

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Your friend wants to be a detective in the future. She loves detective stories. She has given you a crime riddle to solve and a TV programme review to read.*

### Text 1 Crime riddle

1 Mandy, Jenny, Wendy and Penny are sisters. One night, after their parents have gone out for the evening, they decide to settle down to a film night. Just after sundown, Wendy and Penny are in the kitchen trying to decide what to make for a sweet snack. The  
5 other two are arguing enthusiastically in the other room about what film they should watch together.

2 Penny's eyes brighten. 'Let's make cupcakes!' she says breathlessly, clapping her hands together excitedly.

3 'Although cupcakes sound tasty, I prefer the flavour of brownies. Plus, that's what I bought ingredients for earlier,' Wendy replies.  
10

4 They mix together the flour, butter, chocolate and eggs then slide the brownie dough into the oven. By the time they reenter the living room, Mandy and Jenny have chosen the night's entertainment, which is an old black and white detective film.  
15 During the hour-and-a-half length of the film, Mandy and Jenny each get up once to go to the bathroom.

5 Later, when Penny goes to check on the brownies, all she sees is an empty baking tray. Penny shrieks in shock, and the others rush in.

6 'What's wrong, Penny?' Mandy asks the most quickly while reaching for a large carving knife for good measure, in case there is an intruder.  
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7 'Did something happen to the brownies?' Jenny asks in concern a second later.

8 Penny says, 'They were stolen, but I already know who did it.'

25 9 Who is the tasty treat thief?



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### Text 2 TV programme review

#### ***Sherlock: The Abominable Bride***

① *The Abominable Bride* is a special holiday drama from the popular British television series *Sherlock*. It stars Benedict Cumberbatch as the eccentric super sleuth Sherlock Holmes and Martin Freeman as his reliable yet long-suffering sidekick Dr John Watson.



Benedict Cumberbatch

② Unlike the rest of the series, which takes place in modern day, this mystery is set in the 1890s. Emelia Ricoletti commits suicide in public while wearing her wedding dress. This horrific spectacle, of course, draws much attention. Despite her death, several people witness her murder her husband later that evening. The police are baffled by this seemingly impossible crime, as how could Emelia have committed murder after she had already passed away? Soon even more men are murdered and once again the witnesses earnestly swear that the ghost bride is responsible for the deaths. Sherlock must try his hardest to solve this spine-tingling mystery, for if he does not get to the bottom of it quickly, more men may soon meet a grisly fate.

③ Thanks to its superior filming quality and top-notch acting, this television episode feels more like a film than a TV programme. You will find yourself on the edge of your seat throughout the entire 90 minutes. I would rather watch this drama than watch an action film. I heartily award it five stars!

★★★★★

## Challenging reading and comprehension

## Unit 7

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Comprehension 1 & 2** Your brother is asking you about the crime riddle and the TV programme review. Answer his questions using information from the crime riddle and the TV programme review. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer and blacken ONE circle only.

### Text 1

1 What are TWO reasons that Wendy wants to make brownies instead of cupcakes?

i) \_\_\_\_\_

ii) \_\_\_\_\_

2 What ingredients did Wendy buy for the brownies?

\_\_\_\_\_

3 How long is the detective film that the sisters watched?

\_\_\_\_\_

4 Find a word in paragraphs 4–6 that has a similar meaning to ‘screams’.

\_\_\_\_\_

5 Why did Mandy reach for a carving knife?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6 What does ‘it’ refer to in line 24?

\_\_\_\_\_

7 Find an example of alliteration in paragraphs 5–9.

\_\_\_\_\_

Complete the note sheet.

<b>Crime</b>	(8)
<b>Main suspects</b>	(9) (10)
<b>Scene of the crime</b>	(11)

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**12 i)** Who is likely the thief? Provide evidence to support your answer.

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**ii)** When did the crime occur?

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**13** The main purpose of this text is to \_\_\_\_\_.

A determine which sister is guilty of a crime

B confuse readers and cause a discussion

C entertain readers with a challenging puzzle

D educate readers about how crimes are committed

A B C D

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

### Text 2

**14** Who helps Sherlock Holmes solve crimes?

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**15** What is the main difference between this holiday drama and the rest of the *Sherlock* series?

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**16 i)** Who is Emelia Ricoletti?

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**ii)** Why is it strange that 'several people witness her murder her husband later that evening' (lines 9–10)?

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**17** Complete the following sentence.

It is important for Sherlock to solve the mystery of the ghost bride quickly so that

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**18** Find words in paragraphs 2–3 that mean the same as the following.

- i) confused \_\_\_\_\_
- ii) frightening \_\_\_\_\_
- iii) high quality \_\_\_\_\_
- iv) feeling very excited \_\_\_\_\_

Complete the table.

<b>Episode title</b>	(19)
<b>Setting</b>	(20)
<b>Length of episode</b>	(21)
<b>Starring</b>	(22) (23)
<b>Genre</b>	(24)



**25** What was the reviewer's overall opinion of *The Abominable Bride*? Use information from the text to justify your response.

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