

Activity L Tapescript

Mr. and Mrs. Hume lived peacefully outside London in the middle of the last century.

Mr. Hume went into London most days. Mrs. Hume didn't know much about his business, but he paid the bills and looked after her nicely, so she didn't worry very much.

One day she suddenly had a little bit of business of her own to attend to, so she went up to London herself. She got a bit lost on her way home, and wandered into a very poor area near the river. Suddenly to her surprise she saw her husband looking out of the window of a very dirty old building. She only saw him for a moment, but he looked very frightened, and then disappeared.

Mrs. Hume tried to get into the building, but no one would answer her knocks. A policeman was passing just then, so she asked for his help, and eventually an old lady let them in, and they rushed upstairs. There in the room where she had seen her husband was a dirty old beggar, but no sign of her husband. They searched, but all they found was a small piece of torn cloth on a nail by the window. The old lady seemed simple and insisted she knew nothing. The beggar only numbled and gave no help at all. The policeman said he knew him. His name was Gunn, and he was quite a well-known beggar in that part of London. More police officers arrived and the river below the window at the back was searched. Sure enough Mr. Humes's clothes were found, weighted down with hundreds of low-value coins. The mystery seemed to be increasing every minute.

The police arrested the beggar, and told Mrs. Hume to go home. She did, but there was no sign of her husband. Very worried indeed, she went early in the morning to Sherlock Holmes. He thought about it, and soon came up with the solution, and a rather ashamed Mr. Hume was soon at home.

Can you solve the case?

William lived on a farm. He had a girlfriend, by the name of Susan. Their relationship was a pretty stormy one. She was the friendly type, and worked in a bar in the local town. He was the jealous type, and liked to be quiet. Finally, tragedy happened. Susan was found dead in the big old wooden corn store on the farm. There was a rope round her neck, and the neck itself was very badly bruised. William said he'd gone into the corn store after working all day around the fields, and found Susan hanging. Of course, he'd taken her down as quickly as he could, but she was already dead. He couldn't understand why she should commit suicide, but there it was. The police listened to his story, and then checked something. They then arrested William for the murder of Susan.

How do you think they knew?