

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Part 1 (Chapters 1–6)

1 Vocabulary

Complete the pairs of sentences with two of the words in brackets.
(master / butler / executor)

- 1 A _____ is the most important male servant in a wealthy house.
 - 2 People who work in a country house work hard for the _____.
- (an invalid / a companion / a hypochondriac)
- 3 _____ needs constant care and support from other people.
 - 4 _____ likes to get attention, but may not be very ill.
- (an allowance / a legacy / an estate)
- 5 _____ is money or property which another person leaves to you in their will.
 - 6 If you get _____, you have a regular income from another person.

(ridiculous / senile / insane)

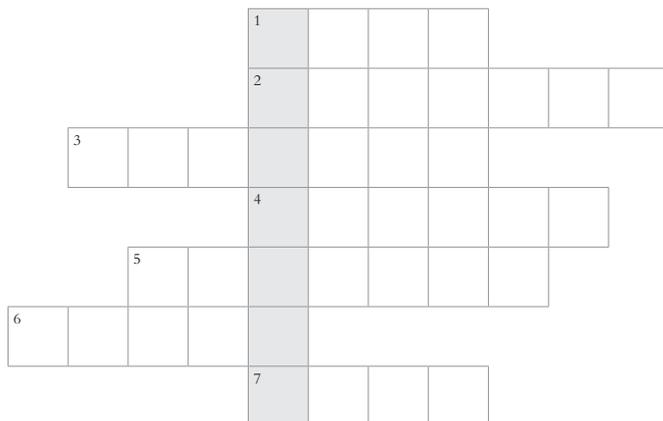
- 7 Someone who is _____ is unable to behave reasonably and normally because they are mentally ill.
- 8 Sometimes elderly people can become _____ and imagine things which aren't real.

(naïve / late / broke)

- 9 Someone who is _____ doesn't have any money.
- 10 A _____ person thinks the world is a simple and easy place to live.

2 Vocabulary

Read the clues and complete the grid. What is the mystery word?



- 1 someone who has the right to inherit a person's money or property when that person dies
- 2 uncomfortable and clumsy
- 3 a very large amount of money
- 4 someone for whom a professional person provides a service
- 5 to receive money or property from someone who has died
- 6 to show that something is definitely true
- 7 to move something so that it is on one side

The mystery word is: _____

3 Grammar

Complete the sentences from the story using the past perfect or the past simple form of the verbs.

- 1 The Master _____ (never / recover) from his son's death, six months before.
- 2 It had been twenty-five years since Lanscombe _____ (last / see) Cora.
- 3 Leo Abernethie's widow, Helen, he _____ (know) well.
- 4 She was an actress, not a very good one, and she _____ (marry) an actor.
- 5 A big, sensible woman, she _____ (always / be) a good wife to Timothy.
- 6 Her mother _____ (die) giving birth to her.
- 7 They _____ (spend) most of their married life in seaside towns.
- 8 Lansquenet _____ (be) a very bad painter.

4 Grammar

Write these sentences in reported speech.

- 1 'What do you mean, Cora?' someone asked.
.....
- 2 'He was murdered, wasn't he?' asked Cora.
.....
- 3 'I know I'm always saying the wrong thing,' said Cora.
.....
- 4 'If he was murdered, who do you think did it?' asked Rosamund.
.....
- 5 'Michael and I are completely broke,' said Rosamund.
.....

5 Comprehension

Answer the questions.

- 1 How many people benefitted from Richard's will?
.....
- 2 What mannerisms does Cora have that she is famous for?
.....
- 3 What does Cora say she will do with the money?
.....
- 4 What does Entwistle think that Richard's will shows?
.....
- 5 Why is George pleased to have inherited money?
.....
- 6 Why does Maude think Timothy will be annoyed?
.....
- 7 Why was Cora in bed when she was attacked?
.....

After the Funeral

Agatha Christie

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Part 2 (Chapters 7–11)

1 Vocabulary

Complete the sentences with a noun, or a verb in the correct form.

Verbs: admit resent hesitate protest testify
Nouns: coincidence evidence custom fee groan

- It is a _____ that you were in the village on the night of the murder.
- OK, I _____ I needed the money, but I wouldn't murder anyone.
- The suspect will go to court, but we haven't got anyone to _____ against him.
- The _____ of sending out wedding cake is a nice thing to do for guests who can't come to the wedding.
- Listen – I think I heard a _____ – is somebody hurt?
- Younger brothers and sisters might _____ an older brother for inheriting most of the money and property.
- She is a good solicitor, but her _____ is very high.
- I'm not sure if I believe her – she _____ before she answered me.
- I have an idea of what happened, but we need _____ to prove it.
- He _____ that the food was bad, but he ate a large meal.

2 Vocabulary

Match the words to complete the phrases.

1 set a	a driven
2 chauffeur	b believe
3 put things	c into your confidence
4 take somebody	d trap
5 make	e in store

3 Grammar

Match the parts of the conditional sentences.

1 Would you have known her...	a until the house is sold.
2 The moment I spoke to her face to face	b I would have recognized her.
3 If Richard Abernethie was murdered,	c she would always want to talk about it.
4 I am going to ask if you could stay here	d if you had seen her in the street?
5 If she knew a secret,	e Miss Gilchrist might not be alive today.
6 If it hadn't been for an old maid's foolishness,	f there seems only one way it could have been done.

4 Grammar

Make sentences using the words in the table.

Entwhistle	won't be going	Cora's furniture.
Hercule Poirot	will investigate	a beauty salon.
Susan and Gregory	is going to	to the office in future.
George	will sell	better things to do.
George	will have	the case for Entwhistle.
Susan	are going to open	explain all the facts for Poirot.

5 Comprehension

Are the sentences true or false? Correct any that you think are false.

- Entwhistle has evidence that George has been gambling with his client's money.
- Poirot advises Entwhistle to talk to Richard's doctor.
- Lanscombe has heard Richard say that he thought he was being poisoned.
- Richard didn't approve of acting as a job.
- Timothy Abernethie didn't inherit any money from his father.
- Miss Gilchrist had a visitor before Susan arrived.
- Susan is willing to sleep in Cora's bedroom.
- Susan and Entwhistle are worried about Timothy.

6 Comprehension

Who might say each of these things?

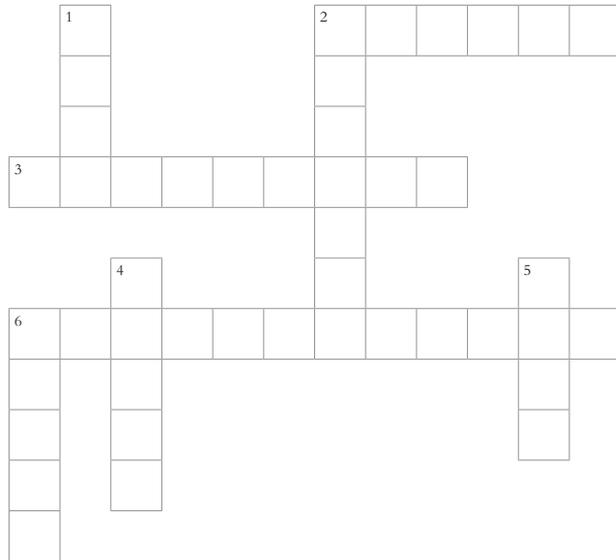
- 'I don't believe what everyone has told me, and I think the case should be investigated.'
- 'You should make sure Miss Gilchrist is safe.'
- 'I will miss living at Enderby Hall.'
- 'I know something is wrong, but I can't explain it.'
- 'I want to help clear things up at Cora's cottage.'
- 'Cora never painted from postcards.'
- 'Cora bought some terrible paintings.'
- 'Miss Gilchrist has been poisoned by arsenic.'

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Part 3 (Chapters 12–18)

1 Vocabulary

Complete the crossword puzzle.



Across

- 2 to say formally that you are leaving your job
- 3 money that is kept for someone and is invested to make more money
- 6 spoken or written in secret and needing to stay secret

Down

- 1 a large platform which sticks out into the sea and which people can walk along
- 2 a person who has been forced to leave their country because of their political or religious beliefs
- 4 to secretly look around somewhere to find things
- 5 if your employer does this, they tell you that you can no longer work for them
- 6 a dishonest person

2 Vocabulary

Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

shade prosecution insight vanity nursing home lethal dose

- 1 Michael Shane is a suspect because he has enough _____ to be a murderer.
- 2 Helen breaks a glass _____ when she is talking to Poirot.
- 3 Poirot thinks Rosamund has great _____ when she says he is a detective.
- 4 Before he married Susan, Gregory spent time in a _____.
- 5 Only a trained chemist would know the _____ of different poisons.
- 6 When Gregory was working at a chemist's, he made a woman ill, but there was no _____.

3 Grammar

Choose the correct word to complete the sentences.

- 1 Very **few** / **many** people employed the services of Mr Goby.
- 2 Rosamund doesn't know **some** / **much** about anything.
- 3 There are **lots** / **many** of places where Michael could have hidden a car.
- 4 Rosamund has accounts in **a number of** / **a few of** shops.
- 5 I have no idea how **much** / **many** miles she did that day.
- 6 He had already asked for **a some of** / **a couple of** days off work because of the funeral.
- 7 He says he's **very** / **too** ill to do anything for himself.
- 8 Maude asked for **many** / **some** sandwiches to take with her.

4 Grammar

Complete the sentences. Use five of the words in the box.

to go out / going out of working / to work
to find / finding to see / seeing meeting / to meet

- 1 Maude said she would like _____ walking.
- 2 The problem with the car was difficult _____.
- 3 Inspector Morton was interested _____ Poirot at the inquest.
- 4 Poirot thinks Morton has a very wise way _____.
- 5 Poirot went upstairs without _____ anybody.

5 Comprehension

What does Mr Goby discover about the characters? Match each person to the correct sentence.

Timothy Gregory Banks Rosamund Shane Helen
Michael Shane Maude Susan Banks George

- 1 _____ worked in a pharmacy and once gave a woman an almost lethal dose of medicine.
- 2 _____ is in debt and has been worried for three months.
- 3 _____ has been having an affair with an actress.
- 4 _____ took her car out in the afternoon.
- 5 _____ hasn't paid all her shopping accounts.
- 6 _____ was in a very bad temper on the morning of the day after the funeral.
- 7 _____ stayed in a hotel because her car broke down.
- 8 _____ went to London to buy clothes, because she is staying longer than she planned.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Part 4 (Chapters 19–23)

1 Vocabulary

Match the words to the definitions.

1 fatally	a to lose consciousness for a short time
2 confirm	b doing something without showing pity or emotion
3 sneer	c a mental or emotional problem, often caused by an unpleasant experience in the past
4 precaution	d an action intended to prevent something dangerous from happening
5 faint	e something you say or write which gives information in a formal way
6 in cold blood	f to show that what you believe is definitely true
7 complex	g to show you disrespect someone by your expression
8 statement	h causing death
9 it takes all sorts	i to state that you are telling the truth
10 swear	j someone or their behaviour is strange

2 Comprehension

Write these events in the correct order.

- a ___ Miss Gilchrist puts a sleeping drug in Cora's tea.
- b ___ Richard Abernethie invites his nieces and nephews to stay with him.
- c ___ Miss Gilchrist talks to everyone at the funeral, but gets Cora's mannerisms wrong.
- d ___ Richard Abernethie dies of natural causes.
- e ___ Helen is attacked when she realizes what was wrong.
- f ___ Mr Entwistle takes a picture to Mr Guthrie.
- g ___ Miss Gilchrist realizes that Cora has a valuable painting.
- h ___ Helen breaks a glass shade over some wax flowers.

3 Comprehension

Who...?

- 1 says he murdered Richard Abernethie, but didn't?
- 2 tells Poirot she heard Richard saying he was being poisoned by his niece?
- 3 doesn't want his wife to know where he was when Cora died?
- 4 knows her husband couldn't have poisoned Richard?
- 5 is in a nursing home, but will be well enough to come home soon?
- 6 knows her husband is being unfaithful?

4 Comprehension

Are the sentences true or false? Correct any you think are false.

- 1 ___ Mr Guthrie was part of the plan to kill Cora.
- 2 ___ Helen has a nephew in Cyprus.
- 3 ___ Two nuns heard Cora in the cottage on the day of the funeral.
- 4 ___ The parcel of wedding cake was delivered by the post van driver.
- 5 ___ Poirot is suspicious of the story about nuns coming to the house.
- 6 ___ Inspector Morton became suspicious of Susan when Miss Gilchrist was poisoned badly but not fatally.
- 7 ___ Under the picture of Polflexan Harbour there is a valuable painting.
- 8 ___ Miss Gilchrist killed Cora so that she would have enough money to go to Italy.

5 Grammar

Put these words in the correct order to make sentences.

- 1 having / cure / a / says / rest / he's / Susan
- 2 decided / leave / I've / stage / to / the
- 3 our / never / he / knew / child / about
- 4 brought / they / guilty / in / a / verdict / of course / of
- 5 sane / as / she / was / you / as / I / and
- 6 murderers / Poirot / had / known / of / he / thought

ANSWER KEY (STUDENT ACTIVITIES)

Part 1 (Chapters 1–6)

1 Vocabulary

- 1 butler
- 2 master
- 3 An invalid
- 4 A hypochondriac
- 5 A legacy
- 6 an allowance
- 7 insane
- 8 senile
- 9 broke
- 10 naïve

2 Vocabulary

- 1 heir
- 2 awkward
- 3 fortune
- 4 client
- 5 inherit
- 6 prove
- 7 tilt

The mystery word is: hatchet

3 Grammar

- 1 had never recovered
- 2 had last seen
- 3 knew
- 4 had married
- 5 had always been
- 6 had died
- 7 spent
- 8 was

4 Grammar

- 1 Someone asked Cora what she meant.
- 2 Cora asked if he had been murdered.
- 3 Cora said that she knew she was always saying the wrong thing.
- 4 Rosamund asked if he was murdered, who they thought had done it.
- 5 Rosamund said that she and Michael were completely broke.

5 Comprehension

- 1 Seven; Lanscombe and the family members Timothy, Helen, Cora, George, Susan and Rosamund.
- 2 She always says the wrong thing, and she tilts her head when she talks to a person.
- 3 Go to Italy.
- 4 That he was disappointed with his brother and his nieces and nephews.
- 5 Because he has been taking money out of his clients' accounts, and now he can pay it back.
- 6 He had expected to inherit all the money.
- 7 She had been ill; she had taken painkillers and gone to bed.

Part 2 (Chapters 7–11)

1 Vocabulary

- 1 coincidence
- 2 admit
- 3 testify
- 4 custom
- 5 groan
- 6 resent
- 7 fee
- 8 hesitated
- 9 evidence
- 10 protested

2 Vocabulary

- 1 d
- 2 a
- 3 e
- 4 c
- 5 b

3 Grammar

- 1 d
- 2 b
- 3 f
- 4 a
- 5 c
- 6 e

4 Grammar

Entwhistle is going to explain all the facts for Poirot.
Hercule Poirot will investigate the case for Entwhistle.
Susan and Gregory are going to open a beauty salon.
George won't be going to the office in future.
George will have better things to do.
Susan will sell Cora's furniture.

5 Comprehension

- 1 False. He suspects it but he doesn't have any evidence.
- 2 True
- 3 False. He hasn't heard him say anything like this.
- 4 True
- 5 False. He inherited money but has spent it all.
- 6 True (a nun came collecting money)
- 7 True
- 8 False. They are worried about Maude.

6 Comprehension

- 1 Entwhistle
- 2 Poirot
- 3 Lanscombe
- 4 Helen
- 5 Susan
- 6 Miss Gilchrist
- 7 Mr Guthrie
- 8 Dr Proctor

Part 3 (Chapters 12–18)

1 Vocabulary

- Across**
- 2 resign
 - 3 trust fund
 - 6 confidential
- Down**
- 1 pier
 - 2 refugee
 - 4 snoop
 - 5 sack
 - 6 crook

2 Vocabulary

- 1 vanity
- 2 shade
- 3 insight
- 4 nursing home
- 5 lethal dose
- 6 prosecution

3 Grammar

- 1 few
- 2 much
- 3 lots
- 4 a number of
- 5 many
- 6 a couple of
- 7 too
- 8 some

4 Grammar

- 1 to go out
- 2 to find
- 3 to see
- 4 of working
- 5 meeting

5 Comprehension

- 1 Gregory Banks
- 2 George
- 3 Michael Shane
- 4 Susan Banks
- 5 Rosamund Shane
- 6 Timothy
- 7 Maude
- 8 Helen

Part 4 (Chapters 19–23)

1 Vocabulary

- 1 h
- 2 f
- 3 g
- 4 d
- 5 a
- 6 b
- 7 c
- 8 e
- 9 j
- 10 i

ANSWER KEY (STUDENT ACTIVITIES)

2 Comprehension

- 1 g
- 2 b
- 3 d
- 4 a
- 5 c
- 6 h
- 7 e
- 8 f

3 Comprehension

- 1 Gregory Banks
- 2 Miss Gilchrist
- 3 Michael Shane
- 4 Susan Banks
- 5 Helen
- 6 Rosamund

4 Comprehension

- 1 False. He didn't know about it.
- 2 False. She has a son in Cyprus.
- 3 True
- 4 False. It was put there by Miss Gilchrist.
- 5 True
- 6 False. He became suspicious of Miss Gilchrist.
- 7 True
- 8 False. She killed her so she would have enough money to buy a tearoom.

5 Grammar

- 1 He's having a rest cure, Susan says.
- 2 I've decided to leave the stage.
- 3 He never knew about our child.
- 4 They brought in a verdict of guilty, of course.
- 5 She was as sane as you and I.
- 6 Poirot thought of murderers he had known.