

# Bricks



E-BOOK

MP3

# Subject Reading

Optimal Guides of Building up Knowledge in Various Subjects and Thinking Power

2



**Bricks**



# Bricks *Subject* **Reading**

Optimal Guides of Building up Knowledge in  
Various Subjects and Thinking Power

2

**Bricks**

# CONTENTS

## UNIT 01



### Detective in Novels

Arts | Literature

7

## UNIT 05



### Vacuum

Science | Physics

39

## UNIT 02



### Scientists on Banknotes

Economics | Currency

15

## UNIT 06



### Quebec's Winter Wonderland

Geography | Global Culture

47

## UNIT 03



### Desserts around the World

Social Studies | Food

23

## UNIT 07



### Lost in the Mountains

Life Science | Safety

55

## UNIT 04



### Desert

Earth Science | Nature

31

## UNIT 08



### Vinegar

Health Science | Food & Health

63

**UNIT 09**



**Animated Films and a Multiplane Camera**

Engineering | **Technology**

71

**UNIT 13**



**De-polluting Plants**

Natural Science | **Botany**

103

**UNIT 10**



**The Wind of Change in the Furniture Industry**

Economics | **Industry**

79

**UNIT 14**



**Halal**

Economics | **Religion**

111

**UNIT 11**



**World Wide Fund for Nature**

Environmentology | **Organization**

87

**UNIT 15**



**National Birds**

Social Studies | **Global Culture**

119

**UNIT 12**



**The Library of Alexandria**

History | **Monument**

95

**UNIT 16**



**The Gorkha Earthquake in Nepal** 127

Earth Science | **Global Issue**

**Bricks**  
*Subject*  
**Reading**



## Detective in Novels

### Before You Read

Your clues: Two thieves have stolen a rare artifact valued at over \$50,000. One hangs up his phone and says to the other, “We’ll meet the dude on Elm Street, where he’ll pay us. The address number is the same as the last upside-down year until 6009.”

# UNIT 1

L I T E R A T U R E

**fictional** adj.   
*syn.* imaginary  
 related to the literature comprising works of imaginative narration

**detective** n.   
*syn.* investigator  
 an officer who investigates crimes

**inference** n.   
*syn.* guess  
 the act or process of inferring

**criminal** n.   
*syn.* felon  
 someone who has committed a crime

**legendary** adj.   
*syn.* heroic  
 celebrated on the nature of a legend

**observation** n.   
*syn.* attention  
 an act or instance of noticing or perceiving

**stain** n.   
 a colored or dirty mark that is difficult to remove

**mustached** adj.   
 having a mustache

**psychology** n.   
 the science of mental life

**commit** v.   
*syn.* carry out  
 to perform an act usually with a negative intention

**personality** n.   
 the complex nature of all behavioral and emotional attributes

**exceptional** adj.   
*syn.* exceeding  
 far beyond what is usual in magnitude or degree

**export** v.   
 to sell or transfer abroad

**thriller** n.   
 a suspenseful adventure story

Go through the passage and highlight 14 words that you have studied.



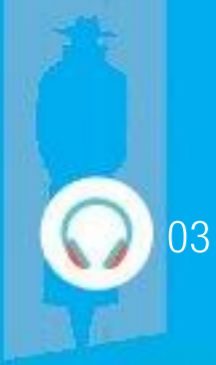
## A Match the words with the synonyms.

- |   |             |   |   |           |
|---|-------------|---|---|-----------|
| 1 | exceptional | • | • | heroic    |
| 2 | legendary   | • | • | imaginary |
| 3 | fictional   | • | • | exceeding |
| 4 | criminal    | • | • | felon     |

## B Complete the sentences with the words in the box. Change forms if necessary.

thriller	commit	personality	detective
mustached	stain	psychology	observation

- 1 In the world of mystery novels, \_\_\_\_\_ rely solely on their minds.
- 2 Poirot also considers criminals' \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Just by looking at \_\_\_\_\_ on his clients' hands, this investigator can assume the person's occupation.
- 4 There are thousands more cases waiting for readers who love exciting \_\_\_\_\_ adventures.
- 5 Holmes' specialty is his special power of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 Poirot's methods often reveal interesting characteristics of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7 Poirot believes that certain types of people \_\_\_\_\_ particular crimes.
- 8 This \_\_\_\_\_ Belgian detective is described as having an egg-shaped head.

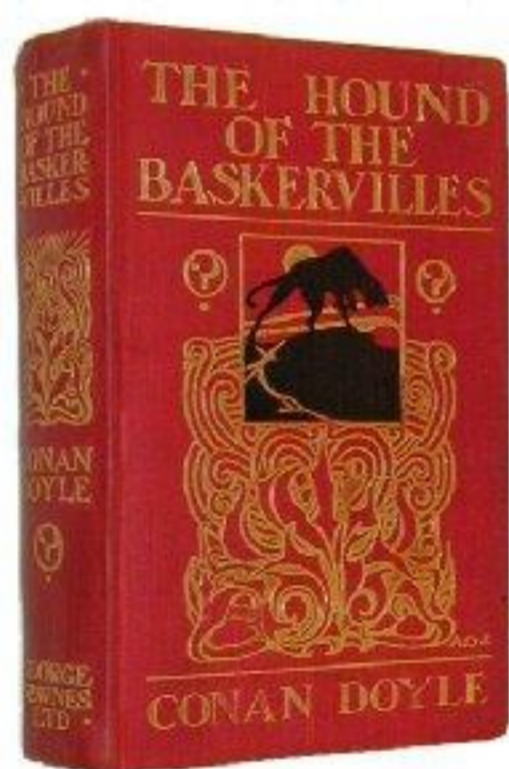


## CATEGORIZING DETAILS

Categorize each novel and figure out the details of each detective in the novel.

# Detective in Novels

Not all fictional crime fighters have super powers and wear tight, brightly colored clothing. In the world of mystery novels, detectives rely solely on their minds, and use their powers of inference to solve difficult mysteries. No criminal is safe when these detectives are on the case.



The most famous detective is Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's legendary Sherlock Holmes. Holmes' specialty is his special power of observation. For example, just by looking at stains on his clients' hands and the color of the dirt on their pants, this investigator can assume the person's occupation, hometown, and whether he is left- or right-handed. This famous detective only takes cases that lead him to some extraordinary adventure, like the one in *the Hound of the Baskervilles*.

### The Sherlock Holmes Museum

According to the stories, Sherlock Holmes and Doctor John H. Watson lived at 221B Baker Street between 1881-1904. The first-floor study overlooking Baker Street is still faithfully maintained for future generations as it was kept in Victorian times. Step back in time, and when you visit London, remember to visit the world's most famous address—221B Baker Street—the official home of Sherlock Holmes! The place really does exist.



Another popular fictional detective is Agatha Christie's Hercule Poirot. This mustached Belgian detective is described as being fat and having an egg-shaped head. As well as expertly analyzing clues like Sherlock Holmes, Poirot also considers criminals' psychologies. He focuses on getting people to talk because he believes that certain types of people commit particular crimes. His methods often reveal interesting characteristics of the personalities.



Agatha Christie

Hajime Kindaichi is another exceptional fictional hero of Seimaru Amagi's popular mystery series, the Kindaichi Case Files. Kindaichi is an especially bright high school student, with an IQ of over 180. Although he seems lazy, he proves himself to be more than able to solve any mystery. The series is so popular that more than 90 million copies have been sold in Japan and exported to many Asian countries.



The Kindaichi Case Files

Holmes, Poirot, and Kindaichi are only three popular detectives in the vast world of mystery fiction. There are thousands more cases waiting to be solved, just waiting for readers who love exciting thriller adventures.

---

\*the Hound of the Baskervilles: It is the third of the crime novels featuring the detective Sherlock Holmes. Dr. James Mortimer asks Sherlock Holmes to investigate the death of his friend, Sir Charles Baskerville. Sherlock Holmes and his companion Dr. Watson take on the risky adventure to solve the case.

### Pop Quiz

Find the appropriate word for the blank in the 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph:  
 “Stains on his clients’ hands” are \_\_\_\_\_ that help  
 Sherlock Holmes to solve the case.

**A** Write **T<sub>True</sub>** or **F<sub>False</sub>** according to the passage.

True or False

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Hercule Poirot is Belgian.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Seimaru Amagi's literature is famous not only in Japan.
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Agatha Christie wrote about Sherlock Holmes.

**B** Choose the best answers.

Understanding Details

- 1 What is the passage primarily concerned with?
  - a. why Sherlock Holmes is famous
  - b. the duties of a detective
  - c. three renowned detectives in history
  - d. three most popular fictional detectives
- 2 What can Holmes NOT assume from looking at his clients?
  - a. what they do for living
  - b. where they are from
  - c. which hand they use more often
  - d. what they studied
- 3 What is unique about Hercule Poirot's methods?
  - a. They are more time-efficient than Holmes' methods.
  - b. They make criminals show their true personalities.
  - c. They don't require other people's assistance.
  - d. They can solve a case more quickly than other methods.
- 4 What do Holmes and Poirot have in common?
  - a. They both pay attention to clues and analyze them.
  - b. They both consider criminals' psychologies.
  - c. They are from the same time period.
  - d. They focus on making criminals talk.

- 5** What is **NOT** true about Hajime Kindaichi?
- He is a character in Seimaru Amagi's literature.
  - He is an exceptionally smart high school student.
  - He is known to people all over the world.
  - In his story, he acts like he is lazy.
- 6** What can be inferred from the last paragraph?
- Holmes is the most famous among the three detectives.
  - There are more than three famous fictional detectives.
  - There are a number of detectives in real life.
  - Anyone can solve thousands of crime cases.

**C** Rewrite the sentences, using the **comparative** in place of the **superlative**.

Focus on Sentences

**The most** famous detective is Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's legendary Sherlock Holmes.

→ **No other** detective is **more** famous **than** Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's legendary Sherlock Holmes.

- 1** The most famous singer in the 20<sup>th</sup> century was Pavarotti.

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

- 2** The biggest planet in our solar system is Jupiter.

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
in our solar system.