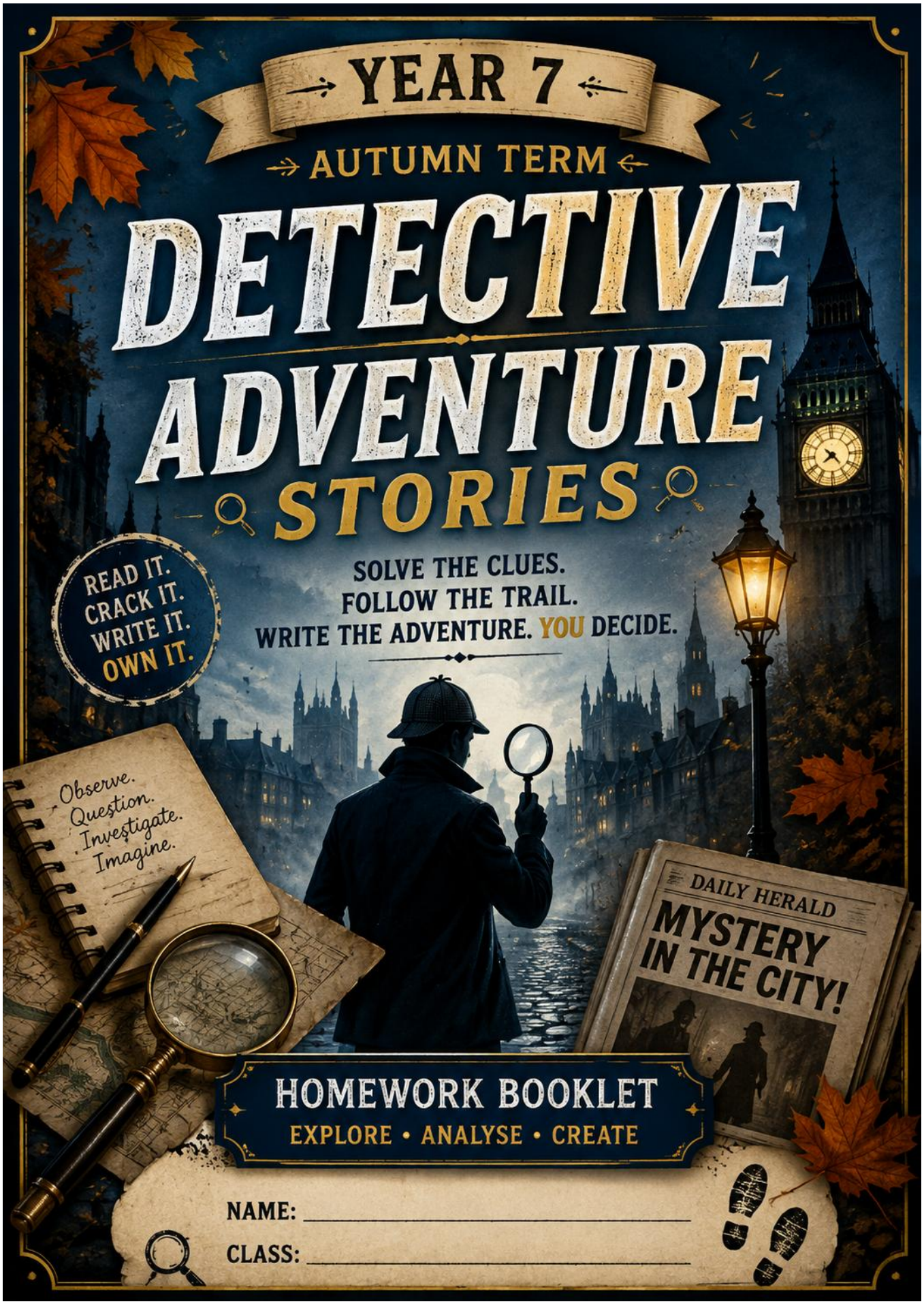

YEAR 7
AUTUMN TERM
DETECTIVE ADVENTURE STORIES
READ IT.
CRACK IT.
WRITE IT.
OWN IT.
SOLVE THE CLUES.
FOLLOW THE TRAIL.
WRITE THE ADVENTURE. YOU DECIDE.
Observe.
Question.
Investigate.
Imagine.
DAILY HERALD
MYSTERY IN THE CITY!
HOMEWORK BOOKLET
EXPLORE • ANALYSE • CREATE
NAME: _____
CLASS: _____

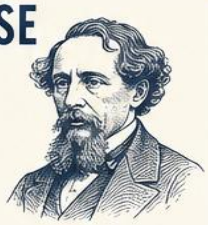
Week Two:

Watch: https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p011t0t5

YEAR 7 HOMEWORK: INSIDE THE WORKHOUSE

Watch • Retrieve • Think

20 MINUTES



Name: _____ **Class:** _____ **Date:** _____

Watch the BBC programme. Read each question first, listen carefully and answer in complete sentences.

bbc.co.uk/programmes/p011t0t5

SECTION 1 BEFORE YOU WATCH — 2 minutes

1. What do you already know about a Victorian workhouse?

_____

_____

SECTION 2 WATCH AND RETRIEVE — 10 minutes

2. Why did poor people enter workhouses? _____
3. What happened to families when they entered? _____
4. Write down two things that made workhouse life difficult.

   a) _____ b) _____
5. What work did adults or children have to complete? _____
6. What food or living conditions are described? _____
7. Choose one word to describe life in the workhouse. Explain why. _____

WORD BANK: poverty • separated • strict • punishment • hunger • cruel • unfair • shelter • exhausting • lonely

SECTION 3 DICKENS'S FEELINGS — 6 minutes

8. How do you think Dickens felt about the workhouse?

   ☐ angry ☐ upset ☐ shocked ☐ pleased ☐ concerned

   Explain your choice: Dickens felt _____ because _____.

   _____

   _____

9. Why did Dickens write about workhouses in Oliver Twist?

   Dickens wanted his readers to understand that...

   _____

   _____

SECTION 4 FINAL CHECK — 2 minutes

Victorian workhouses were _____ because _____.

☐ I watched carefully. ☐ I answered every question. ☐ I used complete sentences.

REMEMBER: Dickens used Oliver's experiences to expose cruelty towards poor children and encourage readers to question an unfair system.

Week 3

HOMEWORK TASK

★ THE CROOKED MAN (PAGES 1–6) ★

Year 7 | Time: up to 40 minutes

YOUR TASK:

- ☐ Read *The Crooked Man* up to page six.
- ☐ Answer the questions and complete the drawing task.
- ☐ Use your detective skills to show what you understand about the story.

TASK 1: WRITE

A good detective story has important features. Choose **THREE** detective features you have noticed so far in *The Crooked Man*.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

TASK 2: DRAW

Draw a scene from pages 1–6 that shows something mysterious or suspicious. Below your drawing, write a caption (1–2 sentences) to explain what is happening.

TASK 3: SHOW YOUR UNDERSTANDING

1. How is *The Crooked Man* a detective genre? **(2 marks)**

_____

_____

2. Why might Sir Arthur Conan Doyle use this theme? What does it allow him to do? **(2 marks)**

_____

_____

CHALLENGE:

Can you create one clever question of your own about *The Crooked Man* based on what you have read up to page six?

_____

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **THINK LIKE A DETECTIVE!**

Week 4

The Wishgranter
INFERENCE HOMEWORK

Your task: Use clues from the video to make inferences about the characters.
Remember: An inference is a conclusion you draw using evidence and your own ideas.

WATCH THE VIDEO
Watch *The Wishgranter* on The Literacy Shed.

TIME
40 minutes approx.

1. THE WISHGRANTER

What wish does the Wishgranter want to come true?

How do we know as a viewer that he wants this wish to come true?
Choose THREE pieces of evidence to back up your idea.

EVIDENCE 1
What do we see or hear?

What does this suggest / what can we infer?

EVIDENCE 2
What do we see or hear?

What does this suggest / what can we infer?

EVIDENCE 3
What do we see or hear?

What does this suggest / what can we infer?

2. THE COUPLE

What wish do you think the man and the woman make?

Why do you think this? Find evidence that the man and woman want to find their true love.

EVIDENCE 1
What do we see or hear?

What does this suggest / what can we infer?

EVIDENCE 2
What do we see or hear?

What does this suggest / what can we infer?

EVIDENCE 3
What do we see or hear?

What does this suggest / what can we infer?

3. THE LUCKY MAN

How does the Lucky Man benefit from the Wishgranter's failure?

Find evidence from the video to support your ideas.

EVIDENCE 1
What do we see or hear?

What does this suggest / what can we infer?

EVIDENCE 2
What do we see or hear?

What does this suggest / what can we infer?

EVIDENCE 3
What do we see or hear?

What does this suggest / what can we infer?

CHALLENGE: THINK DEEPER!

Do you think the Wishgranter's wish ever comes true at the end of the video?
Explain your answer using evidence from the video.

Week 5

THE SPECKLED BAND

DETECTIVE STORY WORKSHEET

Watch the video: The Speckled Band
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p0qltv3ILEE

TOTAL TIME 40 MINUTES

1 DETECTIVE GENRE FOCUS — 10 MINUTES

Watch the video carefully. How does the story follow the detective genre?
List the key detective elements you spot and give examples from the video.

DETECTIVE ELEMENT	WHAT IT MEANS	EXAMPLE FROM THE VIDEO
MYSTERY / CRIME		
DETECTIVE / INVESTIGATOR		
CLUES / EVIDENCE		
SUSPECTS		
TWIST / REVELATION		
SETTING / ATMOSPHERE		

DETECTIVE REMINDER!

Detective stories often include:

- [ ] A mystery or crime to solve
- [ ] A detective or investigator
- [ ] Clues and evidence
- [ ] Suspects
- [ ] A twist or surprising ending
- [ ] A tense or suspenseful atmosphere

2 PLOT RETRIEVAL — 10 MINUTES

Answer the questions in full sentences.

1. Where does the story take place?
2. Who are the main characters?
3. What is the problem that brings Helen Stoner to Sherlock Holmes?
4. What does Dr Roylott claim killed his first wife?
5. What strange thing does Helen hear at night?
6. What evidence does Holmes find in the room?
7. How does Holmes explain what is happening?
8. What happens to Dr Roylott in the end?

3 INFERENCE: READ BETWEEN THE LINES — 10 MINUTES

Read each question carefully. Use evidence from the video and explain your inference.

1. Why do you think Helen is so terrified to return home to Stoke Moran?
   Evidence: _____
   Inference: _____
2. What does Holmes think of Dr Roylott before he even visits him? How do we know?
   Evidence: _____
   Inference: _____
3. How do you think Helen feels when Holmes reveals the truth? Why?
   Evidence: _____
   Inference: _____

4 THINK LIKE A DETECTIVE! — 7 MINUTES

Answer these deeper inference questions.

1. Why do you think Dr Roylott used a snake to carry out his plan instead of something else?
2. What does the ending tell us about justice in the story?

5 PUT THE EVENTS IN ORDER — 5 MINUTES

Number the events from 1 to 6 to show the correct order.

- [ ] Helen hears a whistle at night.
- [ ] Holmes explains the snake and the bell-rope.
- [ ] Dr Roylott dies.
- [ ] Helen visits Sherlock Holmes.
- [ ] Holmes and Watson go to Stoke Moran.
- [ ] Holmes discovers the speckled band.

6 EXIT TICKET – FINAL CLUE! — 3 MINUTES

Answer in one or two sentences.

HOW does The Speckled Band follow the detective genre?

WHY is setting important in this story?

DETECTIVE TIP!

Great detectives pay attention to the smallest details. So should you!

NAME: _____

Week 6

IN THE ACTION: TOLD BY ME

Exploring First Person Narration

Time: up to 40 minutes including reading time

Learning Goal: To retrieve information and make inferences from a text, and understand how a first person narrator affects the reader.

THE EXTRACT

Read the extract below carefully.

The campers' cheering died instantly, Chiron shouted something in Ancient Greek, which I would realize, only later, I had understood perfectly: 'Stand ready! My bow!' Annabeth drew her sword.
There on the rocks just above us was a black hound the size of a rhino, with lava-red eyes and fangs like daggers. It was looking straight at me. Nobody moved except Annabeth, who yelled, 'Percy, run!' She tried to step in front of me, but the hound was too fast. It leaped over her – an enormous shadow with teeth – and just as it hit me, as I stumbled backwards and felt its razor-sharp claws ripping through my armour, there was a cascade of thwacking sounds, like forty pieces of paper being ripped one after the other. From the hound's neck sprouted a cluster of arrows. The monster fell dead at my feet. By some miracle, I was still alive. I didn't want to look underneath the ruins of my shredded armour. My chest felt warm and wet, and I knew I was badly cut. Another second, and the monster would've turned me into fifty kilograms of delicatessen meat.
Chiron trotted up next to us, a bow in his hand, his face grim.
'Di immortales,' Annabeth said. 'That's a hellhound from the Fields of Punishment. They don't… they're not supposed to…'
'Someone summoned it,'' Chiron said. 'Someone inside the camp.'
Luke came over, the banner in his hand forgotten, his moment of glory gone. Clarisse yelled, 'It's all Percy's fault! Percy summoned it!'
'Be quiet, child,' Chiron told her.
We watched the body of the hellhound melt into shadow, soaking into the ground until it disappeared.
'You're wounded,' Annabeth told me. 'Quick, Percy, get in the water.'
'I'm okay.'
'No, you're not,' she said. 'Chiron, watch this.'
I was too tired to argue. I stepped back into the creek, the whole camp gathering around me. Instantly, I felt better. I could feel the cuts on my chest closing up. Some of the campers gasped.
'Look, I – I don't know why,' I said, trying to apologize. 'I'm sorry…'
But they weren't watching my wounds heal. They were staring at something above my head.
'Percy,' Annabeth said, pointing. 'Um…'
By the time I looked up, the sign was already fading, but I could still make out the hologram of green light, spinning and gleaming. A three-tipped spear: a trident.
'Your father,' Annabeth murmured. 'This is really not good.'
'It is determined,' Chiron announced. All around me, campers started kneeling, even the Ares cabin, though they didn't look happy about it.
'My father?' I asked, completely bewildered.
'Poseidon,' said Chiron. 'Earthshaker, Stormbringer, Father of Horses. Hail, Perseus Jackson, Son of the Sea God.

THINK LIKE A READER!

A first person narrator tells the story using "I", "me", and "my". We only know what the narrator knows, feels and sees. This can make the story exciting, personal and mysterious!

TASK 1: PLOT RETRIEVAL

Circle or write the correct answer.

1. What caused the campers' cheering to stop?
   - A The hellhound appeared.
   - B Chiron spoke in Ancient Greek.
   - C Annabeth drew her sword.
   - D Percy was injured.

2. How was the hellhound defeated?
   - A Annabeth fought it with her sword.
   - B Chiron shot it with arrows.
   - C Percy used his powers.
   - D The campers attacked together.

3. What happened to Percy after he stepped into the water?
   - A He fell unconscious.
   - B His wounds healed.
   - C He saw a vision.
   - D He discovered a weapon.

4. What did the sign above Percy's head look like?
   - A A helmet
   - B A trident
   - C A lightning bolt
   - D A shield

5. Who is revealed to be Percy's father?

   _____

TASK 2: INFERENCE

Read the questions below and write your answers in full sentences. Use evidence from the extract to support your ideas.

1. How do you think Percy feels during the attack? Give two clues from the text.

   _____
   _____
   _____

2. Why do you think Percy says, 'I'm okay,' even though he is hurt?

   _____
   _____

3. How does the fact that Percy is the narrator make the discovery of his parentage more powerful for the reader?

   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____

4. What can we infer about the atmosphere in the camp when campers kneel?

   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____

TASK 3: FOCUS ON NARRATION

Answer the questions in full sentences.

1. What do we learn about the story only through Percy's point of view?

   _____
   _____

2. What effect does the first person narrator have on you as a reader?

   _____
   _____

3. Would the scene be as exciting if it were told by a third person narrator? Why or why not?

   _____
   _____

FINAL REFLECTION

In one or two sentences, explain how first person narration helped you feel more connected to Percy and the events in this extract.

_____

Tip: Use words like 'because', 'this makes me feel…'

Week 7

HOMEWORK CASE FILE

The Speckled Band

Night watch, climax and solution

Name: _____	Due: _____

Your 40-minute mission

8 MIN	8 MIN	12 MIN	12 MIN
Solve the ending	Match the clues	Draw the case	Explain tension

Learning being checked

- ☐ I know the full solution and what happens to Dr Roylott.
- ☐ I can match important clues to Holmes's explanation.
- ☐ I can identify and summarise the climax and denouement.
- ☐ I can explain how Doyle delays action and creates tension.

MISSION 1 • SOLVE THE ENDING

Tick one answer for each question.

1. What did Holmes strike during the night watch?

☐ A the bell-rope ☐ B the window ☐ C the safe

2. What made the soft hissing sound?

☐ A the cheetah ☐ B the snake ☐ C the wind

3. What happened when Holmes struck the rope?

☐ A The snake went back through the ventilator. ☐ B Helen entered the room. ☐ C The safe opened.

4. How did Dr Roylott die?

☐ A He fell from the window. ☐ B His own snake bit him. ☐ C Watson shot him.

5. What is the climax?

☐ A Helen visits Baker Street. ☐ B Holmes strikes and the scream is heard. ☐ C Holmes explains the clues.

6. What is the denouement?

☐ A Holmes explains how the plan worked. ☐ B The detectives travel to Stoke Moran. ☐ C Roylott bends the poker.

Case-file summary

Complete: Dr Roylott tried to use a _____ to kill Helen. Holmes frightened it back through the _____. It bit _____ instead.

MISSION 2 • CRACK THE CLUE CODE

Draw a line or write the matching letter beside each clue.

CLUE		HOLMES'S EXPLANATION
Ventilator	___	A reward used to train the snake
Dummy bell-rope	___	B snake's hiding place
Bed clamped down	___	C keeps the victim in the snake's path
Saucer of milk	___	D route between the rooms
Low whistle	___	E calls the snake back
Iron safe	___	F bridge for the snake

Clue detective challenge

Choose the most important clue
Circle one: ventilator • bell-rope • fixed bed • milk • whistle • safe

Explain your choice using because:

Purple challenge
Why does Holmes need several clues before he can solve the mystery?

MISSION 3 • DRAW THE CASE

Create a four-frame comic summary.

Draw each moment. Add a short caption using the key words.

1 • WAITING

Words: darkness • silence • vigil

Caption: Holmes and Watson wait beside the bed.

2 • CLIMAX

Words: hiss • strike • scream

Caption: Holmes strikes the bell-rope.

3 • DISCOVERY

Words: Roylott • snake • chair

Caption: The detectives discover Roylott.

4 • DENOUEMENT

Words: clues • explains • solution

Caption: Holmes explains how the plan worked.

Artist's check

- ☐ My pictures show the events in the correct order.
- ☐ I have labelled the climax and the denouement.
- ☐ My captions summarise what happens.