

The Abbey Grange Quiz

Nashville Scholars / 09-16-2023

Prepared by Jim Hawkins

1. Finish these quotes:

a. "Come, Watson, come! The game is _ _____!"

b. "Your fatal habit of looking at everything from the point of view of a _____ instead of as a scientific exercise has ruined what might have been an instructive and even classical series of demonstrations."

c. "Yes, his _____ was knocked in with his own _____."

d. "*Vox populi, vox Dei*. You are _____, Captain Crocker."

(5 points)

Answers: a. a-foot, b. story, c. head, poker, d. acquitted

2. Who sent this message to Holmes?

Abbey Grange, Marsham, Kent

3:30 A.M.

MY DEAR MR. HOLMES:

I should be very glad of your immediate assistance in what promises to be a most remarkable case. It is something quite in your line. Except for releasing the lady I will see that everything is kept exactly as I have found it, but I beg you not to lose an instant, as it is difficult to leave Sir Eustace there.

Yours faithfully,

Supply the name of the writer of this note. _____.

What was his official position? _____.

(10 points)

Answers: Stanley Hopkins, Scotland Yard inspector

3. Holmes criticizes Watson's reporting of his cases, so Watson suggests that Holmes should write them himself. Holmes retorts that he will but is too busy at the present time. He then tells Watson that he plans to (do what?) _____.

And that project will "focus the _____ into one volume."

(10 points)

Answer: "Why do you not write them yourself?" I said, with some bitterness.

"I will, my dear Watson, I will. At present, I am, as you know, fairly busy, **but I propose to devote my declining years to the composition of a textbook, which shall focus the whole art of detection into one volume.**"

BONUS QUESTION: What Sherlockian author, a friend of the Nashville Scholars, wrote a book using this quote as her title? (No Points, just information) **Answer:** Lyndsay Faye

4. Lady Brackenstall details—True/False

- a. She and Sir Eustace Brackenstall had a happy marriage. ____
- b. She was a native of Canada. ____
- c. Watson describes her as “blonde, golden-haired, blue-eyed” ____
- d. She described her husband as “a confirmed drunkard.” ____
- e. Holmes noticed cat scratches on Lady Brackenstall’s arm. ____

(10 points)

Answers: a. F, b. F, c. F, d. T, e. F

5. Sir Eustace Brackenstall was bad. When he was drunk, he was really bad.

a. What had he done to Lady B’s dog? _____

b. What had he thrown at the maid, Theresa Wright? _____

(5 points each for 10 points)

Answers: *set it on fire, decanter*

6. What was it about the wine glasses that caught Holmes’s eye and set his brain to ticking?

One word: _____

Answer: *Beeswing or bees-wing*

What did it tell him about Lady Brackenstall and her maid Theresa: _____

Answer: *“That only two glasses were used, and that the dregs of both were poured into a third glass, so as to give the false impression that three people had been here. In that way all the beeswing would be in the last glass, would it not? Yes, I am convinced that this is so. But if I have hit upon the true explanation of this one small phenomenon, then in an instant the case rises from the commonplace to the exceedingly remarkable, for it can only mean that Lady Brackenstall and her maid have deliberately lied to us, that not one word of their story is to be believed, that they have some very strong reason for covering the real criminal, and that we must construct our case for ourselves without any help from them.”*

(5 points each. 10 points)

7. Fill in the blanks: “It’s _____ –it’s all _____ –I’ll swear that it’s _____.”

(10 points for all)

Answer: *Wrong. Wrong. Wrong.*

8. Holmes and Watson return to Abbey Grange and have the dining room to themselves, allowing Holmes one of those “*minute and laborious investigations which form the solid basis on which his brilliant edifices of deduction were reared.*” Watson “*followed every step of his remarkable search.*”

Watson names five items Holmes inspected “*–each in turn was minutely examined and duly pondered.*” Name three of them: _____, _____, _____.

(5 points each/15 for all three)

Answer: *The window, the curtains, the carpet, the chair, the rope –each in turn was minutely examined and duly pondered.*

9. What bizarre behavior on board the ship *Rock of Gibraltar* did Jack Crocker confess to Holmes in the final scene? _____.
(10 points)

Answer: *Every day of that voyage I loved her more, and many a time since have I kneeled down in the darkness of the night watch and kissed the deck of that ship because I knew her dear feet had trod it. [A foot fetish? The game is a-foot?]*

10. What did Holmes notice about the bell rope and the knots used to tie it to the chair?
(10 points)

Answer: *Sailor's knots.*

[End of ABBE Quiz]