

Comprehension

Quick Recap

- A. 5. The shop of Morse Hudson in Kennington Road was burgled.
8. Dr Barnicot found his house burgled during the night. But nothing was missing except the bust of Napoleon.
2. The third bust was found in the front garden of an empty house in Campden House Road, broken into fragments.
4. Holmes and Lestrade made their way to Gelder and Company.
6. Beppo had made a hole in the wet plaster, dropped in the pearl and covered it again.
7. Beppo began to search for the busts once he was released from jail.
1. Mr Sandeford of Reading brought the bust of Napoleon, which Holmes had asked for.
3. Holmes found the black pearl of Borgias in the broken pieces of the Napoleon bust.

- B.** 1. a. Detective inspector Lestrade of Scotland Yard had been referred to as 'he'. The occasion was a social visit by Lestrade to the house of Sherlock Holmes and Dr John Watson.
- b. The first case of burglary had been reported four days ago in the shop of Morse Hudson in Kennington Road. He was a dealer in pictures and statues.
- c. The second case had been the burglary in the house of Dr Barnicot.
- d. In both the cases, nothing was found missing except the bust of Napoleon which was found smashed.
2. a. Horace Harker, journalist, is the speaker. He had purchased the bust four months ago.
- b. The murdered man was shabbily dressed. He was strong, tall and sunburnt, not more than thirty years old. He turned out to be Pietro Venucci from Naples.
- c. His pockets contained an apple, a map of London and a photograph.
- d. The bust was found in the front garden of a desolate house in Campden House Road.
3. a. It was Beppo. He was an Italian who did odd jobs for the company. He was a skilful sculptor. He had knifed a fellow Italian and had the police after him. He had been in prison for a year.
- b. He was at Laburnum Lodge at that time. Lestrade, Watson and Holmes were there.
- c. Beppo had come looking for the bust of Napoleon.

d. Beppo stole the bust of Napoleon from Laburnum Lodge. He then went out in the garden and assuming that no one was there, tapped it sharply and broke the bust. At that moment, Sherlock Holmes sprang on him and he was handcuffed by Lestrade and Watson.

4. a. Holmes bought the bust from Mr Sandeford of Reading. He made Mr Sandeford sign the agreement so that if the bust was found to contain something valuable, he won't lay claim to it.

b. Holmes smashed the bust into pieces. The famous black pearl of the Borgias was found.

c. The famous black pearl had disappeared from the Prince of Colonna's bedroom. It was believed to be stolen by the Italian maid of the Princess. The maid's name was Venucci and she managed to get it to her brother Pietro, who was in London. Somehow, Beppo got it from him. And while it was in his possession, he was chased by the police. He made for the factory where he worked, and had only a few moments to hide this enormously valuable prize. Six plaster casts of Napoleon were drying there. Beppo made a hole in the wet plaster, dropped in the pearl and covered it once more. No one could possibly find it. But he was sentenced to a year in prison and in the meantime, the six busts were sold off. Once he was out, he started a search for the bust with his treasure.

d. The robbery in the Prince of Colonna's bedroom, from where the black pearl was stolen, was recalled by Holmes.