

# UNIT 5

## MYSTERY

### (SUMMARY)

## MYSTERY

SECTION	In this UNIT you will develop your				
	READING SKILLS	WRITING SKILLS	SPEAKING SKILLS	LISTENING SKILLS	VOCABULARY
<b>Introduction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading clues to complete a cross word puzzle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solving a crossword</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion- individual responses</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learning the meanings of words associated with the text</li> </ul>
<b>(A) Bermuda Triangle</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consulting a dictionary</li> <li>Recognising organisation of a text</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Filling in gaps to complete a short narrative</li> <li>Writing a web-chart</li> <li>Writing an open ended question</li> <li>Making a project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exchanging information in groups</li> <li>Role-play</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Role-play</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learning words related to mystery</li> </ul>
<b>(B) The Invisible Man</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifying main points</li> <li>Analysing, interpreting, inferring and evaluating information</li> <li>Selecting and extracting information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creative writing - Paragraph</li> <li>Report completion</li> <li>Writing a mystery story</li> <li>Answering MCQs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Narrating events in logical sequence</li> <li>Group discussion - writing of a story</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learning words related to suspense and mystery while describing people</li> </ul>



SECTION	In this UNIT you will develop your				
	READING SKILLS	WRITING SKILLS	SPEAKING SKILLS	LISTENING SKILLS	VOCABULARY
(C) The Tragedy Of Birlstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognising the organisation of a text</li> <li>Deducing information from a picture and a note</li> <li>Analysing, interpreting and inferring information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing an eye witness account</li> <li>Answering MCQs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class discussion based on the information deduced from a picture</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learning words related to crime and tragedy</li> </ul>
(D) Harry Potter		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completion of summary statements</li> <li>Writing a film / book review</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Listen to a conversation adapted from Harry Potter</li> </ul>	

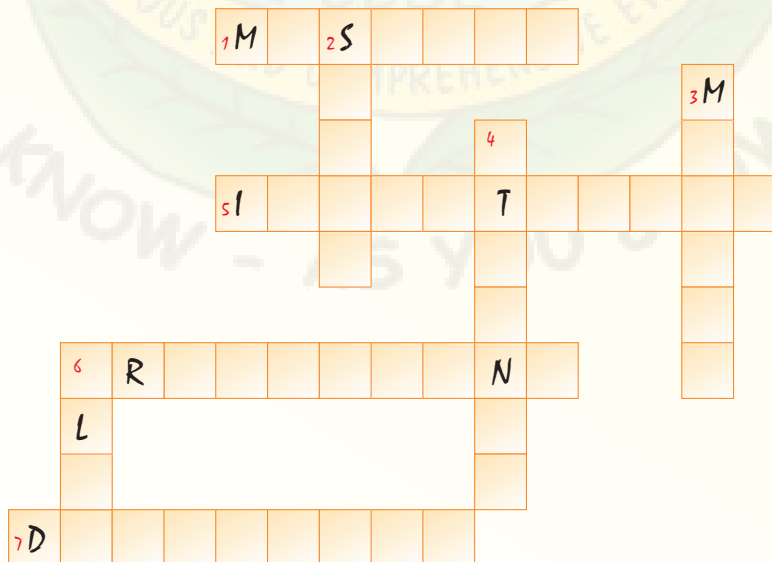
**In this unit.....**

**Introduction** - a crossword based on terminology associated with mystery.

- (A) **The Bermuda Triangle** - A mystery that gripped the twentieth century. The section puts across various theories, myths, and eye witness accounts of survivors. You will write a dialogue between a radio jockey and a survivor of the Bermuda Triangle and conduct an interview. You will also make a power point presentation on another mystery of nature.
- (B) **The Invisible man** - Learn words and phrases associated with mystery and write a short paragraph. Sharpen your comprehension skills by answering MCQs. Thereafter, write your own mystery story.
- (C) **The Tragedy of Birlstone** - Become a detective and find out details of the murderer and the victim. Also write an eye witness account of a robbery and answer MCQs.
- (D) **Harry Potter** - Listen to an adapted conversation between Harry Potter and Hagrid and complete the summary statements. Enjoy being a critic - learn to write a book / film review.

## INTRODUCTION

**Complete the puzzle.**



## Clues

### Across.

1. Something that is difficult to understand or to explain.
5. To carefully examine the facts of a situation
6. Place where an unlawful event has occurred
7. A person employed to find out information and examine any unlawful activity.

### Down

2. To find a way of dealing with a problem.
3. A reason for doing something.
6. A piece of evidence or information.
4. Unusual or odd.

## A. BERMUDA TRIANGLE

**A.1. The following are the dictionary entries for some of the words that appear in 'The Mystery of Bermuda Triangle'. Study the words and their meanings before you read the mystery for better comprehension.**

- **Halloween**/haelaavi:n/ : the night of 31st October when it was believed in the past that dead people appeared from their graves. This is now celebrated in the US, Canada and Britain by children who dress as ghosts and witches.
- **vector**/vekt (r)/: an insect or animal which carries a disease from one animal or plant to another; a course taken by an aircraft; a quantity, such as velocity, completely specified by a magnitude and direction.
- **crackle**/kraekl/: to make short sharp sounds.
- **ascent**/a'sent/: the act of climbing or moving up.
- **roger**/rodz(r)/ : in communication by radio to show that they have understood a message; an expression of agreement.
- **probe**/pr ub/ : to ask questions in order to find out some secret or hidden information; an exploratory action; expedition, or device, especially one designed to investigate and obtain information on a remote or unknown region.

- **abduct**/aeb'dukt/ : to take somebody away illegally, by using force.
- **time warp**/taimwarp/: a situation in which it is possible for people or things from the past or the future to move to the present.
- **phenomenon**/finominan/: a fact or an event in nature or society, especially one that is not fully understood.
- **erratic**/iraetik/: not happening at regular times.
- **engulf**/ingulf/: to surround or to cover somebody or something completely.

**A.2. This is an account of Sir James' flight across the Atlantic Ocean. Complete the following using words from A.1.**

Captain James was enjoying the (a) \_\_\_\_\_ party hosted by his neighbour Mr. Samuel. Suddenly, he got a call from his boss who wanted him to fly across the Atlantic with a reputedly renowned investigator to (b) \_\_\_\_\_ into the (c) \_\_\_\_\_ of an heiress. He immediately got ready for the assignment. While starting the flight he checked the radar controllers. He found that routine traffic was proceeding undisturbed, in their (d) \_\_\_\_\_. There was no difficulty in the (e) \_\_\_\_\_ and he (f) \_\_\_\_\_. All of a sudden there was a (g) \_\_\_\_\_ and communication was abruptly cut off. He checked the radar screen and it was moving (h) \_\_\_\_\_. He experienced a strange (i) \_\_\_\_\_. He stepped into a mist and claimed to arrive at a time period after the French- Revolution. However, his (j) \_\_\_\_\_ theory was not convincing. He claimed that he just remembered being (k) \_\_\_\_\_ in a big cloud. Nevertheless, people were happy to see him return after a month.

**A.3. Discuss in groups**

- Have you heard of the Bermuda Triangle? If so, what have you heard about it?
- Have you ever heard of an airplane or a boat disappearing without a trace?
- Can you think of an explanation for an airplane or a boat that disappeared without a trace?

## A.4. The Mystery of Bermuda Triangle.

The potential of nature, of discovered and undiscovered elements in our world, persuades us to probe into some of her mysteries and what they may tell us. Prepare yourself then for a true odyssey of the Earth around us.

### Air France Plane Missing Near Bermuda Triangle

**June 1, 2009** An Air France plane is missing. The Agence France-Presse reported that an Air France Airbus A330-200 wide-body jet carrying 216 passengers and 12 crew members disappeared from the radar screens on Monday somewhere off Brazil's Atlantic coast.

Flight AF 447 out of Rio de Janeiro was headed for Paris. According to the Mirror, Air France reported that the plane had radioed in that they were going through turbulence. They also reported that a message, signalling electrical circuit malfunction, was received before it disappeared.

A search for the missing plane is being conducted by the Brazilian Air Force. The French are also involved in the search.



Another well known case in 1962 vividly brings home the need for careful behind-the-scenes probing. Once again, it involves an aircraft.



The date was January 8, 1962. A huge 4 engine KB-50 aerial tanker was enroute from the east coast to Lajes in the Azores. The captain, Major Bob Tawney, reported in at the expected time. All was normal, routine. But he, his crew and the big tanker, never made it to the Azores. Apparently, the last word from the flight had been that routine report, a report which had placed them a few hundred miles off the east coast.

FLASH! the media broadcasted, fed by a sincere Coast Guard, that a large oil slick was sighted 300 miles off Norfolk, Virginia, in the plane's proposed route. The mystery could be breaking...

But that was the only clue ever found. Although never proved, it was from the plane, publicly the suspicions were obvious: the tanker and its qualified crew met a horrid and sudden death by crashing headlong into the sea.

However, the report, which was finished months later, confirmed no such thing. Tawney had been clearly overheard by a Navy transport hours after his last message. This placed him north of Bermuda, hundreds of miles past the spot of the oil slick. There is no evidence, therefore, that the plane and its crew ever met any known fate.

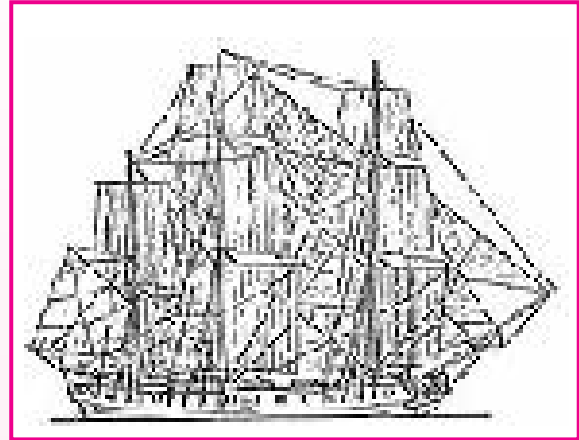


### The Sea of Lost Ships

The ships below represent just a sampling of the many vessels that have utterly vanished in the Bermuda Triangle.



Many US warships are listed missing by the US Navy between 1780 and 1824, including the *General Gates*, *Hornet*, *Insurgent*, *Pickering*, *Wasp*, *Wildcat* and *Expervier*.



The *Rosalie* was built in 1838 of 222 tons of wood. In 1840 she was found deserted but in ship shape near the Bahamas.



*Ellen Austin's* encounter disappeared in 1881 in the Triangle



### **Bermuda Triangle Theories**

The Bermuda triangle is a stretch over the Atlantic Ocean, measuring less than a thousand miles on any one side. The name 'Bermuda Triangle' remained a colloquial expression throughout the 1950s. By the early 1960s, it acquired the name 'The Devil's Triangle.' Bordered by Florida, Bermuda, and Puerto Rico, the location became famous on account of the strange disappearance of ships, as well as aircrafts in the area. A number of supernatural explanations have been put forward with regard to the mysterious disappearances.

However, many probable logical explanations for the missing vessels include hurricanes, earthquakes, as well as magnetic fields, which render navigation devices worthless. But, most people would not like to accept such boring explanations and would instead opt for more interesting options like alien abduction, or giant squids or getting sucked into another dimension.

### **Supernatural theories**

#### **Death Rays from Atlantis.**

Rays from the magic crystals, left from the time of Atlantis, deep down in the sea are responsible for the strange sinking of ships. However, several underwater expeditions have revealed places under the ocean that look man-made, but no such crystals have been found. In fact no real proof that Atlantis existed, was ever found.





## Sea monsters.

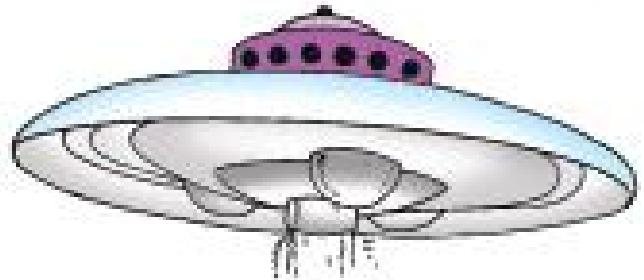
The presence of sea monsters was the most widely believed explanation especially in the earlier times, when the existence of sea monsters was believed to be true.

## Presence of a time warp.

People claim to be lost in the time warp while going through the region.

## Alien abductions.

The Bermuda Triangle is a collecting station from where aliens take our people, ships, planes and other objects back to their planet to study.



## Scientific Explanations

### Magnetic Compass

According to the scientists in the US Navy, this area is one of the only two in the world, where a magnetic compass points to true north rather than magnetic north. This probably caused some navigators to go off course, which is very dangerous because many of the islands in 'The Triangle' have large areas of shallow water where vessels can run aground. They can also sink a long way down as some of the ocean's deepest trenches, from 19,000 to over 27,000 feet below sea level, are found here.

### **Unpredictable weather**

Since the island is situated in the Atlantic Ocean, the weather is influenced by several factors and can change with lightening speed. That means that one moment you have brilliant weather, whereas the other moment, you may be faced with extremely perilous weather and hurricanes

### **Formation of methane in the sea.**

Methane can lower the density of water, leading to the sinking of ships. Similarly, methane can cut out an aircraft engine leading to crashes.

### **Bermuda Triangle Survivors**

These witnesses constitute a long list of pilots, sailors and fishermen.

1. It is interesting to note that Christopher Columbus was one such witness. He wrote in his memoirs on how his compass acted strangely while sailing through the Bermuda Triangle. He along with another shipmate witnessed a glowing globe of light that seemed to hover over the sea.
2. It is said that when clouds or fog enter the Bermuda Triangle, strange things start happening. Such a phenomenon has been witnessed with the Philadelphia Experiment in which the USS Eldridge vanished and reappeared later miles away, with some of the crew men warped into the hull of the ship.
3. In 1901 Anne Moberly and Eleanor Jourdain stepped into a mist and claimed to arrive at a time period before the French Revolution. It is said, that the mist and the ominous clouds might be the key to time travel or entering other dimensions.
4. Even a great pilot like Charles Lindbergh witnessed unusual events while flying in the reaches of the Bermuda Triangle. It is said that when he was making a nonstop flight from Havana to St. Louis, his magnetic compass started rotating. His Earth-inductor-compass needle jumped back and forth erratically. This has now all been revealed in his autobiography.



5. Another eyewitness account is that of Bruce Gernon, who flew his plane, a Bonanza A36, into the Bermuda Triangle and encountered a non-threatening mile and a half long cloud. As he neared, the cloud seemed to come alive. It became huge and engulfed his plane. However, a tunnel opened up in the cloud and he went through this tunnel. It had cloud trails swirling around his plane. He also reported that while going into this tunnel, he experienced zero gravity and the only thing that kept him in the cockpit was his seatbelt.

*Whatever be the actual reason, there is an involvement of more than one factor behind the disappearances of ships and aircrafts in the Bermuda triangle region.*

*The Bermuda triangle continues to evoke a lot of interest. Most people like to read about it. In fact, in the last few decades, island of Bermuda has emerged as a major tourist destination as well; mainly due to its close proximity with the Bermuda Triangle.*

## A.5. Work in pairs and complete the table of the supernatural theories and logical explanations as presented in 'The Mystery of Bermuda Triangle'.

(i) _____ _____	(ii) _____ _____
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">             ↑ ↓           </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <b>Supernatural Theories</b> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">             ↑ ↓           </div> </div>	
(iii) _____ _____	(iv) Alien abductions
(i) Loss of direction due to change in magnetic field.	(ii) _____ _____
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">             ↙ ↘           </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <b>Scientific explanations</b> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">             ↙ ↘           </div> </div>	
(iii) _____ _____	

**A.6. Listen to an interview between a radio jockey and a pilot.**

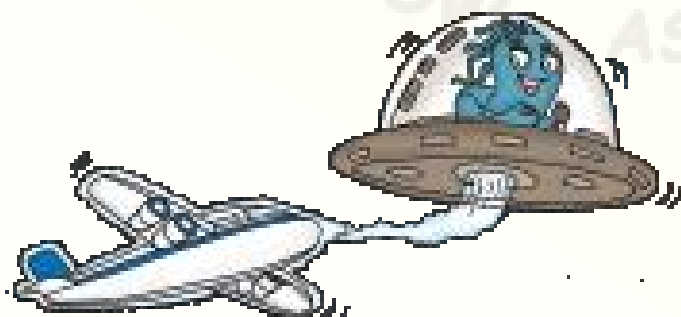
**A.7. (a) In groups of four prepare a questionnaire for a pilot who has survived the Bermuda Triangle. Use the hints given below.**

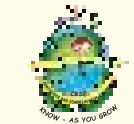
- Radar normal      • No disturbances      • Sudden communication failure
- Strange occurrence (use any of the theories or myths you have just read about)

**(b) On the basis of the questionnaire, hold a conversation with your partner - one can be a radio jockey and the other could be the pilot.**

**A.8. In groups of six, work on one of the mysteries given below by surfing the net and through other sources. Make a power point presentation.**

- Yeti, the abominable snowman
- Loch Ness Monster
- UFOs (Unidentified Flying Objects)
- Lost city of Atlantis
- Crop circles
- Nazial lines





### B. THE INVISIBLE MAN

B.1. List some phrases and words that come to your mind, when you look at the picture given below.



Seven empty oval shapes for writing answers, arranged in a staggered pattern:

- Top row: two ovals
- Middle row: one oval
- Bottom row: two ovals
- Far left: one oval
- Far right: one oval



**B.2. Discuss in groups.**

- Have you heard a story, seen a film, or read about someone becoming invisible?
- Did he/she use his/her power for good or for evil?

**B.3. Study the words given in the box below and complete the police report.**

arresting	broken	chief	committing	court
directly	doubt	guilty	lawyer	remain
shadows	suspicious			

4 January, Wednesday

At 9.15 pm, I was driving along Belvedere Street when I noticed something moving in the (a) \_\_\_\_\_. On closer examination, I could see two rather (b) \_\_\_\_\_ looking men outside House Number 5. I felt certain these men were in the middle of (c) \_\_\_\_\_ a crime, so I stopped my car round the corner and walked (d) \_\_\_\_\_ over to the two suspects. By this time I was in no (e) \_\_\_\_\_, that a robbery was taking place. I quietly spoke to the (f) \_\_\_\_\_ of police on my radio to inform him that two men had (g) \_\_\_\_\_ into a house and were trying to steal what looked like a television. At that moment the criminals saw me. I warned them not to move and told them I was (h) \_\_\_\_\_ them for robbery. I informed them that they could (i) \_\_\_\_\_ silent if they wished and that they could phone their \_\_\_\_\_ (j) \_\_\_\_\_ from the police station. The men said they weren't (k) \_\_\_\_\_ and that they were just borrowing their friend's TV. "You can tell that to the judge when you get to (l) \_\_\_\_\_" I said.

**B.4. What would you do if you became invisible? Would you use your invisibility to play tricks on people or for the good of people?**

**Write a short paragraph on 'If I were invisible'.**

### B.5. Read the comic strip based on H.G. Wells' novella.





## UNIT-5

## MYSTERY

You are soaked through. May I take your hat and coat to dry them up by the kitchen fire, Sir?

Yes, Sir!

No, I prefer to keep them on and I don't want people hanging about. I'll pay you well but I want to be left alone. I have a great deal of work to do and I don't want to be disturbed. I trust I make myself clear? Utterly . . . wholly . . . completely . . . alone.

Were . . . er . . . were you in an accident? Er . . . All those bandages . . . I thought . . . er . . .

Leave me alone or I'll have to shift out.

For two days . . .

Sir, your dinner.

Leave the tray outside. I'll take it.

Jimson had strange stories to tell . . .

Kept his back to me the whole time. Wouldn't let me see so much as a centimetre of his face. Got me to wondering. I kept asking him questions and making observations about the weather until he was ready to burst, he was so anxious for me to get out. At last he couldn't control his anger and he whirled around. And would you believe it? He held a handkerchief in front of his face. Like he didn't want me to see him. Know what I think? I think he's invisible.

Jimson you are a superstitious old fool! Invisible? Your mind is wandering.

Soon the entire town is talking about the strange guest at the inn.

I hear he is invisible.

No one's seen his face.

He doesn't step out of the room.

His meals are left in a tray outside his room.

But people's interest in the stranger is short-lived. There was a rash of burglaries in the town. After a week

Did you hear of the burglary at the Johnson's place? One moment the money was there and the next it just vanished into thin air!

The same happened at Smith's place.

Yes. And at Dorothy's too.

And one day

Why Dr. Cuss you look as if you'd seen a ghost.

It's worse than a ghost that I saw. That man in Room 8 ...

I had heard he was quite rich so I thought I'd ask him for some money for the new hospital. I knocked on the door but there was no answer. So I thought he hadn't heard and I took the liberty of walking in. He was working but as soon as he heard me, he jammed his hands into his pockets. But I saw, Mrs. Hall, I saw. He had no hands. Just sleeves.

Scared you off, did he? I should have warned you. He doesn't like being disturbed.

What do you mean?

Oh Mrs. Hall, Jimson was right. The man in Room Eight is invisible. He has no hands, no face. You can see right through him. Except where there is cloth covering him. That's why he always wears the bandages and the hat and the smoked glasses. He's an invisible man!

The news spreads through the town like wild fire...

An invisible man? That's impossible !!

Dr. Cuss and Jimson saw through him? If you pardon the pun.

That's where my money went!

Oh yes. He must be the thief. Let's catch him.



## UNIT-5

## MYSTERY





**Answer the questions by ticking the correct option.**

- (a) The strange-looking man wanted....
- (i) the best room at the inn.
  - (ii) a room with a fire and a good lock.
  - (iii) a room with a good view.
  - (iv) a room where he could work quietly.
- (b) Jimson was suspicious of the stranger because...
- (i) he did not answer Jimson's questions.
  - (ii) he did not want to talk about the weather.
  - (iii) he kept his back turned towards Jimson at all times.
  - (iv) he shouted at Jimson when he entered his room.
- (c) The people of the town gossiped about the stranger as...
- (i) he did not go out or talk to anyone in the town.
  - (ii) he had met with an accident and his face was bandaged.
  - (iii) he was new to the town and behaved rudely.
  - (iv) he stayed in his room and did not show his face to anyone.
- (d) 'There was a rash of burglaries in the town. This means that \_\_\_\_\_
- (i) there were many robberies in the town.
  - (ii) a few people in the town had seen a robber.
  - (iii) the burglaries in the town were done in a rush.
  - (iv) the burglar was a rash and careless man.
- (e) Although Jimson and Dr Cuss are suspicious of the strange guest, Mrs Hall tolerates him because....
- (i) she is not superstitious or ignorant.



- (ii) she is sorry for the stranger who is bandaged.
- (iii) the stranger is paying her a good amount of money for the room.
- (iv) the stranger is polite and kind to Mrs Hall at all times.
- (f) The stranger who was staying at the inn can be described as being....
  - (i) violent
  - (ii) upright
  - (iii) dishonest
  - (iv) sensible

**B.6. Working in groups of four, write your own mystery story. You may use the following chart to plan your story.**

<b>Title of 'Solve-it Story'</b>	
<b>Main Character</b>	
<b>Secondary character</b>	
<b>Setting (where and when)</b>	
<b>Problem</b>	
<b>Main events</b>	
<b>Climax</b>	
<b>Solution</b>	

## B.7. WRITING A MYSTERY STORY

Mysteries can be divided into several categories. There are **puzzling stories**, **detective / crime stories**, and **suspense stories**. They all give the reader a chance to become involved in the story's solution through **clues** and character **descriptions**.

### Characters

Before you start to write, think about the characters you might put in your story.

- What will each character do?
- Why is he or she important to the story?
- In what ways are your characters alike?
- How are they different?
- What can your characters learn from each other?
- One last thing to remember: your characters don't always have to be people. If an animal plays a part in the story, that animal is a character, too

### Setting

A story has to happen in a **place**.

- The setting might be a place you are familiar with.
- It might even be another planet!
- A setting doesn't even have to be a real place.

### Details

- Use your **Imagination**.
- Details help readers understand how something looks, how it feels, how it sounds - even how something smells or tastes!

### Plot

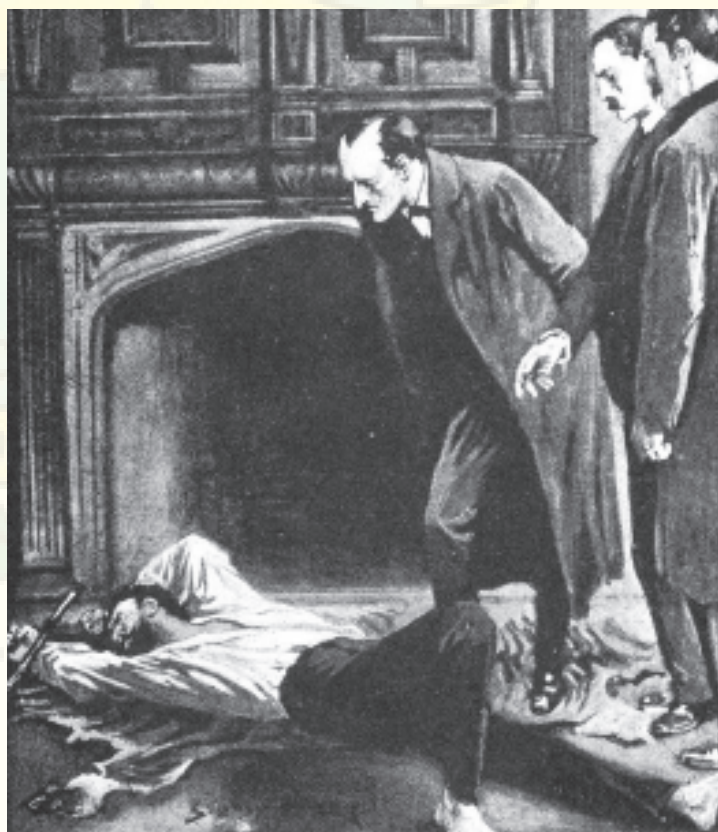
- Your characters have to **DO** something!
- What they do is the **Plot** of your story.
- To make the plot exciting add **Situations**.

**Ending**

- The **Ending** of a story is the solution to the conflict.
- Solve the problem, dilemma or conflict faced by the main character.
- Show that your main character has changed or grown in some way.
- Tie up all the loose ends. Readers shouldn't have to choose between several hinted endings.

**C. THE TRAGEDY OF BIRLSTONE**

**C.1 Look at the picture below and list some phrases and words that come to your mind when you look at it.**



**C.2. Can you make some guesses about the dead man? Give reasons for your answers.**

- a) Did the man die a natural death or was he murdered?
- b) Was the dead man rich or poor?
- c) Who is the man bending over him?

**C.3. Here are a police constable's notes of his investigation of the murder at Manor House. After reading the notes, discuss where the murder could have taken place. What was the motive behind the evil act? How was the act committed?**

### **Murder at Manor House**

Birlstone : January 6th

Manor House - state of wild confusion and alarm

- white faced servants
- frightened butler
- man horribly injured- terrible marks
- we have no clues yet

**C.4. Dr. Wood, the capable general practitioner, has been requested to solve this case. He gathers information about the murder from the inmates of the house. The information is presented in two parts.**

**Parts A:** Background story by Arthur Canon Doyle

**Parts B:** Conversation between Dr. Wood and Cecil Barker

### **Part A**

#### **Background Story**

The village of Birlstone is a small and very ancient cluster of half-timbered cottages on the northern border of the county of Sussex. For centuries it had remained unchanged but its picturesque appearance has attracted well-to-do residents. A number of small shops have come into being to meet the wants of the increased population.

About half a mile from the town, standing in an old park famous for its huge beech trees, was the ancient Manor House, with its many gables and its small diamond paned windows. The only approach to the house was over a drawbridge, the chains and windlass of which had been rusted and broken. The family consisted of only two individuals - John Douglas and his wife. Douglas was cheery and genial to all and had acquired great popularity among the villagers. He appeared to have plenty of money. Thus it came about that John Douglas had, within five years, won himself quite a reputation in Birlstone. His wife was a beautiful woman, tall, dark, and slender, younger than her husband; a disparity which seemed in no way to mar the contentment of their family life. It was remarked sometimes, that the confidence between the two did not appear to be incomplete. There were signs sometimes of some nerve strain upon the part of Mrs. Douglas.

Cecil Barker, was a frequent and welcome visitor at Manor House, Barker was an easy going, free handed gentleman.

It was on Jan 6th at 11:45 that the alarm reached the small local police station that John Douglas had been murdered. Dr. Wood seemed to be unnerved and troubled.

### **Part B**

#### **Conversation between Dr. Wood and Cecil Barker**

Dr. Wood: We will touch nothing until my superiors arrive. *(He spoke in a hushed voice, staring at the dreadful head)*

C Barker: Nothing has been touched until now.

Dr. Wood: When did this happen?

C Barker: It was just half-past eleven. I was sitting by the fire in my bedroom when I heard the gun shot. In thirty seconds I was in the room.

Dr. Wood: Was the door open?

C. Barker: Yes, it was open. Poor Douglas was lying as you see him.





Dr. Wood: Did you see anyone?

C. Barker: No, I heard Mrs. Douglas coming down the stairs behind me, and I rushed out to prevent her from seeing this dreadful sight.

Dr. Wood: But I have heard that the drawbridge is kept up all night.

C. Barker: Yes, it was up until I lowered it.

Dr. Wood: Then how could any murderer have got away? It is out of question! Mr Douglas must have shot himself.

C. Barker: That was our first idea. But see! The diamond paned window is open to its full extent.

Dr. Wood: I think someone stood there while trying to get out.

C. Barker: You mean that someone waded across the moat?

Dr. Wood: Exactly!

C. Barker: I agree with you.

Dr. Wood: But what I ask you is, how did he even get into the house at all if the bridge was up?

C. Barker: Ah, that's the question.

Dr. Wood: At what time was the bridge raised?

C. Barker: It was nearly 6 O'clock.

Dr. Wood: Then it comes to this, if anyone came from outside - if they did - they must have got in across the bridge before six and had been in hiding ever since. The man was waiting. He shot him, when he got the chance.



- adapted



**C.5. Answer the following questions by ticking the correct options.**

1. The only change in Birlstone in years has been \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. the opening of a few shops.
  - b. the timbered cottages.
  - c. an improvement in its picturesque appearance.
  - d. a number of well-to-do residents have settled there.
2. The Manor House stood out because of its \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. diamond-paned windows.
  - b. huge beech trees.
  - c. drawbridge and windows.
  - d. residents.
3. John Douglas had won quite a reputation for himself in Birlstone because of his \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. genial temperament.
  - b. Manor House.
  - c. his wealth.
  - d. his beautiful wife.
4. Cecil Barker's first reaction at the sight of the dead Douglas was to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. inform Mr Woods.
  - b. stop Mrs Douglas from seeing the dead body.
  - c. call for help.
  - d. observe the open door.

**C.6. In B.3 you read an eye-witness account of a robbery. On the basis of your reading of the Birlstone tragedy, in about 125 words, write Dr Wood's account of the discovery of John Douglas's body.**

## D. HARRY POTTER

### D.1. Listen to the following conversation adapted from 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' by J. K. Rowling.

**As you listen to the excerpt, complete the following statements.**

1. Aunt Petunia did not like her sister and brother-in-law as \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Harry's mother had met his father at \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Harry had been told that his parents had \_\_\_\_\_.  
This was not the truth as \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The name of the Wizard who killed Harry Potter's parents was \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Hagrid was reluctant to name \_\_\_\_\_ and called him \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Harry got the scar on his forehead when \_\_\_\_\_.

### D.2. Film / Book Review

The aim of writing a film review is to judge a film or a book and inform the viewer / reader about it. The reviewer talks about the subject of the film / book being reviewed and how the film maker or director / author has handled the subject. At times the reviewer's aim is to arouse the interest of the viewer / reader so that she / he wishes to see the film / read the book. Sometimes, the reviewer warns the viewer / reader why she / he should not see or read a particular film / book.

**Write a review of a Harry Potter film / book or an episode of Malgudi Days that you have seen.**

**You must include:**

- the name of the film / book
- the cast / director / writer
- the important characters

- a very brief outline of the film / book
- why the film/ book was worth seeing or reading / not worth seeing or reading.

**Sources**

- 1) [//en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bermuda-Triangle/](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bermuda-Triangle/)
- 2) [/www.bermuda-triangle.org/](http://www.bermuda-triangle.org/)
- 3) [/www.bermudatrianglemystery.net./](http://www.bermudatrianglemystery.net./)

