



# Objectifs

Dans ce cours vous allez:

- découvrir le genre du roman policier,
- apprendre à déceler des indices et étudier un extrait d'un roman policier,
- jouer au détective afin de résoudre une énigme,
- parler, lire et comprendre en anglais.

# Recommandations

- Parler en anglais
- Participer activement
- Recopier les parties indiquées **COPY**
- Retrouver le cours et l'émission en *Replay* sur le site Lumni (France 4)



# Guess who ?

1. This famous detective is a fictional character who has appeared in 226 films.

2. He was created by a Scottish writer but the character is British.

3. Queen Victoria was a huge fan of this character.

4. His best friend was a doctor.

5. He lived at 221b Baker Street, London.



# Sherlock Holmes

(a fictional character)



# Arthur Conan Doyle (novelist) (1859-1930)

Edinburgh,  
Scotland

Studied medicine  
and developed  
his power of  
observation

Became a  
doctor



Began writing in  
1880 while  
studying  
medicine

Wrote 60  
detective novels  
featuring  
Sherlock Holmes

# Whodunnit ?

Dictionary definition (vocabulary.com)

A Whodunnit (= *who did it* ) is a mystery story that keeps the criminal's identity a secret until the very end.

Arthur Conan Doyle excelled in the art of Whodunnits ( aka detective fiction).





# The Hound of the Baskervilles (1902)

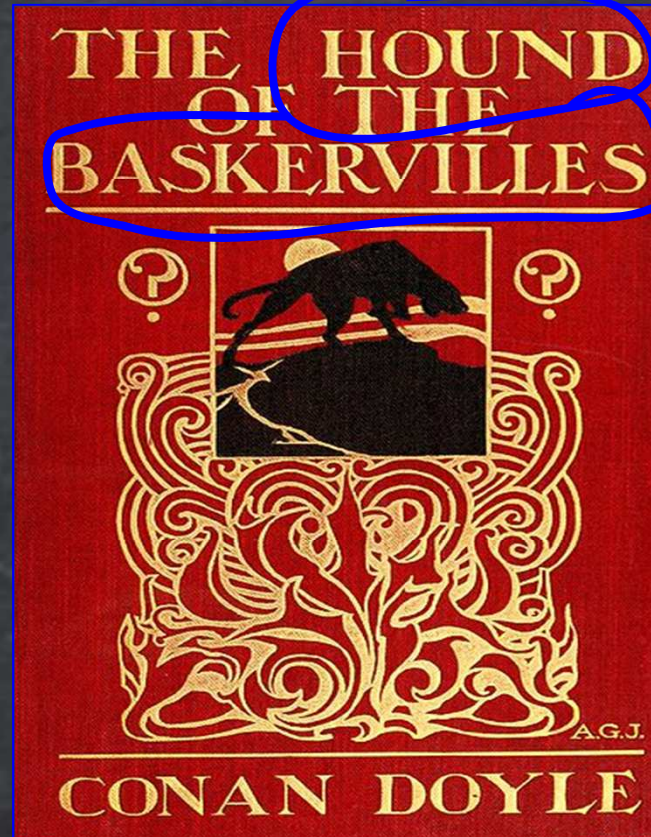
Summary

Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson use their detective skills to deduce the characteristics of the man whose walking stick is left in their possession. The owner of the stick, Dr. Mortimer arrives and tells them that he has discovered the body of Sir Charles Baskerville in the grounds of his Devon home with the footprint of a gigantic hound next to him.

Who?

What?

Where?



Title

Illustration

Novelist

# Read and act like a detective

COPY

1. Concentrate and Read the text ( out loud)
2. Look for the Clues (= transparent words / the words you know) to help you understand, write down the words that are new. Develop your sense of observation
3. Ask questions and examine the text.
4. Look at the evidence and justify by quoting from the text.
5. Never be discouraged.



# Part 1 - The opening scene

## Chapter 1

## The Incipit

Mr. Sherlock Holmes, who was usually very late in the mornings, save upon those not infrequent occasions when he was up all night, was seated at the breakfast table. I stood upon the hearth-rug and picked up the stick which our visitor had left behind him the night before. It was a fine, thick piece of wood, bulbous-headed, of the sort which is known as a 'Penang lawyer.' Just under the head was a broad silver band nearly an inch across. 'To James Mortimer, M.R.C.S., from his friends of the C.C.H.,' was engraved upon it, with the date '1884.' It was just such a stick as the old-fashioned family practitioner used to carry dignified, solid, and reassuring.

### Questions

Who ?

Where ?



What ?

### Evidence in the text

- Mr. Sherlock Holmes
- 'I'
- James Mortimer

- seated at the breakfast table
- stood upon the hearth rug

a stick / a thick piece of wood /bulbous-headed/ Penang lawyer/ silver/ dignified/ solid

Which walking stick are they talking about?



*To James Mortimer,  
M.C.R.S., from  
his friends of the C.C.H.  
1884*



**The  
Penang  
Lawyer**



‘Well, Watson, what do you make of it?’

Holmes was sitting with his back to me, and I had given him no sign of my occupation.

‘How did you know what I was doing? I believe you have eyes in the back of your head.’

‘I have, at least, a well-polished, silver-plated coffee-pot in front of me,’ said he. ‘But, tell me, Watson, what do you make of our visitor’s stick?’

(Extract - Chapter 1 p. 4-6 -

*The Hound of Baskervilles*, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle)

<https://www.planetebook.com/free-ebooks/the-hound-of-the-baskervilles.pdf> )

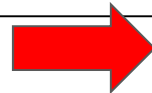
What were they doing?

Holmes’ great sense of observation

Holmes :

- **was sitting** with his back against Dr. Watson
- **was observing** the reflection of Dr. Watson in a silver-plated coffee-pot.

Watson **was standing**.



Past BE +ING ( past actions)

Why is “I” repeated?

- 1st person narrative
- Dr. Watson (= narrator)

The background of the slide is a stylized Union Jack flag. It features a large red cross on a white background, with blue triangles in the four quadrants. The text is centered over the red cross.

# Part 2 - Doctor Watson's opinion

'I think,' said I, following as far as I could the methods of my companion, 'that Dr. Mortimer is a successful elderly medical man, well-esteemed since those who know him give him this mark of their appreciation.'

'Good!' said Holmes. 'Excellent!'

'I think also that the probability is in favour of his being a country practitioner who does a great deal of his visiting on foot.'

'Why so?' asked Holmes. (..)

"There is the 'friends of the C.C.H.' I should guess that to be the Something Hunt, the local hunt to whose members he has possibly given some surgical assistance, and which has made him a small presentation in return.'

present

Who ?

- Holmes
- I = Dr. Watson
- (Mortimer)
- (Friends of the CCH)

What is Dr. Watson doing?

- ☐ He is speaking to Holmes.
- ☐ He is describing Mortimer.

Watson thinks Mortimer :

- is a doctor / a teacher
- works in town / in the country
- likes walking/ running / hunting

What presentation was Dr. Mortimer given? A walking stick

# Direct Speech

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What ?

Direct speech (or reported speech) is a report of the exact words used by a speaker or a writer. It contrasts with indirect speech.

How ?

Direct speech is usually placed inside **quotation marks** ( “ ) or ( ‘ ) and accompanied by a reporting **verb**, that is preceded by a **comma**(,)

Ex : ‘ I think,’ **said** I, (..) ‘ that Dr. Mortimer is a successful elderly medical man.’

## Look at these adjectives and qualify Doctor Mortimer

COPY

elderly

➤ An elderly **man**

adjectif + noun

medical

➤ An elderly medical **man**

age / purpose or role + noun

successful

➤ A successful elderly medical **man**

opinion/ age/ purpose + noun

➤ A successful elderly **practitioner**

Remark:

The adjectifs are  
not separated by  
a comma  
because they are  
not coordinated.

Does this picture correspond to Doctor Watson's description of Doctor Mortimer?

- ☐ Yes, it does
- ☐ No, it doesn't



Explain why or why not ?

No, it doesn't because Doctor Watson said Dr. Mortimer did a great deal of 'visiting **on foot.**'





# Part 3 - Sherlock's opinion

Holmes explained, "I would suggest, for example, that a presentation to a doctor is more likely to come from a hospital than from a hunt, and that when the initials 'C.C.' are placed before that hospital the words 'Charing Cross' very naturally suggest themselves."

"You may be right," I replied.

Holmes continued, "The probability lies in that direction. And if we take this as a working hypothesis we have a fresh basis from which to start our construction of this unknown visitor."

"Well, then, supposing that 'C.C.H.' does stand for 'Charing Cross Hospital,' what further inferences may we draw?" I asked (..)

deductions

True ( T ) or False (F) ?  
justify and quote the text

- Holmes suggests that Dr. Mortimer works in a hospital.
- CCH are the initials for Charing Cross Hunt.
- "More likely" is "more probably"

Holmes replied, 'Now, you will observe that he could not have been on the staff of the hospital, since only a man well-established in a London practice could hold such a position, and such a one would not drift into the country.'

compound words

Holmes continued, 'What was he then? If he was in the hospital and yet not on the staff he could only have been a house-surgeon or a house-physician—little more than a senior student. And he left five years ago—the date is on the stick. So your grave, middle-aged family practitioner vanishes into thin air, my dear Watson, and there emerges a young fellow under thirty, amiable, unambitious, absent-minded.'

a man

## NEGATIVE words

"He **could not** have been on the staff of the hospital."

"**would not** drift into the country."

Holmes proves Dr. Mortimer is :

- ☐ a young/ old doctor
- ☐ nice/ not nice
- ☐ ambitious/ unambitious
- ☐ alert/ absent-minded

# The portrait of Dr. Mortimer

## Doctor Watson

“A successful elderly country practitioner’ who likes walking and hunting.

➤ an incorrect portrait

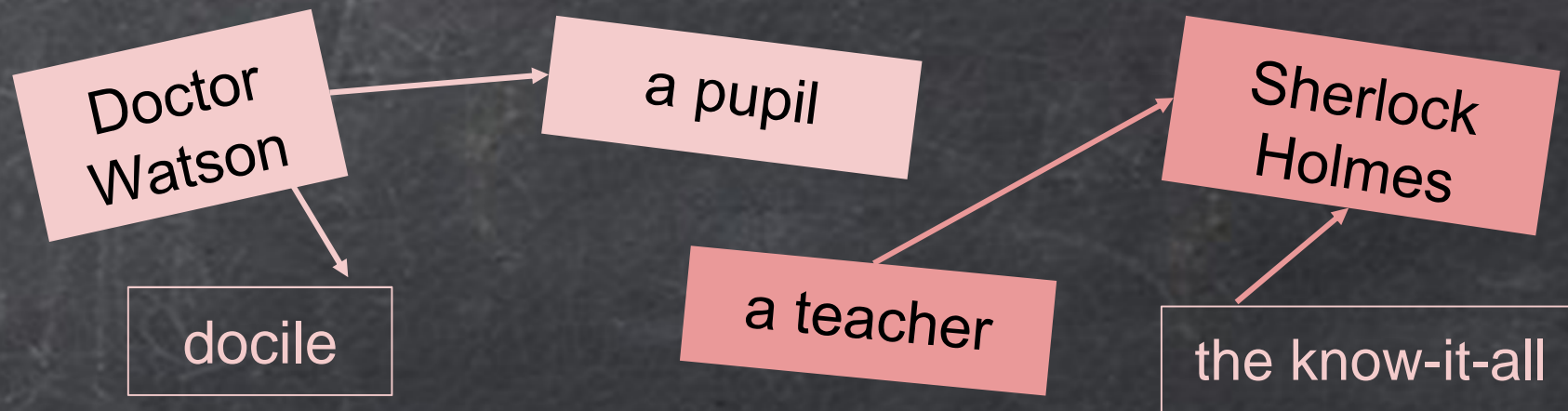


## Sherlock Holmes

“a young, amiable, unambitious, absent-minded house - surgeon or house physician”

➤ a correct portrait

# Who's who? (is)



- Doctor Watson plays the part of pupil or the docile reader who doesn't understand and makes errors whereas Sherlock Holmes is the know-it-all teacher who uses his sense of observation to reveal the truth.

**COPY**

# Stages of Sherlock's reasoning

1. Observes

2. Suggests a problem

3. Forms a hypothesis : "If ... then.... so...."

4. Applies a method

5. Asks questions

6. Concludes

*Elementary...  
Doctor Watson!*



# Match the elements

May

Will

Could

Auxiliaires Modaux

Obviously

Certainly

Possibly

Eventually

Adverbes

# What could happen next ?

Holmes

Dr.  
Mortimer

Dr.  
Watson

- may
- could
- will

- discover the murderer
- die
- be the suspect
- become a victim

# Let's Recap

COPY

Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson are in the living room and are examining a [REDACTED] that has been left by Doctor [REDACTED].

Doctor Watson thinks Dr. Mortimer is a successful [REDACTED], country [REDACTED].

However, Sherlock Holmes proves that Dr. Mortimer is in reality a young, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], house - surgeon or h[REDACTED].

Doctor Watson plays the part of a docile [REDACTED] whereas Holmes is the [REDACTED] teacher.

# On récapitule...

COPY

## Vocabulary:

an incipit  
a fellow  
a practitioner  
a house-surgeon  
a house-physician  
a presentation  
absent-minded  
amiable  
to be likely  
to quote

## Grammar :

- May
- Could
- Would + verb
- Past /present  
Be+ ing
- Order of  
adjectives
- Direct speech

## Let's reason

- Observe
- Find a problem
- Form a  
hypothesis  
*If...then ...so...*
- Apply a  
method
- Ask a question
- Conclude

# On fait le bilan et on s'auto-évalue

Nous avons :

- étudié un extrait de *The Hound of the Baskervilles*.
- appris à analyser un texte littéraire.
- enrichi notre vocabulaire.
- revu comment
  - travailler la modalité,
  - mettre les adjectifs dans l'ordre
  - employer le prétérit Be+ing

# Pour aller plus loin

- Read The Hound of the Baskervilles  
<https://www.planetebook.com/free-ebooks/the-hound-of-the-baskervilles.pdf>
- Invent your own detective fiction / or invent what happens next.  
<https://alyssamackay.com/2017/10/16/10-tips-for-writing-your-whodunit/>
- Grammar  
<https://www.englisch-hilfen.de/en/>
- Fun and games : <https://learningapps.org/4987127>





*"Stay Safe  
Practice your English*

*Remember the  
protective measures!"*



# Ressources

- *The hearth rug* - <https://pixabay.com/fr/images/search/hearth%20rug/>
- *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (cover) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Hound\\_of\\_the\\_Baskervilles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Hound_of_the_Baskervilles)
- Sherlock Holmes [https://fr.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fichier:Sherlock\\_Holmes\\_%26\\_Watson\\_-\\_The\\_Greek\\_Interpreter\\_-\\_Sidney\\_Paget.jpg](https://fr.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fichier:Sherlock_Holmes_%26_Watson_-_The_Greek_Interpreter_-_Sidney_Paget.jpg)  
<https://pixabay.com/fr/vectors/sherlock-sherlock-holmes-holmes-3828991/>
- Arthur Conan Doyle [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Conan\\_doyle.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Conan_doyle.jpg)
- Extract - Chapter 1 p. 4-6 *The Hound of Baskervilles*, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle  
<https://www.planetebook.com/free-ebooks/the-hound-of-the-baskervilles.pdf>
- Walking stick <https://pixabay.com/fr/vectors/bâton-de-marche-bâton-à-pied-159542/>
- Penang Lawyer <http://sherlockholmesdiesse.blogspot.com/2018/02/ready-for-first-challenge.html>
- Country practioner  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:One\\_country\\_doctor\\_asks\\_another\\_to\\_assist\\_him\\_in\\_a\\_post\\_mort\\_Wellcome\\_V0011415.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:One_country_doctor_asks_another_to_assist_him_in_a_post_mort_Wellcome_V0011415.jpg)
- Doctor Mortimer  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Houn-11\\_-\\_Sir\\_Henry\\_Baskerville\\_\(Hound\\_of\\_Baskervilles,\\_page\\_58\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Houn-11_-_Sir_Henry_Baskerville_(Hound_of_Baskervilles,_page_58).jpg)
- Magnifying glass <https://pixabay.com/fr/illustrations/loupe-verre-recherche-4186151/>