

**The Play  
Group** 

**L'ASTROLABIO** 

A THRILLING NEW MURDER MYSTERY

# ELEMENTARY WATSON

DIRECTED BY ENZO MUSICÒ

## Story summary

One day, the elderly, aristocrat widow Lady Blackwood dies in mysterious circumstances. Her funeral takes place so quickly that many of her friends and distant relatives are unable to attend. The police fail to make any progress in the case, so they call for the noted detective Sherlock Holmes and his loyal assistant, Doctor Watson. Sherlock decides that this is an ideal opportunity for Watson to use his detective skills and puts him in charge of the case. Watson interrogates the members of Lady Blackwood's household. First Sir Julian, Lady Blackwood's nephew, who had frequently asked his aunt for money in order to finance his gambling addictions. Then Watson interviews Lady Blackwood's faithful butler, James, but is very suspicious. When Sherlock Holmes returns



to the scene of the crime, Watson explains his theories of how Lady Blackwood was killed. With brilliant logic and acute observation, Sherlock discovers further clues, including a mysterious curler. He decides to send Watson to a distant, exotic land to get more information about the curler. After meeting a series of strange and fascinating

characters, Watson returns with some very important and surprising information. What really happened to Lady Blackwood? Was she killed by her desperate nephew for her money? Or was the killer her faithful butler James? Before Sherlock Holmes reveals the truth, the audience will be invited to judge for themselves.

## Sintesi della storia

Un giorno l'aristocratica vedova Lady Blackwood muore in circostanze misteriose. Il suo funerale si svolge così in fretta che molti dei suoi amici e parenti non sono in grado di parteciparvi. La polizia è incapace di fare progressi nell'indagine; si decide

di chiamare il noto detective Sherlock Holmes e il suo fedele assistente, Doctor Watson. Sherlock Holmes decide che si tratta dell'occasione ideale per incaricare Doctor Watson dell'indagine sul caso. Watson interroga i famigliari di Lady Blackwood. In primo luogo viene sentito il nipote Sir Julian, che spesso chiedeva soldi alla zia per finanziare le sue costose abitudini di gioco. Successivamente viene interrogato il fedele maggiordomo di Lady Blackwood, James, che appare anch'egli molto sospetto. Quando Sherlock Holmes torna sul luogo del delitto, Watson gli spiega le proprie teorie sul come e da chi Lady Blackwood sia stata uccisa.

Con logica brillante e acuta osservazione, Sherlock scopre ulteriori indizi, tra cui un bigodino misterioso. Decide di affidare a Watson una missione importante per acquisire maggiori informazioni sul bigodino. Watson intraprende un lungo viaggio in terra lontana ed esotica. Dopo aver incontrato una serie di personaggi strani ed affascinanti, torna con alcuni indizi molto importanti e sorprendenti. Che cosa è realmente accaduto a Lady Blackwood? È stata uccisa dall'affamato nipote per il suo denaro o è stato il suo fedele maggiordomo James? Prima che Sherlock Holmes riveli la verità, il pubblico sarà invitato a giudicare da sé.



## Essential Vocabulary of the show

Three examples are given... can you do the rest?

### a) ADJECTIVES / ADVERBS

alive  
alone  
angry  
arrogant  
beautiful  
both  
clean  
cold  
dangerous  
dead  
first  
fragile  
fresh  
fried  
generous  
happy  
hers  
his  
honest  
hungry  
last  
late  
left  
mine  
old  
perfect  
right  
sad  
simple  
terrible  
true  
ugly  
wet  
wonderful  
young  
yours

*affamato*

### b) VERBS (to...)

ask  
be born  
bet  
confess  
decide  
die  
drink  
gamble  
give  
help  
inherit  
kill  
know  
listen  
live  
pay  
poison  
return  
see  
sit  
smell  
stand up  
travel  
wake up

*odorare*

### c) NOUNS (a / an)

aunt  
autumn  
butler  
case  
children  
cup  
curler  
death  
detective  
fact  
fish  
fortune  
funeral  
grandfather  
grandmother  
grass  
hair  
hairdresser  
horse  
husband  
killer  
knife  
lady  
marmalade  
money  
nephew  
passport  
perfume  
pistol  
poison  
postcard  
pounds  
property  
question  
rain  
rat  
scarf  
shoe  
silk  
sister  
snow  
sock  
son  
spring  
summer  
suspect  
ticket  
time (occasion)  
toast  
toothbrush  
wind  
visa

*volta*

a) *affamato, arrabiato, arrogante, bagnato, bella, brutto, da solo, destra, entrambi, felice, fragile, freddo, fresco, fritto, generoso, generoso, giovane, il mio / la mia, in ritardo, meraviglioso, morto, onesto, perfetto, pericoloso, pulito, primo, semplice, sinistra, solo, il suo / la sua di lui, il suo / la sua di lui, terribile, triste, il tuo / la tua, ultimo, vecchio, vero, vivo*

b) *aiutare, alzarsi in piedi, ascoltare, avvelenare, bere, chiedere, confessare, dare, decidere, ereditare, esser nato, morire, pagare, piazzare una punta, odorare, ritornare, sapere, scommettere, sedersi, svegliarsi, uccidere, vedere, viaggiare, vivere*

c) *assassino, autunno, biglietto, bigodino, capelli, cartolina, caso, calzino, cavallo, coltello, denaro, domanda, erba, estate, fatto, bambini, figlio, fortuna, funerale, inverno, ispettore, lady, maggiordomo, marito, marmellata, morte, neve, nipote, nonna, nonno, pane tostato, parrucchiere, passaporto, pesce, pioggia, pistola, primavera, profumo, proprietà, topo, sciarpa, seta, sorella, sospetto, spazzolino da denti, sterlina, tazza, veleno, vento, visto, volta, zia*

# Vocabulary Pictures

A



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B



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C



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D



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E



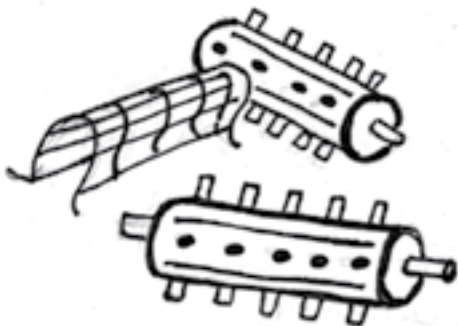
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F



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G



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H



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Criminal Mask



## Beards



## Glasses





## Arthur Conan Doyle

Sir Arthur Ignatius Conan Doyle (more commonly known as "Conan Doyle") was \_\_\_\_\_ on 22 May, 1859 in Scotland. Doyle was a \_\_\_\_\_ by profession, and also a writer in his free time. His stories about the \_\_\_\_\_ Sherlock Holmes are considered revolutionary in crime fiction. He was a prolific writer whose other \_\_\_\_\_ include science fiction, plays and romances, poetry and historical novels. Conan Doyle \_\_\_\_\_ to a Catholic school, then \_\_\_\_\_ at Edinburgh University.

At an early age, Conan Doyle also began writing short \_\_\_\_\_; the first was published before he was twenty years old. After qualifying at university, he worked as a naval doctor on a ship sailing to West

### Fill in the missing words from this list

**published, went, works, married, born, football, successful, enthusiastic, detective, children, medicine, stories, doctor**

Africa. In 1882 he established a medical practice in Portsmouth but to begin with, it was not very \_\_\_\_\_.

As a result, Conan Doyle returned to writing stories and composed his first novel. But this was not an immediate success, since it was not published until 2011! His first important work, *A Study in Scarlet*, appeared in 1887. This included the first appearance of Sherlock Holmes. More

short stories featuring Sherlock Holmes were \_\_\_\_\_ in the English Strand Magazine. The character was based one of his university teachers, who was famous for his deduction and analytical skills.

Conan Doyle was also a very \_\_\_\_\_ sportsman, playing cricket, \_\_\_\_\_ and golf to a very high standard.

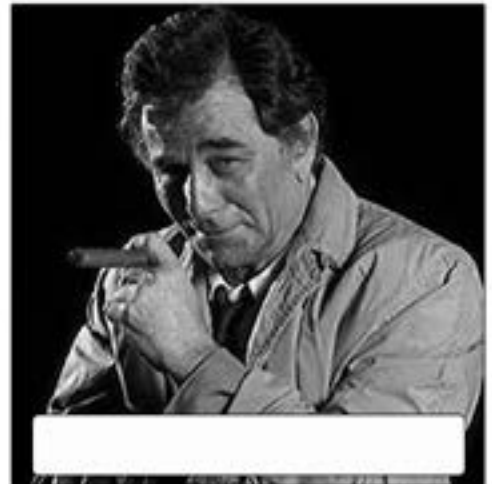
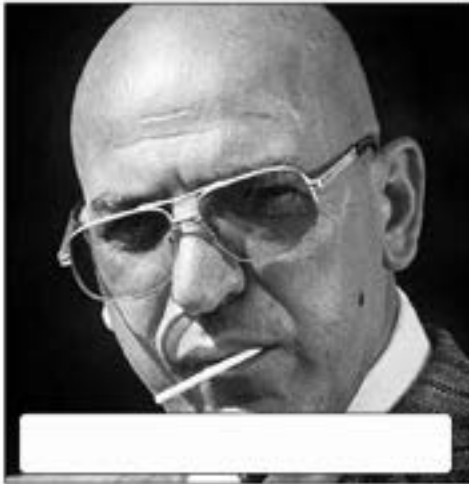
In late 1885, Conan Doyle \_\_\_\_\_ Louise Hawkins. Sadly, she fell ill and died in 1906. The next year, he married Jean Elizabeth Leckie, whom he had first met and fallen in love with in 1897.

Conan Doyle had five \_\_\_\_\_. He had two with his first wife and three with his second. He died on 7 July 1930 in Sussex, England.



# Famous detectives

Can you identify them?





## Fingerprints

Fingerprints are on babies' fingers before they are born and are 100% unique - no two people have exactly the same fingerprint! Fingerprints can remain for years on objects if they are not cleaned.

In 1856, for the first time, fingerprints were used to substitute signatures on documents. In 1880, a British doctor named Henry Faulds discovered that fingerprints at the scene of a crime could identify the criminal.

Loops are in 60 - 70% of fingerprints



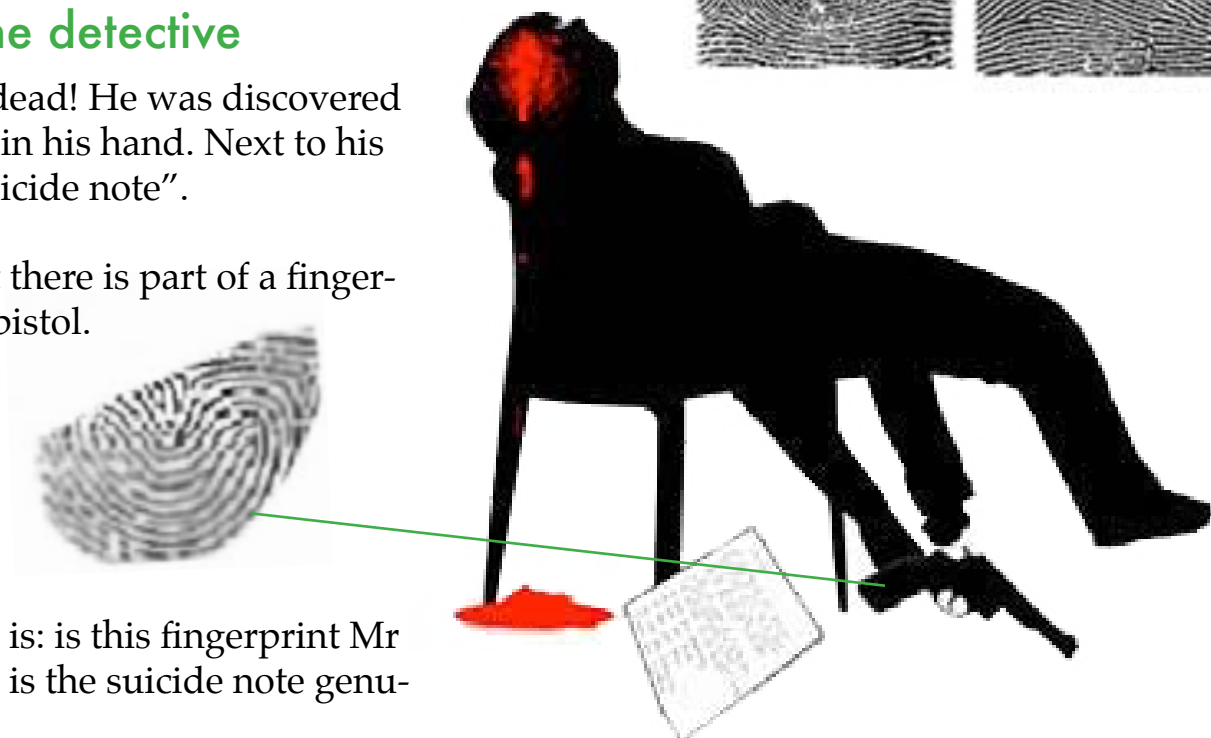
Whorls - 25 - 35% Arches - 5 - 10 %



## You are the detective

Mr. Black is dead! He was discovered with a pistol in his hand. Next to his body is a "suicide note".

You find that there is part of a fingerprint on the pistol.



The question is: is this fingerprint Mr Black's? And is the suicide note genuine?

## Now solve the case.

1. What type of fingerprints did the killer have? Loop / Whorl / Arch

2. Did Mr Black commit suicide? Yes / No

3. If not, who killed Mr Black?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Can you imagine why Mr Black was killed?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

People who visited Mr Black today:

