

Week 1- Context

- Arthur Ignatius Conan Doyle was born in Edinburgh on May 22, 1859.
- Doyle pursued a career in medicine and became in Portsmouth. He worked with Dr. Bell, who was exceptionally observant. Doyle thought he would write stories in which the hero would treat crime as Dr Bell treated disease and where science would take the place of chance.
- *The Hound of the Baskervilles* merges two popular literary genres: the Gothic tale and detective fiction.
- *The Hound of the Baskervilles* makes use of the typical Gothic themes and symbols—a family curse and the legend of a paranormal dog, a hero stranded in a strange place, gloomy manors and ruins with sinister secrets, flickering lights, dark shadows, and eerie, fog-covered landscapes.
- *The Hound of the Baskervilles* was first published in serialized format in *Strand Magazine*, a monthly periodical that was in print from 1891 to 1950. The serialization accounts for the many skilful cliff-hangers in popular detective fiction.

Week 2 - Methods

- **Irony:** a subtle form of humour which involves saying things you do not mean
- **Foreboding:** a strong feeling that something terrible is going to happen
- **Foreshadowing:** a sign or indication of something to come in the story
- **Pathetic Fallacy:** the attribution of human emotion and conduct to things found in nature that are not human.
- **Red herring:** anything that diverts attention from a topic or line of inquiry
- **Metaphor:** a comparison in which a word or phrase ordinarily and primarily used of one thing is then applied to another
- **Simile:** a comparison that expresses the resemblance of one thing to another usually using “like” or “as”
- **Personification:** the attribution of human characteristics to things that aren’t human
- **Onomatopoeia:** the use of words which sound like the noise they refer to.

Week 3 - Key Quotations

- *“I believe you have eyes in the back of your head.”* - Dr Watson, Chapter 1
- *“Some people without possessing genius have a remarkable power of stimulating it.”* Sherlock Holmes, Chapter 1
- *“The world is full of obvious things which nobody by any chance ever observes.”* Sherlock Holmes, Chapter 3
- *“The devil’s agents may be of flesh and blood, may they not?”* - Sherlock Holmes, Chapter 3
- *“Behind the peaceful and sunlit country –side there rose ... the long, gloomy curve of the moor, broken by the jagged and sinister hills.”* - Dr. Watson, Chapter 6

Week 4 - Punctuation; the semicolon

- The most common use of the semicolon is to join together two clauses that could each be separate sentences — creating a longer sentence. For example:
John calls it football; Sam calls it soccer.
- This could be written as two sentences without the semicolon; however, the relationship between the two clauses is made more clear through the use of a semicolon. The semicolon is often used to make the reader think about the relationship between the two clauses.
- The semicolon is also commonly used to join two clauses, changing the sentence in combination with words like ‘therefore’, ‘however’ or ‘on the other hand’. For example:
Sian is Welsh; however, she lives in Canada.
He likes to play video games; in addition, he likes to read classical literature.

Week 5 - Key Characters

- **Sherlock Holmes:** a private detective who solves crimes and mysteries by using his superior powers of deduction.
- **Dr. Watson:** Holmes's loyal sidekick and friend who accompanies Sir Henry to investigate the mysterious events at Baskerville Hall and reports back to Holmes.
- **Sir Henry Baskerville:** the apparent sole heir to the Baskerville estate and fortune. He is the current target of threats and mysterious events connected to the Baskerville legend.
- **Jack Stapleton:** a butterfly-hunting entomologist and former schoolmaster. The bookish façade hides one of the more cunning villains Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson have ever faced.

Week 6 - Vocabulary

- **Motive:** a reason for doing something
- **Manuscript:** an old handwritten document
- **Phantom:** a ghost
- **Coroner:** an official who is responsible for investigating the deaths of people who have died in a sudden, violent or unusual way.
- **Folklore:** the unwritten literature of people as expressed in folk tales, proverbs, riddle or songs
- **Perspective:** a particular way of thinking about something, especially one that is influenced by your beliefs or experiences .