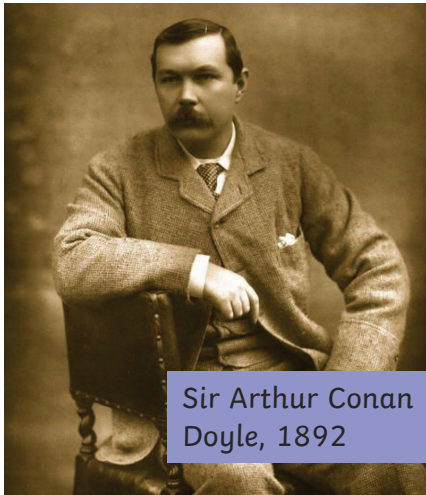


# Sherlock Holmes



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, 1892

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Sherlock Holmes is a character who was created by author Sir Arthur Conan Doyle nearly 150 years ago. Holmes was a **detective** who appeared in sixty stories along with his **sidekick**, Dr John Watson.

## A Consulting Detective

In mystery stories, other characters usually look for clues or mistakes that the criminal has made, such as leaving footprints. Sherlock Holmes is different. The character looks for very small details and uses them to explain what has happened. He can look at someone's hands and tell what they have been doing, or decide where they are going by looking at their clothes.

Sherlock Holmes was known as a '**consulting** detective', which means that people would write letters to him if they wanted him to solve their problems. The Sherlock Holmes museum in London still gets letters asking for help solving all kinds of mysteries.



## The Detective's Deerstalker

A deerstalker is a type of hat usually worn in the countryside, especially while hunting. The illustrations for Sherlock Holmes stories showed him wearing a deerstalker cap and so the world now sees this hat as something that a detective should wear.

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"Sherlock Holmes" by Shining Darkness is licensed under CC BY 2.0



### 221B Baker Street

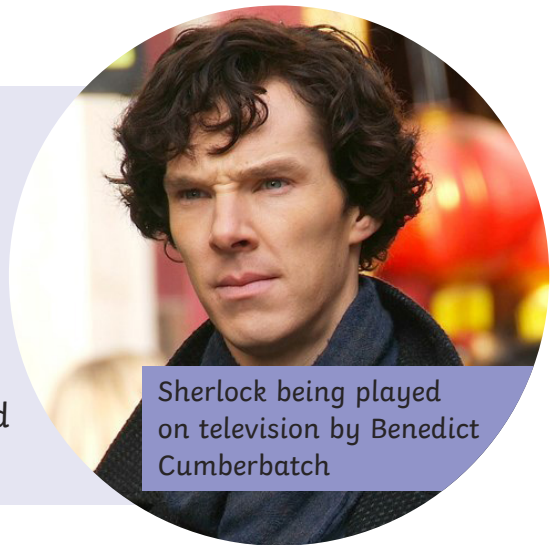
In the stories, Sherlock Holmes' address is 221B, Baker Street, London, England. Baker Street is a real place in London and tourists come from all over the world to visit the Sherlock Holmes museum, the many shops and the famous statue of the detective, which stands near the Baker Street underground station.



This statue of Sherlock Holmes can be seen in Baker Street.

### Television and Film

Sherlock Holmes stories have been turned into television shows, movies, radio shows, comics, theatre and even video games. The famous detective has been played by actors from some of the most well-known superhero movies, such as Benedict Cumberbatch, Henry Cavill, Robert Downey Jr. and Sir Ian McKellen.



Sherlock being played on television by Benedict Cumberbatch

"Benedict Cumberbatch" by Fat Les is licensed under CC BY 2.0

### Glossary



**detective** — Someone whose job is to solve crimes.

**consulting** — Giving expert advice to help other people with their jobs.

**sidekick** — A close friend or helper who is usually less powerful.

# Questions

1. Who was Sir Arthur Conan Doyle? Tick **one**.
  - a detective
  - an author
  - a doctor
  - a sidekick
2. What type of stories does Sherlock Holmes appear in? Tick **one**.
  - scary stories
  - superhero stories
  - mystery stories
  - fairy stories
3. What does the text say Sherlock Holmes might use as a clue when looking at someone? Tick **two**.
  - their feet
  - their hat
  - their hands
  - their clothes
4. In which city can you find the Sherlock Holmes museum? Tick **one**.
  - London
  - Manchester
  - Bristol
  - Leeds
5. Find and copy a word from the text which means 'pictures drawn for the story'.

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6. Where did Sherlock Holmes live?

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7. Why do you think so many people come to visit Sherlock Holmes' address?

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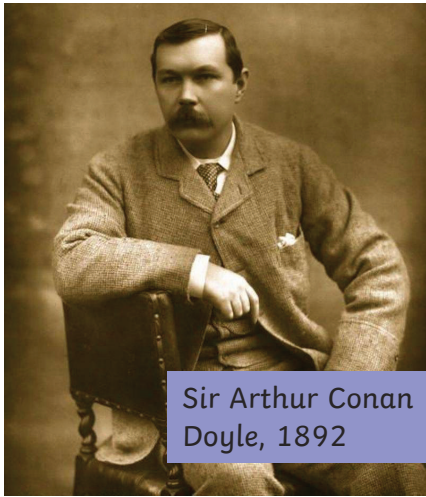
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# Answers

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**illustrations**
6. Where did Sherlock Holmes live?  
**221B, Baker Street, London, England**
7. Why do you think so many people come to visit Sherlock Holmes' address?  
**Children's own responses, which may refer to:**
  - **him being a 'different' detective from others;**
  - **him featuring in sixty stories and various adaptations as listed in the text;**
  - **Baker Street being a real place;**
  - **the statue and museum being located there;**
  - **it being near to an underground station;**
  - **the many shops.**



# Sherlock Holmes



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, 1892

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Sherlock Holmes is a character who was created by British author Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (1859-1930). Holmes was a detective who appeared in sixty stories along with his **sidekick**, Dr John Watson.

## A Consulting Detective

Detective stories had already been around for about fifty years when Conan Doyle wrote the first Sherlock Holmes mystery. Other characters in crime stories usually looked for clues or mistakes that the criminal had made, such as leaving footprints. Sherlock Holmes was quite different. When the first Sherlock story, 'A Study in Scarlet', was written in 1887, the character was instantly so popular that he even began to change the way real detectives and scientists solved crimes.

The character is a master of disguise, a boxer and swordsman and plays the violin. He looks for very small details and uses logic to explain how they came to be. He can look at someone's hands and tell what they have been doing, or decide where they are going by looking at their clothes.

Sherlock Holmes was known as a '**consulting** detective', which means that people would write letters to him if they wanted him to solve their problems. Even today, the Sherlock Holmes museum receives letters that are sent to him asking for help solving all kinds of mysteries.



## The Detective's Deerstalker

A deerstalker is a type of hat usually worn in the countryside, especially while hunting. However, the illustrations for Sherlock Holmes stories showed him wearing a deerstalker cap and became so famous that the world now recognises this hat as something that a detective should wear.

"Deerstalker" by James Lock & Co. Ltd is licensed under [CC BY 2.0](#)



### 221B Baker Street

In the stories, Sherlock Holmes' address is 221B, Baker Street, London, England. Baker Street is a real place in London and, while the actual apartment does not exist, tourists come from all over the world to visit the Sherlock Holmes museum, the many shops and the famous statue of the detective, which stands near the Baker Street underground station.

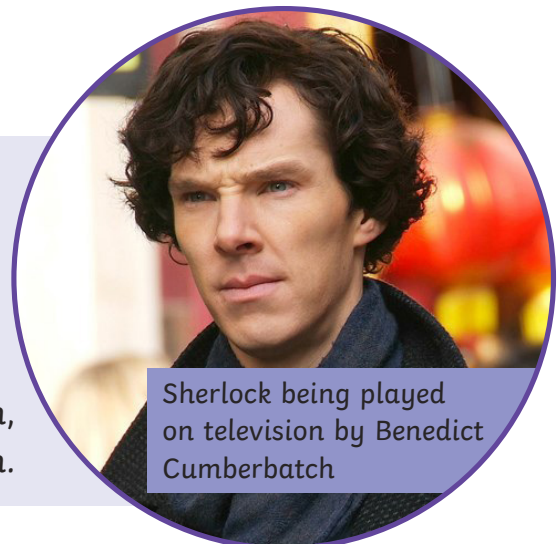


This monument to Sherlock Holmes can be seen in Baker Street.

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### Television and Film

Sherlock Holmes stories have been turned into television shows, movies, radio shows, comics, theatre and even video games. The famous detective has been played by actors from some of the most well-known superhero movies, such as Benedict Cumberbatch, Henry Cavill, Robert Downey Jr. and Sir Ian McKellen.



Sherlock being played on television by Benedict Cumberbatch

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*"The world is full of obvious things which nobody by any chance ever observes."*

Sherlock Holmes

### Glossary



**consulting** — Giving expert advice to help other people with their jobs.

**monument** — A statue or building which shows that something or someone was important.

**sidekick** — A close friend or helper who is usually less powerful.

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4. Where did Sherlock Holmes live?

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5. Find and copy a word from the text which means 'pictures drawn for the story'.

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6. Find and copy **a phrase** from the text which tells you that Sherlock Holmes is good at pretending to be other people.

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7. What made Sherlock Holmes different from other detective characters?

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8. Why do you think so many people come to visit Sherlock Holmes' address?

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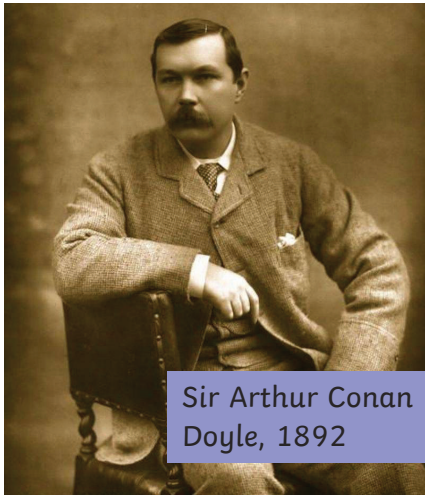
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**221B, Baker Street, London, England**
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**illustrations**
6. Find and copy **a phrase** from the text which tells you that Sherlock Holmes is good at pretending to be other people.  
**master of disguise**
7. What made Sherlock Holmes different from other detective characters?  
**Sherlock did not use the same obvious clues as other characters, such as footprints. He looked at small details of someone's appearance and used them to tell where they were going or what they were doing.**
8. Why do you think so many people come to visit Sherlock Holmes' address?  
**Children's own responses, which may refer to:**
  - **him being a 'different' detective from others;**
  - **him featuring in sixty stories and various adaptations as listed in the text;**
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# Sherlock Holmes



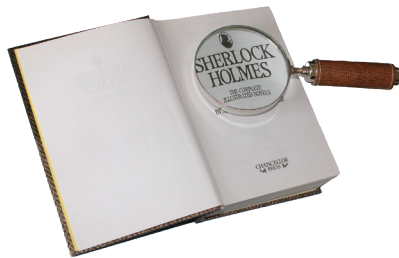
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, 1892

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Sherlock Holmes is a fictional character who was created by British author Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (1859-1930). Holmes was a detective who appeared in sixty novels and short stories along with his **sidekick**, Dr John Watson.

## A Consulting Detective

Detective stories had already been around for about fifty years when Conan Doyle wrote the first Sherlock Holmes mystery. Characters in mystery novels commonly looked for clues or mistakes that the criminal had made, such as leaving footprints. Sherlock Holmes was quite unusual: when the first Sherlock story, 'A Study in Scarlet', was published in 1887, the character was instantly so popular that he even began to change the way real detectives and scientists solved crimes.



The character is a master of disguise, a boxer and swordsman and plays the violin. His biggest skill is what he calls 'the science of **deduction**'. He



looks for very small details and uses logic to explain how they came to be. This way, he can observe someone's appearance and tell what type of job they have, or where they are travelling to. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle did not create a perfect hero, however. Sherlock Holmes had weaknesses, such as not understanding emotions, **politics** or **literature**.

Sherlock Holmes was known as a 'consulting detective', which means that people would write letters to him if they wanted him to solve their problem. Even today, the Sherlock Holmes museum receives letters that are sent to him asking for help solving all kinds of mysteries.



## The Detective's Deerstalker

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### 221B Baker Street

In the stories, Sherlock Holmes' address is 221B, Baker Street, London, England. Baker Street is a real place in London and, while the actual apartment does not exist, tourists come from all over the world to visit the Sherlock Holmes museum, the many shops and the famous bronze statue of the detective, which stands near the Baker Street underground station.

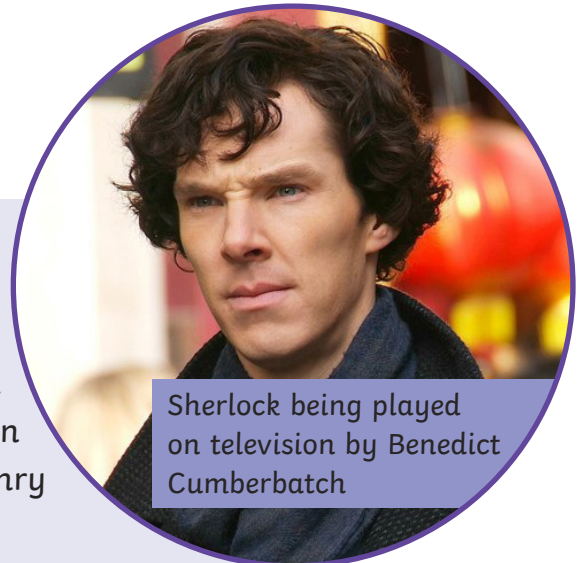


This monument to Sherlock Holmes can be seen in Baker Street.

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Sherlock being played on television by Benedict Cumberbatch

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*"The world is full of obvious things which nobody by any chance ever observes."*

Sherlock Holmes

### Glossary

**deduction** — Working out the logical reasons for evidence.

**literature** — Books and other texts or writings.

**monument** — A statue or building which shows that something or someone was important.

**politics** — The activities of people who are making decisions or ruling a country.

**portrayed** — Played the part of, by an actor on television or on stage.

**sidekick** — A close friend or helper who is usually less powerful.



# Questions

1. What type of stories does Sherlock Holmes appear in? Tick **one**.
  - scary stories
  - superhero stories
  - mystery stories
  - fairy stories
2. Which of the following are Sherlock Holmes' hobbies? Tick **two**.
  - answering letters
  - playing the violin
  - making hats
  - boxing
3. In which part of the text can you find information about Holmes' clothing? Tick **one**.
  - A Consulting Detective
  - The Detective's Deerstalker
  - 221B Baker Street
  - Television and Film

4. What is the monument of Sherlock Holmes in London made from?

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5. Find and copy **a phrase** from the text which tells you that Sherlock Holmes is good at pretending to be other people.

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6. What made Sherlock Holmes different from other detective characters?

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7. Why do you think so many people come to visit Sherlock Holmes' address?

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8. Suggest a different title for this fact file and explain why you have chosen it.

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# Answers

1. What type of stories was Sherlock Holmes in? Tick **one**.
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4. What is the monument of Sherlock Holmes in London made from?
 

**bronze**
  
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**Sherlock did not use the same obvious clues as other characters, such as footprints. He looked at small details of someone's appearance and used them to tell where they were going or what they were doing.**
  
7. Why do you think so many people come to visit Sherlock Holmes' address?
 

**Children's own responses, which may refer to:**

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  - **the statue and museum being located there;**
  - **it being near to an underground station;**
  - **the many shops.**

8. Suggest a different title for this fact file and explain why you have chosen it.

**Children's own responses, with an explanation which may explain that they have:**

- **created a catchier or more exciting title;**
- **used alliteration or rhyme;**
- **summarised the purpose of the text;**
- **made the reader want to find out more.**