



What should I already know?

I have read, studied and analysed texts and have developed inference and deduction skills. I have been able to select evidence from a text to support ideas I provide on what I have read. I have begun to think about the impact that specific words and phrases have on a reader. I have been introduced to some of the key terminology in English.

What will I know by the end of the unit?

I will be able to summarise the key events, themes and ideas of the novel. I will be able to recall the key characters, their actions in the novel and their characteristics, identifying key quotations on the characters and explain what I can interpret about their character as a result. I will examine how language, vocabulary choice, grammar and text structure presents meaning, commenting on the impact of the author's language and structure on differing audiences.

I will be able to write a critical essay on a set question, commenting on characters, themes and events from the novel. I will be able to progress my own writing, reflecting on my work (considering how it reflects the audience and purpose for which it was intended (and adapt my own use of vocabulary, grammar and structure to improve the overall effectiveness of my work.

Key Vocabulary

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| Cul-de-sac | A street with only one way in or out. |
| Anxiety | Feelings of unease, including worry or fear. |
| OCD | Obsessive Compulsive Disorder |
| Bereavement | The period of grief and mourning after the death of someone close. |
| Mirage | Something that is not real - without proof of reality. |
| Crime | An action which is punishable by law. |
| Clues | A piece of evidence or information used in the detection of a crime. |
| Detective | A person whose occupation is to investigate and solve crimes. |
| Rectory | Resident of a priest. |
| Graveyard | An area of land, often near a church, where dead people are buried. |
| Missing person | Anyone whose whereabouts cannot be established. |
| Custody | The protective care or guardianship of someone or something. |
| Accused | To say that someone has done something - usually something bad. |
| Sitcom | A comedy. |
| Stigma | A mark of disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality or person. |
| Mystery | Something difficult to explain/understand. A text dealing with a puzzling crime. |

Literary Techniques

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|-------------------------|---|
| Alliteration | The occurrence of the same letter or sound at the beginning of adjacent or closely connected words. |
| Cliffhanger | A dramatic and exciting ending, which leaves a reader/audience in suspense. |
| Connotation | Associated meaning of the word. |
| Description | A spoken or written account of a person, object or event. |
| Emotive Language | Language used to create a particular emotion in the reader. |
| First Person | A type of narrative in which the protagonist recounts their own story using the pronoun 'I.' |



| Foreboding | A feeling that something bad is going to happen. | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------|--|
| Foreshadowing | When the writer hints at a future event. | | |
| Metaphor | A comparison – made directly or indirectly – without using ‘like’ or ‘as.’ | | |
| Narrator | The person telling the story. | | |
| Pathetic Fallacy | When a character’s feelings, thoughts or emotions are displayed through the environment around them. For example, when a character is depressed and it is raining. | | |
| Personification | Giving human characteristics to something which is not human. | | |
| Protagonist | The main character. | | |
| Simile | A comparison made using the words ‘like’ or ‘as.’ | | |
| Theme | The central idea of a literary work. | | |
| Twist | A radical change in the direction or unexpected outcome of the plot. | | |
| Key characters | | Key themes | |
| Matthew Corbin | The narrator of the book and the ‘Goldfish Boy.’ He is a funny, kind, likeable twelve-year-old, but he also has an overwhelming fear of germs which is making his life very difficult. Because of his anxieties, he spends most of his time indoors watching the neighbours in the cul-de-sac from the safety of his window. Matthew is the last person to see Teddy before he goes missing. | Mental health | The protagonist suffers with OCD and this impact on his day-to-day life. He is unable to attend school and maintain healthy relationships. |
| Melody Bird | Melody lives opposite Matthew with her mum, Claudia. She keeps her head down at school and Matthew has never really paid much attention to her, until he notices her strange interest in the local graveyard. She is a kind, thoughtful girl and she decides that she and Matthew should be friends and solve the mystery of what has happened to Teddy together. | Grief | Matthew is grieving the death of his baby brother, Callum. Matthew’s parents have lost their baby son and have grieved for him. Old Nina has also experienced grief as she lost her own child years ago. |
| Jake Bishop | Jake and Matthew were best friends throughout primary school but drifted apart since starting secondary school. Jake suffers with chronic eczema and has been the victim of bullying in the past. His way of coping was to become the bully. He teases his old friend Matthew and shouts things up at his window but his favourite thing to do is torment Melody. When he finds out that Matthew and Melody have teamed up to solve the mystery, he tries to be included. | Guilt | Matthew is suffering with guilt and this is the trigger for the onset of his anxiety and OCD. |



Topic: The Goldfish Boy

Year: 7

NC Strand:

Casey and Teddy Dawson

Six-year-old Casey and toddler Teddy are staying next door to Matthew with their Grandfather, Mr Charles, while their mum works abroad. Casey prefers her sinister china doll over her little brother. She torments Matthew, saying that he looks like a goldfish in a tank.

Old Nina

Old Nina lives alone in The Rectory which backs onto the graveyard. A shy, reclusive character, she goes out of her way to avoid her neighbours, only emerging now and then to water her flower pots. Matthew is suspicious of her behaviour and is puzzled as to why she keeps a lamp lit in her window day and night.

Brief Summary

This is a mystery novel whose protagonist, Matthew Corbin, suffers from severe Obsessive Compulsive Disorder. Spending his days cataloguing the behaviours of his neighbours, he has not left the house in weeks. This happens to come in handy when a toddler who is staying at the house next door goes missing and Matthew is the last person to see him alive. As the mystery unfolds, Matthew is torn between wanting to stay at home where he has control and isn't judged for his illness and knowing that he is one of the few witnesses that can help find the little boy.

Context

Lisa Thompson (Author:)

Thompson worked as a radio broadcast assistant at the BBC, then for a production company making plays and comedy programmes. The Goldfish Boy is her debut novel, which was bought as part of a two-book deal with Scholastic. It was published in 2017, where it was a Waterstones Children's Book of the Month and went on to become a bestseller. It has been nominated for the Carnegie Medal, the Branford Boase Award and the Waterstones Children's Book Prize.

OCD:

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) is a common mental health condition in which a person has obsessive thoughts and compulsive behaviours. It affects men, women, and children and can develop at any age. Symptoms include frequent obsessive thoughts and compulsive behaviours. Obsessions are unwanted and unpleasant thoughts, images or urges that repeatedly enter your mind, causing feelings of anxiety, unease or disgust. Compulsions are repetitive behaviours and mental acts that you feel you need to carry out to temporarily relieve the unpleasant feelings brought on by the obsessive thought. It is not clear exactly what causes OCD. Some factors which may contribute to it include family history (genetics,) brain differences (high activity levels or low levels of serotonin,) life events (bullying, abuse, neglect, bereavement) and personality traits (neat, meticulous, perfectionists.) It can be treated through psychological therapy (CBT) and medication.



Topic: Detective Fiction

Year: 7

NC Strand: Pre 1914 Prose

What should I already know?

I have used basic inference and deductions skills and have been able to select evidence from a text. I have applied retrieval techniques in previous terms work and can now build upon this when analysing a new set of texts.

What will I know by the end of the unit?

I will make inferences and deductions making clear reference to the texts. I will learn new vocabulary and through understanding the context in which it is used to apply it in a range of tasks. I will be able to compare within and across texts drawing out similarities and differences and evaluating both texts. I will be able to make comment on the language choice, structure and grammatical features of a text, exploring the impact and effectiveness. I will explore a whole novel using inference and deduction to explore a novel in greater depth. I will examine the structure of the text, examining characterisation, setting and plot. I will be able to comment on these, selecting relevant information from the text to support my ideas and opinions. I will explore in depth an author's use of language and how it presents meaning and affects the reader's understanding. I will be able to comment on what I have learnt in a detailed essay on the text, making comparisons across and between texts. I will know how cultural events can shape a narrative.

Key Characters

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| Sherlock Holmes | A fictional consulting detective created by Arthur Conan Doyle. He is known for his intelligence, introspection and dual nature. He is described as an 'observing machine' because of his ability to capture the essence of people with seemingly very little evidence. |
| Dr Watson | Holmes' former flatmate, a doctor and his closest companion. The stories are told from his perspective, working as Holmes' assistant. |
| Irene Adler | A famous American opera singer who had a relationship with the future King of Bohemia. To Holmes, she is 'the woman' who outsmarted him. |
| King of Bohemia | In the Victorian era, Bohemia was an area of central Europe; today it is a region of the Czech Republic. The King is engaged to a Scandinavian princess but five years previously was madly in love with Irene Adler. Because of his status, he was unable to marry her at the time, which he regrets. The King still respects Adler. |
| James Ryder | Head attendant of the hotel where the Blue Carbuncle goes missing. He works with his accomplice Catherine Cusack (the countess' maid) to steal the jewel and frame John Horner for the crime. He is racked with guilt and confesses when Holmes questions him. |
| Colonel Barclay | Colonel Barclay is a rough man who spent his life as a soldier. He was devoted to his wife and they rarely disagreed. 'He was a dashing, jovial old soldier in his usual mood, but there were occasions on which he seemed to show himself capable of considerable violence and vindictiveness. This side of his nature, however, appears never to have been turned towards his wife.' |
| Professor Moriarty | Moriarty's intelligence and cunning make him an equal for Sherlock Holmes. |
| Mary Sutherland | A typist and client of Sherlock who is the victim of a scheme to keep her married. |

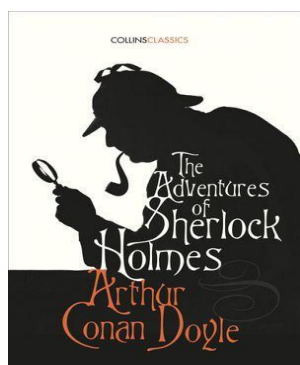


Topic: Detective Fiction

Year: 7

NC Strand: Pre 1914 Prose

Front Cover



Key Information

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes is a collection of twelve short stories by Arthur Conan Doyle, first published on 14 October 1892. It contains the earliest short stories featuring the consulting detective Sherlock Holmes, which had been published in twelve monthly issues of *The Strand Magazine* from July 1891 to June 1892. The stories are collected in the same sequence, which is not supported by any fictional chronology. The only characters common to all twelve are Holmes and Dr. Watson and all are related in first-person narrative from Watson's point of view.

In general, the stories in *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* identify, and try to correct, social injustices. Holmes is portrayed as offering a new, fairer sense of justice.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was a British writer, who created the

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Topic: Detective Fiction

Year: 7

NC Strand: Pre 1914 Prose

character Sherlock Holmes. Originally a physician, in 1887 he published *A Study in Scarlet*, the first of four novels and more than fifty short stories about Holmes and Dr. Watson. The Sherlock Holmes stories are generally considered milestones in the field of crime fiction.

Key Characters

Scandal in Bohemia - The King of Bohemia plans to marry a Norwegian princess. However, he previously had a relationship with a woman called Irene Adler. Adler is threatening to ruin his engagement with a picture she has of herself and the king together.

The Blue Carbuncle - A policeman named Peterson is left with a man's hat and Christmas goose and discovers a blue carbuncle (a rare, and very valuable jewel) inside the goose! Holmes recognises the jewel as the one that was stolen from The Countess of Morcar. Using the hat as a clue, Holmes and Watson set off to discover how the blue carbuncle was stolen and how it ended up in a goose.

The Crooked Man - This locked room mystery is a story about Colonel Barclay, who died in a locked room with only his wife present. Holmes and Watson hope to solve this mystery in order to prove that Mrs. Barclay is innocent.

The Final Problem - In this story, Watson writes of Sherlock Holmes's final adventure, in which Sherlock goes against Moriarty in a life-or-death chess match.

A Case of Identity - Miss Mary Sutherland consults Sherlock Holmes because her fiancé Mr Hosmer Angel disappeared just before their wedding. After hearing her story, Sherlock Holmes thinks this case is quite simple as he knows some similar cases. By a simple exchange of letters with Mr Windibank, Mary's step-father, he manages to confound him.

Homework

Research and bring in 10 new facts about Sir Arthur Conan Doyle or Sherlock Holmes.

Research and bring in a report about a famous bank robbery or jewellery heist.

Research and bring in any examples of unsolved crimes. Choose one and explore it in detail; possibly to contain your ideas about 'whodunnit'.

Create a diary entry of how you felt the night before you committed a crime.

Write a detailed review for your favourite crime film.

Watch a modern interpretation of Sherlock Holmes and write a review. How does it compare to the stories: character settings, action etc?

Spend at least one hour reading a different Sherlock story over the course of the week. Create a review of what you have read.

Find a crime story about someone who faked their own death. Write it up in a news report.



Topic: Midsummer Night's Dream

Year: 7

NC Strand: Shakespeare

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I have used basic inference and deductions skills and have been able to select evidence from a text. I have applied retrieval techniques in previous term's work and can now build upon this when analysing a new set of texts.

What will I know by the end of the unit?

You will learn background knowledge on Shakespeare, his life and work.
 Life in Ancient Athens, Greece; Shakespearian England
 The outline of the plot
 The effects of a love potion
 The central characters, especially: Helena, Lysander, Hermia and Demetrius
 You will be familiar with some of the patterns of Shakespearian language and remember the meaning of simple words such as 'thou', 'thee' and 'art'.
 You will know the standard format of Shakespeare's plays and the methods he used to engage the different social groups within the audience.
 You should know how to read a play script and understand how stage directions work.
 You should be able to select quotations from the text to support your ideas on characters, setting and themes.
 You should be able to compare and contrast differing versions of the same source material and be able to comment on a director's intent.

Key Characters

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| Theseus | The Duke of Athens. A strong and strict ruler of Athens. |
| Hippolyta | Theseus' bride. She was a fearless warrior. |
| Egeus | Hermia's stubborn father who wants her to marry Demetrius or be put to death. |
| Hermia | Egeus' daughter who is in love with Lysander. |
| Lysander | He is in love with Hermia and runs away to the forest with her. |
| Demetrius | He wants to marry Hermia and is disgusted by Helena's love for him. |
| Helena | Hermia's friend who is desperately in love with Demetrius. |
| Oberon | The king of the fairies who is in control of a love potion. |
| Puck | Oberon's mischievous servant. |
| Titania | The fierce queen of the fairies who falls in love with Bottom when the love potion is put in her eye. |
| Bottom | A weaver and an actor who has his head turned into a donkey. Titania falls in love with him when she is under the influence of the love potion. |

Key Terms

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|------------------------|---|
| Soliloquy | A speech in a play that a character speaks to himself or herself or to the audience, rather than to the other characters. |
| Conflict | A serious disagreement, battle or struggle between two ideas or sides. |
| Unrequited love | If a person loves someone who doesn't love them back, the person's love is unrequited. |
| To mock | To mock someone is to make fun of them. |
| Chaos | A situation where there is no order and everyone is confused. |



Topic: Midsummer Night's Dream

Year: 7

NC Strand: Shakespeare

| Plot Summary | Who loves whom? | Key information |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Act 1: Hermia and Lysander love each other but are not allowed to marry so decide to run away to the forest to get married in secret. Demetrius wants to marry Hermia. Helena loves Demetrius. They follow Hermia and Lysander into the forest.</p> <p>Act 2: In the forest, Oberon and Titania are arguing. Oberon sees Demetrius and Helena arguing and commands Puck to use the potion on the Athenian man to make him fall in love with Helena. However, the first Athenian man Puck sees is Lysander, so he puts the love potion on him. Lysander falls madly in love with Helena.</p> <p>Act 3: Puck sees Bottom in the forest and transformed his head into a donkey's head. He puts the love potion on Titania, who falls in love with Bottom. Puck puts the love potion on Demetrius so that he falls in love with Helena. As a result, both men love Helena so there is chaos. Puck eventually drops a herb in Lysander's eyes to put him back to normal.</p> <p>Acts 4 and 5: Oberon finds Titania and Bottom and decides that he has had enough fun. Puck drops a herb in her eyes, she wakes and leaves with Oberon. The lovers return to Athens where Bottom and the other actors perform their play at the wedding of the three happy couples: Theseus and Hippolyta, Lysander and Hermia and Demetrius and Helena.</p> | <pre> graph TD Hermia --> Lysander Hermia --> Demetrius Lysander --> Helena Demetrius --> Helena Helena --> Demetrius Hermia --> Lysander </pre> | <p>Shakespeare went to a grammar school where he was taught Ancient Greek.</p> <p>The play is set in Ancient Greece and follows the rules of a comedy from Ancient Greece.</p> <p>When the play was written, Elizabeth 1st was Queen. She decided not to get married which many people disagreed with.</p> <p>Many Elizabethans believed in and feared magic.</p> <p>Cupid is the ancient god of love. He is usually presented as a baby whose arrows make people fall in love.</p> <p>The play features a love potion. The love potion is made from a flower in the forest. The flower is magical because Cupid hit it with his arrow when he was aiming at a young girl. When the potion is put on characters' eyes, they fall in love with the first person they see. It is very powerful.</p> |

Further Reading and extension activities

BBC bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zksycdm>
The Shakespeare Stories by Andrew Mathews and Tony Ross.

- How might the reactions of modern readers be different to Shakespearian readers?
- How would a Shakespearian audience be kept interested without the modern technologies of lighting and special effects?



Topic: Midsummer Night's Dream

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NC Strand: Shakespeare