

Elementary

**Today we are going to continue and finish reading the story of Sir Jee and his portrait.
Ma tovább folytatjuk és befejezzük Sir Jee és a portréja történetét.**

Source: *Stories from the Five Towns from Oxford Bookworms Library*
www.oupbooks.hu

Sir Jee had a cold, silent meal, in front of his portrait. He was alone in the castle and that was a good thing, he decided. There were no servants to wake up and hear William Smith at work. Sir Jee was a little afraid; perhaps it was dangerous to bring a burglar into the house. He looked again at the portrait in its big gold frame. 'Will he take the frame?' he asked himself. 'I hope he doesn't. It's very heavy. I don't think one man could carry that.' But perhaps Smith had someone to help him.

'Goodbye!' he said to his portrait, opened one of the windows for William Smith, and went to bed. He did not sleep. He listened. At about two o'clock there were a few noises. They stopped, then started again. Smith was at work. Sir Jee got out of bed quietly, went to the window and looked out carefully. Two men were carrying something large and square across the garden. So Smith had a friend, and he was taking the portrait AND the frame.

Sir Jee went back to bed. He slept for a few hours and then went downstairs.

The portrait was on the floor with some writing across it in big white letters: 'This is no good to me.' It was the big gold frame that was missing.

And that wasn't all. Plates, knives, forks, spoons, cups – everything made of silver was also missing. There was not a single silver spoon left in the castle.

Glossary:

Silent – csendes
Wake up – felébredni
Perhaps – talán
Frame – keret
Noise – zaj
Carefully – óvatosan, gondosan
Square – négyzetalakú
Go downstairs – lemenni a földszintre
Be missing – vmi hiányzik
Plate – tányér
Fork – villa
Knife, knives – kés
Spoon – kanál
Cup – pohár
Silver – ezüst

Decide if these sentences are true or false. Döntsd el, hogy a mondatok igazak vagy hamisak.

1. Sir Jee didn't eat anything on Christmas Eve.
2. He was a little bit afraid because it's not a good thing to allow a burglar into his house.
3. He didn't want the burglar to take the frame as well.
4. About four at night he heard some noises.
5. He was afraid to look out of the window.
6. Smith did not work alone because he had someone to help him.
7. The burglars took the portrait.
8. The burglars took the frame.
9. The burglars did not take anything, only the frame.
10. All the spoons, knives, forks, plates and cups were made of gold.



A policeman asked Sir Jee some questions about the burglary, but Sir Jee didn't tell the truth about everything. Complete the conversation. Use as many words as you like.

POLICEMAN: Who was in the house last night?

SIR JEE: I _____.

POLICEMAN: How did the burglar get into the castle?

SIR JEE: Through _____.

POLICEMAN: Did you hear anything in the night?

SIR JEE: No, _____.

POLICEMAN: Did you see anything?

SIR JEE: No, _____.

POLICEMAN: What did the burglar take?

SIR JEE: _____.

POLICEMAN: What happened to the portrait?

SIR JEE: _____.

The policeman thought that Sir Jee's story was very strange. He made some notes about other questions to ask. Use these words to make four more questions. Then write a fifth question of your own.

Why

1. you / alone / castle / Christmas Eve?
2. window open / cold night / December?
3. burglar / make noise / heavy portrait frame?
4. burglar / write / portrait?

Intermediate

Today we are going to continue reading *The Hound of Baskervilles* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, provided by Oxford University Press.

*Source: Oxford University Press
www.oxfordbooks.hu*

Read the text first, and complete it with the appropriate words.

'I didn't say so exactly,' replied Mortimer. 'But 1. _____ Sir Charles died, I have heard about a number of things that seem to be supernatural. Several people have seen an animal on the moor that looks like an enormous hound. They all agree that it was a huge creature, which shone with a strange 2. _____ like a ghost. I have questioned these people carefully. They are all sensible people. They all tell the same story. Although they have only seen the creature far 3. _____, it is exactly like the hell-hound of the Baskerville story. The people are very frightened, and only the bravest man will cross the moor at night.'

'And you, a man of science, believe that the creature is supernatural – something 4. _____ another world?' asked Holmes.

'I don't know what to believe,' said Dr Mortimer.

'But you must agree that the footprints were made by a living creature, not a ghost?'

'When the hound first appeared two hundred and fifty years ago, it was real enough to tear out Sir Hugo's throat.... but it was a supernatural hell-hound,' said Dr Mortimer.

'If you think that Sir Charles' death was caused by something 5. _____, my detective work can't help you,' said Holmes, rather coldly.



'Perhaps,' said Mortimer. 'But you can help me by advising me what to do for Sir Henry Baskerville. He arrives in London by train in exactly,' Dr Mortimer looked at his watch, 'one 6. _____ and a quarter.'

'Sir Henry is now head of the Baskerville family?' asked Holmes.

'Yes,' said Dr Mortimer. 'He is the last of the Baskervilles. The family lawyers contacted him in the USA. He has come to England immediately by ship. He landed this morning. Now, Mr Holmes, what do you advise me to do with him?'

'Why should he not go to the family home?' asked Holmes.

'Because so many Baskervilles who go there die horrible deaths. But Sir Charles' good work must go 7. _____. If it doesn't, all the people on the Baskerville lands will be much poorer. If the Baskerville family leaves the Hall, that is what will happen. I don't know what to do. That is why I came to you for 8. _____.'

Holmes thought for a little while. Then he said: 'You think it is too dangerous for any Baskerville to live at the Hall because of this supernatural hell-hound. Well, I think you should go and meet Sir Henry Baskerville. Say nothing to him about this. I shall give you my advice in twenty-four hours. At ten o'clock tomorrow morning, Dr Mortimer, I would like you to bring Sir Henry Baskerville here.'

Dr Mortimer got up from his chair. As he was leaving the room, Holmes said: '9. _____ more question, Dr Mortimer. You said that before Sir Charles' death several people saw this strange creature on the moor?'

'Three people did,' said Mortimer.

'Did anyone see it after the death?'

'I haven't heard of anyone.'

'Thank you, Dr Mortimer. Good morning.'

After Mortimer had left us, Holmes sat down in his chair. He looked pleased. He always looked pleased when a case interested him.

I knew that he needed to be alone to think about all that he had heard. I went out for the day, and came back to find the room full of thick 10. _____ from Holmes' pipe.

'What do you think of the case?' I asked him.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

Now decide if the sentences are true or false.

1. Dr Mortimer refuses the idea that something supernatural was the cause of Sir Charles' death.
2. Several people have seen the enormous creature.
3. No one is brave enough to cross the moor at night.
4. The hound first appeared three hundred years ago.
5. Dr Mortimer asks Holmes to start investigating the case.
6. Holmes asks not to bring Sir Henry to him.
7. Since Sir Charles' death even more people saw the hound.
8. Holmes was not interested in the case at all.
9. Holmes needed to be alone to think, and Watson was very well aware of this.
10. Holmes smoked a cigarette.

Advanced

Today we are going to continue reading *One for my Baby* by Tony Parsons.

Read the excerpt first, and fill in the missing words.

My dad was never a great sportswriter because he was never that crazy about 1._____. HE would have had a far happier, far more successful career if he had been writing for the front pages rather than the 2._____ pages.

But my father was my hero. And for years I wanted to go into the family business.

Then he wrote a book. You probably heard of it. You might even have read it. Because *Oranges for Christmas – A Childhood Memoir* was one of those books that start selling and then never seem to stop. And after that, my dreams of writing started to seem a little ridiculous. For how could I ever compete with my father now? As a modestly successful sportswriter he had been inspiring. As a wildly 3._____ author, he was intimidating.

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I am currently living with my parents. Thirty-four and still at home – it's not great. But it's not the house where I 4._____ up – that would just be too sad- so living with them doesn't feel as though I've completely regressed to childhood. At least, not until my mum hands me my pyjamas, all neatly 5._____ and ironed.

It's just a temporary thing. As soon as I get my life back together, as 6._____ as I get a job, I'm going to find myself a flat. Somewhere close to work. I want it to look exactly like the apartment that Rose and I had in Hong Kong. We had a good place. I was happy there.

And I know I should be trying to move 7._____. I know that I should be trying to put my time with Rose behind me. I know all of that.

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The front door slams and a few seconds later a smiling young woman sticks her head around the door. She looks like God's second attempt at Cameron Diaz – an almost cartoon amalgamation of blonde hair, blue eyes and ski-tanned skin. Lena is our Czech home help. She's really smart. It's only when she's 8._____ to the radio that she seems a bit stupid because she sort of dances around to the music, even if she's sitting down and eating her flakes.

Lena is not stupid though. She's just young. To be honest, I think she's got a soft spot for me. One of those irrational crushes that ambush the very young. I might have to tell her, as gently as 9._____, that I'm not looking for a new relationship. She's certainly a beautiful girl – she once inspired our paperboy to ride his bike right into a lamppost. There were free pull-outs and colour supplements everywhere. How strange that I'm just not interested. Or perhaps it's not strange at all.

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From the kitchen I can hear the 10._____ of laughter as my dad and Lena unload the dishwasher.

I have never in my life seen my father helping with the housework.

That's new too.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

Now decide if the sentences are true or false.

1. The narrator's father is successful both in newspaper writing and book writing.
2. His dad has never been his hero.
3. They are not together with Rose any longer.
4. He finds it easy to move on.
5. His father didn't use to help with the housework.
6. He thinks Lena is in love with him.
7. He wants a new relationship.
8. Lena and his dad get on very well with each other.
9. Lena is a babysitter.
10. She is very stupid.