She wonders how it is possible. Some rumors are going round saying that the house begins to fade away. The poet does not know what is going on inside the house and it will always remain a mystery to the poet.

> What happened inside that house? I really don't know. I guess it will always be a mystery.

C. Read the poem and write the rhyming words and rhyme scheme for the given stanzas.

Stanza	Rhyming words	Rhyme scheme
1	alone - unknown, bone place - space	aabba
3	day - May mind - kind	abacc
4	tree - be fall - tall	abcca

Identify the poetic lines where the following figures of speech are employed and complete D. the tabular column.

Figure of speech	Meaning	Lines
Synecdoche	A figure of speech in which a part is made to represent the whole or vice versa. e.g. "The Western wave was all a-flame." The "Western wave" is a synecdoche as it refers to the sea by the name of one of its parts i.e. wave.	But at the same time it is bare to the bone
Paradox	A figure of speech in which a statement appears to contradict itself. e.g. To bring peace we must war. Be cruel to be kind.	It just sits there, never getting small or ever growing tall.
Onomatopoeia	A figure of speech wherein the word imitates the sound associated with the object it refers to. e.g. Pitter patter, pitter patter Raindrops on my pane.	Lights flicker on and off
Rhetorical Questions	A figure of speech in the form of a question that is asked to make a point rather than to elicit an answer. e.g. And what is so rare as a day in June?	How could this be?











UNIT 7

Silas Weir Mitchell



SUPPLEMENTARY

Silas Weir wrote the short story 'A Dilemma' in which he brings out a real dilemma in the life of a man. The author is the narrator and he talks about his uncle who had no attachment with his family members. He was an inventor and an able mechanical engineer. He was quite rich and he had the habit of collecting precious stones. He was a bachelor and lived alone cooking his own food. The author's mother told him that his uncle would never help him.

His uncle called him one week before his death. When he met his uncle he told him that he had been living with the annuity he was getting from his fortune. He accepted that he had been working only to gather wealth. He felt sorry that he had not helped any of his relatives. He was not very rich and he had all the precious stones intact with him. He would officially give all the precious stones to the author.

The author thanked him for giving the stones to him. His uncle told him that he would pay for his uncle's funeral. All the stones were kept in a box. Before opening the box he should read a letter which was kept on the top of the box. He died the next week and he was handsomely buried. The author opened the safe and found an iron box. There was a letter on the box. The letter said that the box contained many valuable stones. At the same time it had a dynamite which would explode when the box was opened. So he could own the stones; he could not take them out of the box.

He thought of many methods to open without being killed. But he could not get any idea. In his despair he consulted some educated and knowledgeable people. He could not get help from anybody. One doctor advised him not to think too much about that. He spent his leisure time in the library reading about dynamite. It was absurd to have wealth and not having chance to use it. He thought of finding out a person who would be ready to open the box. He became weak and thin. He took it to the confession table but there too nothing good happened.

The girl Susan cancelled her engagement with him saying that he was half insane. He made his will leaving the rubies and pearls to the Society of Preservation of Human Vivisection.

GLOSSARY

clever, original and inventive

ingenious (adj.) mania (n) malicious (adj.) queer (adj.)

- an extensive, persistent desire, an obsession
- spiteful, intended to harm or upset someone
- strange, odd

B.P.No. 210



appalled (adj.) horrified, shocked

the quality of being strange or peculiar oddity (n)

closet (n) cupboard

impossible to believe incredible (adj.)

cook up, hatch a plan by deliberate use of skills contrive (v)

despotic (adj.) tyrannical, autocratic avarice (n) extreme greed for wealth

a joke jest (n)

vivisection (n) a surgery conducted on a living organism for experimental purposes.

Read the given lines carefully and identify the character / speaker: Α.

B.P.No. 210

1. I suppose you think me queer. I will explain. **Ans: Uncle Philip** 2. Don't come back. It won't hasten things. **Ans: Uncle Philip**

3. He thought it simply a cruel jest. **Ans: Father confessor** 4. He did not desire to do so. **Ans: Professor Clinch**

5. He would think it over and come back later. **Ans: Tax collector**



1. I shall carry with me to the other world the satisfaction of

making one man happy. **Ans: Uncle Philip**

2. When I thanked him he grinned all over his face. **Ans: Author / Narrator (Tom)**

3. It was silly tale and altogether incredible.

4. At last the doctor kindly warned me that I was in danger of losing my mind.

5. I was half cracked like Uncle Philip.

Ans: Professor Clinch

Ans: Dr. Schaff **Ans: Susan**

В. Based on your understanding of the story, answer the following briefly.

1. What did the uncle do as soon as he bought a stone?

When he bought a new stone, he carried it in his pocket for a month and now and then took it out and looked at it. Then it was added to the collection in his safe at the trust company.

What did the uncle bequeath to the narrator? 2.

The uncle bequeathed all the precious stones to the narrator.

3. What was the condition laid by the uncle to inherit his property?

The condition laid by the uncle to inherit his property was that the narrator should pay for his funeral.

4. Why do you think Tom happily looked forward to the expenditure for his uncle's funeral?

Tom happily looked forward to the expenditure for his uncle's funeral because after the funeral he would inherit the property of his uncle.

Write a few words about the mechanism used in the iron box. 5.

The box was heavy and strong, about ten inches long, eight inches wide and ten inches high. One had to be careful to open it with a key because it had a dynamite inside which might explode if the box was shaken.

A Dilemma

upplementary

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ENGLISH

6. What was the counsel offered to the narrator?

All the people to whom he talked about the box advised him to leave it to itself.

7. Why and when was the narrator shocked?

The narrator was shocked when he read the letter found on the iron box. It made it clear that if the box was opened there was every possiblity of the dynamite getting exploded.

8. What was the doctor's warning to Tom?

The doctor kindly warned Tom that he was in danger of losing his mind with too much thought about his rubies.

9. Why didn't Tom dare to assign the task of unlocking the box to someone?

He thought it was not fair on his part to assign someone to open the box as he was afraid of the dynamite getting exploded.

- C. Answer the questions given below in a paragraph of 150 words.
- 1. Describe briefly the contents of the letter written by Tom's uncle.

'A Dilemma – uncle not attached with family – collected precious stones – died – box with stones came to the author – saw a letter – explained about rubies – many rubies and pearls – blue diamond – a necklace of blue pearls – interesting mechanism – dynamite inside

Title	A Dilemma
Poet	Silas Wier Mitchell
Theme	Vain efforts to possess valuable stones

Silas Weir wrote the short story 'A Dilemma' in which he brings out a real dilemma in the life of a man. The author is the narrator and he talks about his uncle who had no attachment with his family members. He was an inventor and an able mechanical engineer. He was quite rich and he had the habit of collecting precious stones. After his death Tom got the iron box which had the precious stones from his uncle. Before opening the box he saw a letter. It explained about the rubies and diamonds. One blue diamond was very beautiful. Apart from those there were hundreds of pearls. There was a green pearl. There was a necklace of blue pearls which every woman would like to have. He did not want to leave those valuable properties to charity because he hated the poor. The box contained an interesting mechanism, which would act with certainty. In case someone unlocked it, ten ounces of improved supersensitive dynamite would explode. One who opened it would be blown to atoms. Tom would continue to nourish expectations which would never be fulfilled.

2. Explain the efforts taken by Tom to open the iron box? Did he succeed? Why?

'A Dilemma – uncle not attached with family – collected precious stones – died – box with stones came to the author – opening would be dangerous – many methods – consulted others – not much help – Dr. advised him not to think too much – free time in the library – tried to find out the right person – no chance – became weak – Susan cancelled engagement – will to the Society of Preservation of Human Vivisection





Title	A Dilemma
Poet	Silas Wier Mitchell
Theme	Vain efforts to possess valuable stones

Silas Weir wrote the short story 'A Dilemma' in which he brings out a real dilemma in the life of a man. The author is the narrator and he talks about his uncle who had no attachment with his family members. He was an inventor and an able mechanical engineer. He was quite rich and he had the habit of collecting precious stones. Tom got the iron box which had the precious stones from his uncle. He knew that opening the box was dangerous to life. He thought of many methods to open without being killed. But he could not get any idea. In his despair he consulted some educated and knowledgeable people. He could not get help from anybody. One doctor advised him not to think too much about that. He spent his leisure time in the library reading about dynamite. It was absurd to have wealth and not having chance to use it. He thought of finding out a person who would be ready to open the box. He became weak and thin. He took it to the confession table but there too nothing good happened. The girl Susan cancelled her engagement with him saying that he was half insane. He made his will leaving the rubies and pearls to the Society of Preservation of Human Vivisection.

ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPH

1. Narrate the story of 'A Dilemma' in your own words.

'A Dilemma – uncle not attached with family – collected precious stones – bachelor – cooked his food – called the author – willing to give the box of precious stones – should take care of funeral – died – spent on funeral – opened the box – an iron box – a letter – many stones and a dynamite – could not open – tried many methods –failed – became weak – engagement cancelled – will to the Society of Preservation of Human Vivisection

Title	A Dilemma
Poet	Silas Wier Mitchell
Theme	Vain efforts to possess valuable stones

Silas Weir wrote the short story 'A Dilemma' in which he brings out a real dilemma in the life of man. The author's uncle was an inventor and an able mechanical engineer. He was quite a rich and he had the habit of collecting precious stones. He was a bachelor and lived alone cooking his own food. The author's mother told him that his uncle would never help him. His uncle called him one week before his death. When he met his uncle he told him that he had been working only to gather wealth. He felt sorry that he had not helped any of his relatives. He was not very rich and he had all the precious stones intact with him. He would officially give all the precious stones to the author. His uncle told him that he would pay for his uncle's funeral. He died the next week and he was handsomely buried. The author opened the safe and found an iron box. There was a letter on the box. The letter said that the box contained many valuable stones. At the same time it had a dynamite which would explode when the box was opened. So he could own the stones but he could not take them out of the box. He thought of many methods to open the box without being killed. But he could not get any idea. He became weak and thin. The girl Susan cancelled her engagement with him saying that he was half insane. He made his will leaving the rubies and pearls to the Society of Preservation of Human Vivisection.



10

Dilemma

Supplementary

Fill in the blanks with the right option and write down the summary of the story 'A D. dilemma'.

The narrator was sent for, by his uncle when he was **on his deathbed.** 1. (on his deathbed / on his travels / in his workplace)

2. The uncle had collected precious **stones**. (jewels / stones / articles)

- 3. His uncle announced Tom as his heir and wanted him to pay for his **funeral.** (rented house / marriage / funeral)
- 4. Leaving an iron box for Tom, his uncle instructed him not to **shake** the box. (throw / carry / shake)
- 5. The letter read that the box contained a sensitive dynamite. (a sensitive dynamite / jewels / money)
- 6. He started thinking of all possible ways to open the box without being killed. (wounded / killed / maimed)
- 7. He planned to explode the box at **a safe distance** but dropped the plan in fear of losing the rubies. (home / a safe distance / a waste land)
- 8. His consultation with **Professor Clinch** did not yield him any fruitful solution. (Uncle Philip / Professor Clinch / Susan)
- 9. He failed in his attempts to open the box. His efforts to read about explosives led to **suspicions** (hopes / confusions / suspicions) and he had to change his name and occupation. (name and occupation / lodgings / appearance)
- At last, he bequeathed the box to the Society. (his offspring / his friends / the Society)

ADDITIONAL EXERCISES

Rearrange the sentences in coherent order.

- Ι But he had no attachment with his family members.
 - 2. Tom's uncle was a bachelor.
 - 3. Tom's mother told him that his uncle would never help him.
 - 4. He had the habit of collecting precious stones.
 - 5. He was an inventor and mechanical engineer.

Answer: 2, 5, 4, 1, 3

- But Tom should spend for his funeral and then get the box containing the precious stones. II 1.
 - 2. When his uncle died Tom spent most of his money on his uncle's funeral.
 - 3. He told Tom that he would give all the precious stones to him.
 - 4. Tom accepted the deal.
 - 5. One day Tom's uncle called him.

Answer: 5, 3, 1, 4, 2

- **III** 1. Along with them it had a dynamite which would explode when the box was opened.
 - 2. Before opening the box he should read the letter kept on the box.
 - 3. So he could own the stones, he could not take them out of the box.
 - 4. Tom's uncle told him that the box containing precious stones would belong to him.
 - The letter said that the box contained many valuable stones.

Answer: 4, 2, 5, 1, 3

Uncle Philip

Uncle Philip

II. Identify the speaker / character.

1. He was a bachelor

2. You will have to pay for my funeral -

3. I stood appalled, the key in my hand – **The Narrator**

4. He did not desire to do so – **Professor Clinch**

5. At last the doctor kindly warned me - **Dr. Schaff**

III. Reading comprehension.

Read the following passage and answer the questions given below:

1. He was a bachelor; lived alone, cooked his own meals, and collected precious stones, especially rubies and pearls. From the time he made his first money he had this mania. As he grew richer, the desire to possess rare and costly gems became stronger. When he bought a new stone, he carried it in his pocket for a month and now and then took it out and looked at it. Then it was added to the collection in his safe at the trust company.

Ouestions:

- 1. Who is 'he'?
- 2. What kind of stones did he collect?
- 3. What mania is referred to here?
- 4. What did he do when he bought a new stone?
- 5. What did he do with the new stone?

Answers:

- 1. 'He' is Uncle Philip
- 2. He collected precious stones especially rubies and pearls.
- 3. 'Mania' refers to his excessive desire to collect precious stones.
- 4. He carried it in his pocket for a month and now and then he took it out and looked at it.
- 5. The new stone was added to the collection in his safe at the trust company.

IV. Passage for comprehension.

1. Now I repent of my wickedness to you all, and desire to live in the memory of at least one of my family. You think I am poor and have only my annuity. You will be profitably surprised. I have never parted with my precious stones; they will be yours. You are my sole heir. I shall carry with me to the other world the satisfaction of making one man happy.

Ouestions:

- 1. What did he repent of?
- 2. What didn't he part with?
- 3. Who would be his sole heir?

- 4. What kind of satisfaction was he going to have?
- 5. Was he a poor man?

Answers:

- 1. He repented of his wickedness to the narrator and his family.
- 2. He did not part with his precious stones.
- 3. The narrator.
- 4. He would carry with him to the other world the satisfaction of making one man happy.
- 5. No, he was not a poor man.
- 2. At last I hung the key on my watch-guard; but then it occurred to me that it might be lost or stolen. Dreading this, I hid it, fearful that someone might use it to open the box. This state of doubt and fear lasted for weeks, until I became nervous and began to dread that some accident might happen to that box. A burglar might come and boldly carry it away and force it open and find it was a wicked fraud of my uncle's. Even the rumble and vibration caused by the heavy vans in the street became at last a terror.





Questions:

- 1. What did the narrator do with the key in the beginning?
- 2. Why did he hide the key?

- 3. What did he dread about?
- 4. What did he think the burglar might do?
- 5. What created terror to the narrator?

Answers:

- 1. In the beginning, the narrator hung the key on his watch-guard.
- 2. He hid the key being fearful that some one would use it to open the box.
- 3. He dreaded that some accident might happen to the box.
- 4. He thought that a burglar might come and boldly carry the box away and force it open and find that it was a wicked fraud of his uncle's.
- 5. The rumble and vibration caused by the heavy vans in the street caused terror to him.
- Indeed, I talked of it until the library attendants, believing me a lunatic or a dynamite fi end, declined to humor me, and spoke to the police. I suspect that for a while I was "shadowed" as a suspicious, and possibly criminal, character. I gave up the libraries, and, becoming more and more fearful, set my precious box on a down pillow, for fear of its being shaken; for at this time even the absurd possibility of its being disturbed by an earthquake troubled me. I tried to calculate the amount of shake needed to explode my box.

Questions:

- 1. Why didn't the library attendants humour him?
- 2. What did the narrator suspect?
- 3. What did he do to avoid the box being shaken?
- 4. What absurd possibility did he think of?
- 5. What did he try to calculate finally?

Answers:

- 1. The library attendants believed him a lunatic or a dynamite fiend.
- 2. The narrator suspected that he was shadowed as a suspicious and criminal character.
- 3. He set the box on a down pillow.
- 4. He thought of the box being disturbed by an earthquake.
- 5. He tried to calculate the amount of shake needed to explode the box.
- 4. Susan said I was half cracked like Uncle Philip, and broke off her engagement. In my despair I advertised in the Journal of Science, and have had absurd schemes sent me by the dozen. At last, as I talked too much about it, the thing became so well known that when I put the horror in a safe, in a bank, I was promptly desired to withdraw it. I was in constant fear of burglars, and my landlady gave me notice to leave, because no one would stay in the house with that box. I am now advised to print my story and await advice from the ingenuity of the American mind.

Questions:

- 1. Who was Susan?
- 2. Why did she break off her engagement?
- 3. What was the narrator afraid of constantly?
- 4. Why did the landlady ask him to vacate the house?
- 5. What was he advised to do?

Answers:

- 1. Susan was the narrator's finance.
- 2. Susan thought that the narrator was half cracked like Uncle Philip.
- 3. He was afraid of burglars constantly.
- 4. Because no one would stay in the house with that box.
- 5. He was advised to print his story and await advice from the ingenuity of the American mind.



