

illustrated
READERS

SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE



The Hound of the Baskervilles

retold by Virginia Evans – Jenny Dooley



Express Publishing



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Arthur Conan Doyle was born in Edinburgh, Scotland on May 22nd, 1859. In 1876, Conan Doyle became a medical student at Edinburgh University. He worked as a doctor and also started writing. His first story was published in 1879.

On August 5th, 1885, Conan Doyle married Louisa Hawkins. They had three children. In 1887, Conan Doyle's first Sherlock Holmes story, *A Study in Scarlet* was published. In 1891, Conan Doyle stopped working as a doctor and began work as a writer.

Conan Doyle wrote many books such as the classic adventure story, *The Lost World*. However, people will always remember him for the Sherlock Holmes stories.

In 1902, he became Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. In the same year Doyle wrote perhaps the most famous Sherlock Holmes story of all – *The Hound of the Baskervilles*.

In 1906, Conan Doyle's wife, Louisa died. A year later, he married Jean Leckie and they had three children. Conan Doyle became interested in other things. He was involved in a very famous case in England in the 1920s. Two young girls claimed to have taken photographs of fairies. Conan Doyle wrote a book, *The Coming of the Fairies*, about the photographs saying that he believed it was all true.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle died on July 8th, 1930. He was a very good writer who will always be remembered for creating the world's most famous detective.

Read Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's biography, then answer the questions:

- 1 Where was Arthur Conan Doyle born?
.....
- 2 What was the name of the first Sherlock Holmes story?
.....
- 3 What was the name of Conan Doyle's first wife?
.....
- 4 When did Conan Doyle marry Jean Leckie?
.....
- 5 When did Arthur Conan Doyle die?
.....





Sherlock Holmes

Sherlock Holmes is one of the most famous characters in fiction. There have been many film and TV versions of the Holmes stories.

Everything about Sherlock Holmes is famous – his address at 221b, Baker Street in London, the cape and deerstalker he wore, the magnifying glass and his habit of smoking a pipe. His comment to his best friend, Dr Watson, claiming that solving a mystery is “Elementary, my dear Watson” is also famous.

Holmes is based on Dr Joseph Bell who Arthur Conan Doyle met at university. He later worked for him as his assistant. Perhaps the partnership of Holmes and Watson is based on the real relationship between Conan Doyle and Bell.

After some time, Conan Doyle got bored with his famous detective so in the story, *The Final Problem*, he decided to kill him. All of Holmes’ fans were very angry, so Doyle had to bring Holmes back to life! In the story *The Empty House*, he wrote that it wasn’t Holmes who had died but his enemy, Dr Moriarty.

Sherlock Holmes appeared in a total of 60 stories.



1. A NEW CASE FOR SHERLOCK HOLMES

A man called Dr Mortimer comes to see Sherlock Holmes, the famous London detective.



Dr Mortimer, you know my friend Dr Watson, don't you? Now, how can we help you?

Well ... do you know about the curse of the Baskerville family?

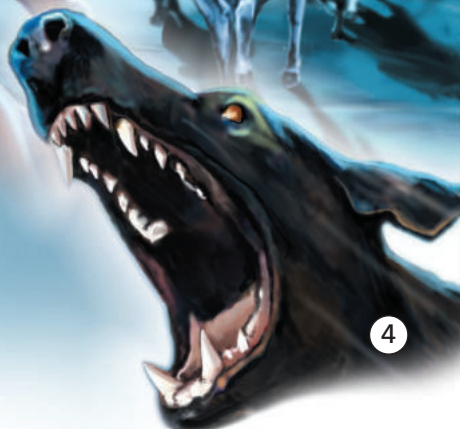
Sit down by the fire and tell us about it.



Sir Hugo Baskerville was an evil man. In 1643, he kidnapped a neighbour's daughter and took her to Baskerville Hall.



The girl managed to escape, but Sir Hugo and his friends chased her across the moor.



The girl died of fear. Suddenly they saw a huge black hound with eyes of fire. It killed Sir Hugo. He was the first Baskerville to die that way — but not the last.

In June, Sir Charles Baskerville died. The hound killed him!



5

What a frightening story!



6

It's interesting, but it's only an old legend. What do you want me to do?

I want you to protect Sir Henry Baskerville. Sir Charles was a very rich man. Now his nephew, Sir Henry, will inherit all his money and property.



7

Sir Henry is the last of the Baskervilles. I don't want him to die, too.



8

I'll do what I can to help him. Bring him to see me tomorrow morning.

9





Before Reading

- 1 Look at the pictures. Which of the sentences do you think are true?

- 1 Holmes sees a light through his bedroom window.
- 2 Watson hears a strange noise.
- 3 The police arrest Sir Henry at a train station.
- 4 Dr Mortimer goes for a walk on the moor.



While Reading

- 2 Read or listen to the episode and correct the words in bold.

- 1 There are **few** policemen at the station.
- 2 The Barrymores are **prisoners**.
- 3 Watson **drives** to the village to send his **letter** to Holmes.
- 4 **John** Stapleton's wife is called **Meryl**.

- 3 Find words which mean the same as;

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 terrible = a _ _ _ _ | 3 straight away = a _ _ _ c _ |
| 2 on your own = _ _ _ _ e | 4 silly = s _ _ _ _ _ |



After Reading

- 4 Read and listen, then take roles and act out the episode.
- 5 Put the events in the correct order and then give a summary of the episode.

- Watson saw a strange light from his bedroom window.
- Stapleton and Watson heard a strange noise.
- 1 Dr Mortimer, Sir Henry and Watson met a policeman at the station.
- Beryl thought Watson was Sir Henry when she told him he was in terrible danger.
- Sir Henry, Watson and Dr Mortimer met the Barrymores at Baskerville Hall.
- Watson went to the village to post his report to Holmes.
- Watson met a man called Stapleton.

- 6 What do you think will happen in the next episode?





Before Reading

- 1 Look at the title of the episode. What do you think it means?
- 2 Look at the pictures. Who is?
 - 1 falling over?
 - 2 writing a letter?
 - 3 standing near a window?
 - 4 holding a lamp?
 - 5 carrying a gun?



While Reading

- 3 Read or listen to the episode and answer the questions.
 - 1 Why do the Barrymores send a signal to Seldon?
 - 2 Why does Sir Henry think that Seldon should be caught?
 - 3 What does Watson find at the hiding place?
 - 4 What noise does Watson hear at the hiding place?
- 4 Match the sentences below to one of the speech bubbles that mean the same.

e.g. Don't fire your gun at me! = (Picture 10) Please don't shoot me!

1 Oh, I'm to blame, sir!	=
2 Are you okay?	=
3 Take care, Watson!	=



After Reading

- 5 Read and listen, then take roles and act out the episode.
- 6 Who do you think was watching Watson and Sir Henry on the moor?
- 7 What do you think will happen in the next episode?

The Hound of the Baskervilles

For hundreds of years the legend of a hound on the moors has terrified everyone, especially the Baskerville family. Sir Henry is the last of the Baskervilles and his life is in danger. Can the brilliant detective, Sherlock Holmes, save Sir Henry's life and solve the mystery of the black hound with eyes of fire?

Components:

- Reader
- Audio CD



Level 1 Level 2 Level 3 Level 4 Level 5

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