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# ACTIVITIES

## ACTIVITIES While Reading

### The Speckled Band

### Exercise 1:

Read Chapter 1, then answer these questions.

1: Who killed a servant?

2: Who died in an accident eight years ago?

3: Who died two years ago?

4: Who was afraid of the wild animals and the gipsies?

### Exercise 2:

Read Chapter 2. Here are some untrue sentences. Change them into true sentences.

1: Dr Roylott did not need the girls' money.

\_...\_

2: Something was wrong with Helen's bedroom wall.

\_...\_

3: Helen and Julia often used the bell-rope.

\_...\_

4: The air-vent was outside the two bedrooms.

\_...\_

### Exercise 3:

Before you read Chapter 3 (Death in the Night), can you guess what is going to happen?

Tick one box each time.

1: Dr Roylott kills Helen.

\_...\_ YES; \_...\_ NO

2: Watson kills a cat.

\_...\_ YES; \_...\_ NO

3: Dr Roylott dies.

\_...\_ YES; \_...\_ NO

4: Holmes finds the killer.

\_...\_ YES; \_...\_ NO

5: The gipsies kill Dr Roylott.

\_...\_ YES; \_...\_ NO

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### A Scandal in Bohemia

**Exercise 1**

**Read Chapters 1 and 2. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?**

1: Sherlock Holmes loved Irene Adler.

2: Watson and Holmes agreed to keep a secret.

3: Irene Adler had a photo of herself and the King.

4: Irene was happy to hear that the King was going to marry Clotilde.

5: The King gave Holmes two thousand pounds.

6: Holmes found out a lot from Irene Adler's servants.

7: Four taxis drove to the church of St Monica.

8: Holmes helped Irene to marry Godfrey Norton.

### Exercise 2:

Read Chapters 3 and 4. Choose the best question-word for these questions, and then answer them.

Who

Where

Why

What

1: \_...\_ fell, with blood running down his face?

2: \_...\_ did Irene bring Holmes into her house?

3: \_...\_ did Watson throw the smoke-stick into the room?

4: \_...\_ happened next?

5: \_...\_ did Irene hide the photo?

6: \_...\_ said, 'Good night, Mr Sherlock Holmes'?

7: \_...\_ was the King happy in the end?

8: \_...\_ did Holmes ask the King to give him?

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### The Five Orange Pips

**Exercise 1:**

Read Chapters 1 and 2. Who said or wrote this?

1: 'I've come to ask for help.' \_...\_

2: 'I don't know anyone in Pondicherry!' \_...\_

3: 'He killed himself.' \_...\_

4: 'Put the papers in the garden.' \_...\_

5: 'Let's just forget about it.' \_...\_

6: 'You must do something fast.' \_...\_

7: 'Sent the pips to three people.' \_...\_

8: 'I'll do everything you say.' \_...\_

**Exercise 2:**

Before you read Chapter 3 (K.K.K.) and Chapter 4 (The Last Deaths), can you guess the answers to these questions?

1: Are the K.K.K. Americans? \_...\_

2: Where are the K.K.K. now? \_...\_

3: Will they come to John Openshaw's house? \_...\_

4: Will they kill John Openshaw? \_...\_

5: Will Sherlock Holmes find the killers? \_...\_

6: Will Sherlock Holmes need Dr Watson's help? \_...\_

7: How many people are going to die? \_...\_

8: Will it be the end of the K.K.K? \_...\_

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## ACTIVITIES After Reading

### Exercise 1:

Look at these possible new titles for the three stories. Match all the titles with the stories. Which one do you like best for each story? Explain why.

The Speckled Band

A Scandal in Bohemia

The Five Orange Pips

1: The King's Photograph

2: Death in an Envelope

3: Money isn't Everything

4: A Dangerous Room

5: Finished Business

6: All for Love

7: Death in the Country

8: A Clever Woman

9: An Unexpected Death

10: A Dark Secret from the Past

11: Money Matters

12: In the Wrong Hands

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### Exercise 2:

In The Speckled Band, perhaps the police asked one of the gipsies what he saw and heard on the night of Dr Roylott's death. Use these words from the story to complete the conversation. Use each word once.

anyone

bedroom

box

dead

friends

garden

happened

head

help

hours

light

listened

night

ran

saw

speckled

terrible

through

what

where

whistle

wife

**Police**: Tell me, where were you at midnight last \_...\_?

**Gipsy**: I was outside in the \_...\_, sitting round a small fire

with my \_...\_ and child, and some of our \_...\_.

**Police:** Did you see \_...\_ moving around in the garden?

**Gipsy:** Yes, I \_...\_ two men. They crossed the garden and

got into the house \_...\_ Miss Stoner's \_...\_ window.

**Police:** It was dark then. Were they carrying a \_...\_?

**Gipsy:** No, but there was a light in the room, so they could

see \_...\_ to go.

**Police:** And what \_...\_ next?

**Gipsy:** Nothing happened for about three \_...\_. I waited near the house and \_...\_. Then I heard a quiet \_...\_, and after that a \_...\_ cry from Dr Roylott's room.

**Police:** Did you see \_...\_ was happening in his room?

**Gipsy:** Yes, I \_...\_ to his window and looked in. The two men were there. They were looking at a metal \_...\_. And I saw Dr Roylott sitting \_...\_ in a chair, with a yellow \_...\_ band round his \_...\_. Then I ran away.

**Police:** Thank you for your \_...\_. You can go now.

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### Exercise 3:

Here is a conversation between the King of Bohemia and Irene Adler (see page 18 in A Scandal in Bohemia). The conversation is in the wrong order. Write it out in the correct order and put in the speakers' names. The King speaks first (number 3).

1: \_...\_ 'Irene, please! You know that I cannot marry you. I must marry a woman of royal blood.'

2: \_...\_ 'I think that I want to keep it. Perhaps I'll look at it every day, and remember our love.'

3: \_...\_ 'Irene, I've come to ask you for that photograph.'

4: \_...\_ 'Don't talk about money! I'm not interested in that at all! Leave me alone! Leave this room at once!'

5: \_...\_ 'Think of my name and my family, Irene! There must be no scandal. I loved you, yes, I did, but that's finished now -'

6: \_...\_ 'Well, if I am not good enough for Your Majesty, no other woman will be. I'll send the photograph to Clotilde!'

7: \_...\_ 'But I must have it, Irene! If Clotilde von Saxe-Meningen ever sees that photograph -'

8: \_...\_ 'Finished? So, I'm like an old coat that you don't want to wear any more! What a fine friend you are!'

9: \_...\_ 'No! Irene, how much do you want for the photograph?'

10: \_...\_ 'Ah! If she sees it, perhaps she will not marry you! And there will be a scandal!'

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### Exercise 4:

In The Five Orange Pips perhaps Elias Openshaw kept a diary. Here is what he wrote at the end of 10th March 1883. Use the linking words below to complete his diary for that day. Use each word once.

then

but

so

because

and

if

when

while

which

immediately

who

It's night-time now, and I feel afraid, \_...\_ I've locked all the doors very carefully. Today I received the five orange pips from the K.K.K.! I've been safe from them for the last fourteen years, \_...\_ now I know that it's the end.

This morning I was at the breakfast table with young John \_...\_ the servant brought in the post. There was a letter \_...\_ came from Pondicherry in India. At first, I was surprised, \_...\_ I don't know anyone lives there. \_...\_ I realized that it meant death! The five orange pips were in the envelope, \_...\_ they fell on to my plate.

\_...\_, I hurried upstairs to fetch the K. K. K. box from the locked room. \_...\_ John was watching, I burnt all the papers in the box. But it's no good, I know that they will find me and kill me! And \_...\_ poor John gets my money one day, he will die too!

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### Exercise 5:

What do you think about Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson? Think about these questions.

1: Do you think Sherlock Holmes is a clever detective? What is he specially good at?

2: Why do people ask Holmes for help? Does he always keep them out of danger?

3: What do you think about Dr Watson? Is he as clever as Holmes? Does Holmes really need him?

4: Is Holmes ready to kill someone who has killed another person (like Dr Roylott)? Is Holmes himself a killer?

5: Does Holmes always find the answer? Is he always cleverer than the other people in the stories?

### Exercise 6:

Which story did you like best, and which did you like least? Can you explain why? Write a short review of one of the stories. Use these words to help you.

I liked / didn't like this story because ...

... nobody died

... could / couldn't guess the answer

... the murderer(s) was (were) killed

... a good person was murdered

... somebody was cleverer than Sherlock Holmes

... happy / unhappy ending