

Name: _____ () Class: _____ Date: _____

Your friend has written a detective story. She has given it to you to read. Read the detective story.

Text 3 Detective story

Young Sherlock and the missing ring

- 1 Although school was over, Young Sherlock Holmes did not return home. He had a matter to attend to before returning to his house and hitting the books. There had been an announcement summoning him to Room 212. These days, it felt like his name was
- 5 called over the intercom at least once per day. When he arrived, Ms Hill was there, tapping her foot impatiently.
- 2 'How may I help you?' asked Sherlock. He was already taking stock of the room, trying to pick out any unusual details, though this would not be helpful until he knew what the crime was.
- 10 3 'My ring was stolen!' Ms Hill said. 'Though I searched everyone's bags, I couldn't find it! I can't believe that someone in my class would commit such a cruel crime. They know that the ring was given to me by my late brother, and that it has a great deal of significance to me.'
- 15 4 Sherlock noticed a pet hamster in a cage in the corner. It looked uneasy, not even nibbling on the fresh piece of cucumber in its food dish. Sherlock also spotted a bottle of green nail polish on the teacher's desk, as vivid as radioactive slime. 'Cute pet and nice nail polish. Whose nail polish is it?' Sherlock asked.

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20 ⑤ Ms Hill replied, 'That's our class pet, Teddy. And that's Cherry's nail polish. I caught her painting her nails during class, so I confiscated the bottle. But please concentrate better on this case! Shouldn't you be searching the school for the stolen item and the culprit?'

⑥ 'I'd rather not run around aimlessly looking for your ring. After all,
25 it's right here,' Sherlock undid the latch on the hamster's cage and lifted the ring from inside the hamster's food dish with the aid of a pen so as not to contaminate any fingerprints on it.

⑦ 'How did you ...?' Ms Hill asked in shock, her mouth agape.

⑧ 'Well,' Sherlock replied, 'I observed some green paint on the
30 hamster cage. And look, there's green paint on the ring as well. Therefore, we both know who the thief is! The thief must have slid the ring in there upon seeing that you were searching the students' bags. They had likely planned to come back for it later.'

⑨ 'Well, I feel a tad foolish now that you've pointed out the obvious
35 clues! How could I have missed all that? However, I am very grateful to have my prized possession back. Thank you, Sherlock. And now it's time to apprehend the tricky thief!'



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Comprehension 2 *Your sister wants to know about the detective story. Answer her questions using information from the detective story. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer and blacken ONE circle only.*

1 Why did Sherlock stay behind at the end of the school day?

2 Do you think the staff at the school often ask Sherlock to help solve mysteries? Support your answer using evidence from the text.

3 What was the purpose of Sherlock 'taking stock of the room' (lines 7–8)?

4 What does 'this' refer to in line 8?

5 Why is the ring important to Ms Hill?

6 Based on the information given in paragraph 4, fill in the blanks. Write ONE word in each blank.

The (i) _____ was behaving strangely, since it would not even
 (ii) _____ on the fresh cucumber in its food dish. On Ms Hill's
 (iii) _____, Sherlock also saw some green nail polish. He
 (iv) _____ Ms Hill who it belonged to.

7 Find an example of a simile in paragraph 4.

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8 According to paragraphs 4–6, are the following statements **True (T)**, **False (F)** or **Not Given (NG)**?

Statements	T	F	NG
i) Cucumber is the hamster's favourite treat.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
ii) The nail polish was a very bright shade of green.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
iii) Cherry often got in trouble for painting her nails during class.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
iv) The ring was hidden under the hamster's food dish.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

9 Why did Sherlock want to know whose nail polish it was?

10 Find words in paragraphs 5 and 6 that mean the same as the following:

- i) took away _____
- ii) person responsible _____
- iii) mess up _____

11 When Ms Hill asks Sherlock to better concentrate on the case, he _____.

- A already knows where the ring is
 - B is worried about finding the ring
 - C is making a list of suspects
 - D is holding the ring in his hand
- A B C D
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

12 Did Ms Hill believe the ring was in the classroom? Support your answer with evidence from the story.

13 According to Sherlock, why did the thief put the ring in the hamster cage?

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14 What is the purpose of paragraph 8?

15 What does 'my prized possession' refer to in line 36?

16 How does Ms Hill feel at the end of the story? Tick (✓) all that apply.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> curious | <input type="checkbox"/> jealous | <input type="checkbox"/> furious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> thankful | <input type="checkbox"/> silly | <input type="checkbox"/> joyful |

17 Order the following events. Number the events (1–5).

- | | |
|--|-------|
| Sherlock spotted a bottle of green nail polish. | _____ |
| Sherlock recovered the missing item. | _____ |
| Ms Hill searched all of the students' bags. | _____ |
| Sherlock walked to Room 212. | _____ |
| Sherlock amazed Ms Hill with his reasoning skills. | _____ |



18 i) Who is the thief?

ii) Explain how Sherlock figured this out.



19 If Sherlock is incorrect, can you think of another explanation for the clues he found?
