Sherlock Holmes and the American Problem
by R. Hamilton Wright inspired by the works of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
*Especially for Grades 7-12

Barter Theatre Main Stage – Fall, 2017

(NO:TE standards listed below are for seeing a performance of the play, and completing the study guide.)

Virginia SOLs
English – 7.1, 7.4, 7.5, 7.7, 7.9, 8.2, 8.4, 8.5, 8.7, 8.9, 9.1, 9.3, 9.4, 9.6, 9.8, 10.3, 10.4, 10.6, 10.8, 11.3, 11.6, 11.8, 12.1, 12.3, 12.4, 12.6

Tennessee/North Carolina Common Core Standards
English Language Arts – Reading Literacy: 7.1, 7.4, 7.7, 7.10, 8.1, 8.4, 8.6, 8.7, 8.10, 9-10.1, 9-10.4, 9-10.6, 9-10.9, 9-10.10, 11-12.1, 11-12.4, 11-12.7, 11-12.10
English Language Arts – Writing: 7.1, 7.7, 7.8, 7.9, 8.1, 8.7, 8.8, 8.9, 9-10.1, 9-10.7, 9-10.8, 9-10.9, 11-12.1, 11-12.7, 11-12.8, 11-12.9

Tennessee Standards
Theatre 6-8 – 6.1, 6.2, 7.1, 7.2 Theatre 9-12 – 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 7.1, 7.2

North Carolina Standards
Theatre Arts – 7.A.1, 7.AE.1, 7.CU.1, 8.A.1, 8.AE.1, 8.CU.1, 8.CU.2, B.C.1, B.C.2, B.A.1, B.AE.1, B.CU.1, B.CU.2, I.A.1, I.AE.1, I.CU.2, P.C.1, P.A.1, P.AE.1, A.C.2, A.A.1, A.AE.1

Setting
Various locations in London – June 1887
Characters

*Sherlock Holmes* – a consulting detective
*Dr. John Watson* – his friend and colleague
*Mrs. Hudson* – their housekeeper
*Phoebe Ann Moses* – a young American woman, a.k.a. Annie Oakley
*Charlotte Lichter* – an American mining engineer
*Mycroft Holmes* – Sherlock’s older brother
*The Pinkerton* – an American detective
*“Mayhem” Maggie Malloy* – an American criminal
*Major Thaddeus Isaac Ramsey* – an Army tutor
*Arnold Crofters* – a bank teller
*Solomon Moses* – Phoebe’s brother and a criminal
*Dubby* – Solomon Moses’ bodyguard
*Boyle* – Solomon Moses’ bodyguard
*Various killers*
*Several victims*

Vocabulary Words

emigrate conduits crumby
 demolition cacophony Bowery
 venial hurly-burly immunity
 scones marmalade nexus
 sublime callous cad
 metropolis slide rule shamus
 contingent reticule nocturnal
 throng patent septic
 ruminate Jubilee docile
 egregious exhibition stricture
 ad nauseam anagram tincture
 tripe plausible equilibrium
Synopsis
The year is 1887, and England’s Queen Victoria is getting ready to celebrate her Golden Jubilee, commemorating fifty years on the throne. Tourists – especially American tourists, are flocking to London for the festivities, and no one is more frustrated by this turn of events than Sherlock Holmes, the world’s most famous consulting detective. Just last night, a swarm of American tourists caused him to lose sight of the man he was tailing - Arnold Crofters, whom Sherlock believes to be the connection between organized crime and England’s financial institutions. And now he has learned from the police that Crofters was later found stabbed to death. As Sherlock contemplates this mystery, a new one arrives in the form of Phoebe Ann Moses, a young American woman who begs Sherlock to find her brother Solomon, who has been missing for quite a while. Phoebe fears that her brother, who became involved with the criminal element after the American Civil War, is involved in dangerous business here in England, and she wants to save him before it’s too late. No sooner does Sherlock agree to help her than he is approached by another woman looking for help. Miss Charlotte Lichter is an American mining engineer who has designed a tunnel boring machine known as The Mole. She had the machine shipped to London for part of the Jubilee celebration known as the American Exhibition; however, it was mysteriously stolen off the St. Katharine’s docks before it could reach the fairgrounds. Sherlock agrees to help Charlotte as well. Just then he receives yet another visitor – his brother Mycroft. Mycroft has arrived with the sole purpose of inviting his brother Sherlock to an art exhibition given the next night in honor of their great-uncle, the French painter Emile Vernet. Sherlock hesitates – this is very unusual behavior for his brother – but Mycroft eventually persuades him. After Mycroft leaves, Watson goes out to see Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show, which is performing in London as part of the Jubilee entertainment. Sherlock, trying to locate the murderer of Arnold Crofters, follows another well-known criminal, Jefferson Henry, to the docks, where he witnesses Henry’s murder by his two bodyguards. He also discovers two other things: 1) Jefferson Henry is, in fact, Solomon Moses and 2) Solomon Moses knew Sherlock’s name and expected Sherlock to be following him.
Synopsis (cont.)

After the two bodyguards kill Moses, they turn on Sherlock, but he is saved at the last minute by a stranger, a member of Pinkerton’s Detective Agency. The Pinkerton is in England to protect his client, Phoebe Ann Moses, who Sherlock learns is really Annie Oakley, the sharpsnooting star of Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show nicknamed “Little Sure Shot.” Now that her brother is dead, Annie begs Sherlock to discover who his murderer is and he agrees. Later that night, Sherlock and Dr. Watson meet the Pinkerton, who has information on Dubby and Boyle, the two men who killed Solomon Moses. The Pinkerton recognizes them from his Brooklyn days and informs Sherlock that they now run with a gang called the Whyos. The Pinkerton leads Holmes and Watson to their hotel. While he goes inside, Watson and Holmes meet a beautiful woman on the street who claims she is a lost American with no money. Just then the Pinkerton sees her and recognizes her as criminal mastermind “Mayhem” Maggie Malloy. She flees and a chase ensues. She eludes them for a bit, and when they finally find her, she is approaching a strange man. Sherlock interrupts her. She pulls a gun at the same time Pinkerton pulls his – suddenly Annie Oakley steps in and shoots both their weapons out of their hands. Maggie runs off. The strange man faints – when he comes to we discover that he is Major T. I. Ramsey. Ramsey assures them he is all right, then leaves. It is then that Watson discovers the empty crates used to house The Mole. The plot thickens. The Pinkerton, with Annie’s help, sets off to track down Maggie Malloy. Sherlock assigns Watson the task of finding where The Mole may have gone underground, while he himself, suspicious of Major Ramsey, is determined to find out more about him. Meanwhile, we see Maggie Malloy hobnobbing with the one-armed American Ambassador.

When Sherlock arrives at Major Ramsey’s rooms, he confronts him about his past and eventually accuses him of murdering Arnold Crofters and Solomon Moses in order to gain control of London’s underworld. Major Ramsey dismisses the accusations and asks Sherlock to leave. Dr. Watson discovers the entrance to the tunnel made by The Mole and returns to Baker Street to confer with Sherlock. Through careful deduction, Sherlock determines that someone is after the Bank of England’s printing plates and used The Mole to tunnel under the bank to get them. He deduces that the criminals will be meeting at a bakery located on Carlisle Street, near the American Embassy.
Synopsis (cont.)

What’s more, Sherlock also suspects that his brother Mycroft, an agent for the government, is involved. He and Watson split up, and Sherlock goes to the bakery, where he catches Maggie Malloy and her henchman redhanded. The Pinkerton and Annie Oakley show up as well, ready to help out. They disarm Maggie and her henchman when suddenly Mycroft Holmes enters and asks them all to leave. Sherlock refuses. Mycroft explains that Arnold Crofters was one of his agents working in the bank, that Crofters betrayed him by facilitating the theft of the printing plates. Solomon Moses was a demolitions expert in the American Civil War – his expertise was used to dynamite into the vault where the printing plates were held. The Mole was used to facilitate movement underground between every place involved. Major Ramsey steps out of the shadows. We find out that Major Ramsey had the printing plates stolen and had sold them to the American Ambassador, who wanted to flood the British economy with ten-pound notes in order to destroy it. The American Ambassador was seeking revenge against the British for not supporting the Union in the American Civil War, where he, the American Ambassador, lost an arm. Major Ramsey then went to Mycroft and offered to retrieve the plates – the same plates he had stolen – if he was granted immunity to do whatever it took to retrieve them. The Queen granted Major Ramsey immunity, and Ramsey used this opportunity to kill every criminal who stood in his way of taking over England’s organized crime. He couldn’t be punished for it because of his immunity. Mycroft had retrieved the plates, and Major Ramsey was allowed to go free. But Major Ramsey wasn’t satisfied with that; he wants to kill them all. He grabs Mycroft and holds a syringe of poison to his neck. Maggie and her henchman disarm the others. Just then, Dr. Watson erupts through a trapdoor, guns a-blazing, and chaos ensues. Maggie and her henchman escape. Sherlock is ready to shoot and kill Ramsey when Mycroft insists he be let go – after all, the Queen had given her word. Sherlock reluctantly agrees, and Ramsey disappears. Mycroft returns the plates to the Bank. Sherlock realizes that the letters in the name Major T.I. Ramsey can be rearranged to form another name, James Moriarty. Look him up.
Biography of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of Sherlock Holmes

Arthur Conan Doyle, physician and writer, was born May 22, 1859 in Edinburgh Scotland, one of ten children born to Charles and Mary Doyle. He studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh and while there, began writing short stories. After completion of his term, he served as a ship’s doctor on a voyage to the West Indies then returned to England to set up a private practice in Portsmouth. Business was slow at first, and in between patients he began to write again. His story A Study in Scarlet, published in Beeton’s Christmas Annual (1887) introduced detective Sherlock Holmes to the world. Holmes was partially modeled after Dr. Joseph Bell, his former professor, who used his powers of inference and deduction in the diagnosis of his patients. His Sherlock Holmes detective stories rocketed Doyle to fame, taking time from the historical novels Doyle would rather write, so in 1893 Doyle “killed off” Sherlock Holmes in The Final Problem. His public, however, was outraged, so much so that in 1901, Doyle resurrected Sherlock Holmes in The Hound of the Baskervilles. Holmes ultimately was featured in a total of fifty-six short series and four novels by Doyle. Arthur Conan Doyle was knighted in 1902. He died July 7, 1930.

Biography of R. Hamilton Wright, playwright

R. Hamilton Wright has been a professional actor for over thirty-five years and in that time he has appeared in over 130 productions. With David Pichette, he wrote the stage-adaptation of James M. Cain’s Double Indemnity which had its world premiere at ACT Theatre in Seattle in 2011 and has received a number of subsequent productions. Mr. Wright lives in a little brick house in North Seattle with his remarkably talented wife – playwright Katie Forgette.
A Brief History

Barter Theatre, located in Abingdon, VA, was founded during the Great Depression by Robert Porterfield, an enterprising young actor. He and his fellow actors found themselves out of work and hungry in New York City. Porterfield contrasted that to the abundance of food, but lack of live theatre, around his home region in Southwest Virginia. He returned to Washington County with an extraordinary proposition: bartering produce from the farms and gardens of the area to gain admission to see a play.

Barter Theatre opened its doors on June 10, 1933 proclaiming, “With vegetables you cannot sell, you can buy a good laugh.” The price of admission was 40 cents or the equivalent in produce, the concept of trading “ham for Hamlet” caught on quickly. At the end of the first season, the Barter Company cleared $4.35 in cash, two barrels of jelly and enjoyed a collective weight gain of over 300 pounds.

Playwrights including Noel Coward, Tennessee Williams and Thornton Wilder accepted Virginia ham as payment for royalties. An exception was George Bernard Shaw, a vegetarian, who bartered the rights to his plays for spinach.

Today, Barter Theatre has a reputation as a theatre where many actors performed before going on to achieve fame and fortune. The most recognized of these alumni include Gregory Peck, Patricia Neal, Ernest Borgnine, Hume Cronyn, Ned Beatty, Gary Collins, Larry Linville and Frances Fisher. The list also included James Burrows, creator of Cheers, Barry Corbin, and the late Jim Varney.

Robert Porterfield passed away in 1971. His successor, Rex Partington, had been at Barter in the 1950s as an actor and in the 1970s as stage manager. Rex returned as chief administrator from 1972 until his retirement in 1992. In March 2006, he passed away.

Richard Rose was named the producing artistic director in October 1992. In that time, attendance has grown from 42,000 annual patrons to more than 163,000 annual patrons. Significant capital improvements have also been made. Including maintenance to both theatres, and in 2006, the addition of The Barter Café at Stage II and dramatic improvements to Porterfield Square.

Barter represents three distinct venues of live theatre: Barter Theatre Main Stage, Barter Theatre Stage II and The Barter Players. Barter Theatre, with over 500 seats, features traditional theatre in a luxurious setting. Barter Stage II, across the street from Barter Main Stage and beyond Porterfield Square, offers seating for 167 around a thrust stage in an intimate setting and is perfect for more adventurous productions. The Barter Players is a talented ensemble of actors, producing plays for young audiences throughout the year.

History is always in the making at Barter Theatre, building on legends of the past; Barter looks forward to the challenge of growth in the future.
Sherlock Holmes Fun Facts!

- The phrase ‘Elementary my dear Watson’ was never mentioned in the Sherlock Holmes books.
- “Sherlock” means blonde, but the main characters are all dark haired.
- Holmes is modeled after the Scottish physician Joseph Bell.
- Holmes’ famous deerstalker cap was not created by Doyle, but by the illustrator, Sidney Paget.
- “When you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth” is the most famous true quote written by Conan Doyle.
- The only woman to have beaten Holmes was Irene Adler.
- Sherlock Holmes believed in Spiritualism, fairies and ghosts, just like his creator and author.
- There are more than 260 movies, 2 musicals and a ballet based on the book.
- In 1964, Sherlock Holmes books were the best sellers second only to the Bible.
- Sherlock abused cocaine and morphine in “The Sign of Four.”
A few facts about…. 

Annie Oakley – “Little Sure Shot”

Annie Oakley was born Phoebe Ann Moses on August 13, 1860 on a small farm in Darke County, Ohio. Her father died when Annie was five and her mother remarried shortly thereafter. When Annie’s stepfather died, Annie started hunting and trapping game as a way of supporting her family. Her skill with a gun soon came to the attention of Frank Butler, a sharpshooter who traveled with a shooting act. On Thanksgiving Day, Butler issued the following challenge to the citizens of Cincinnati, Ohio - anyone who could outshoot him would win $100. Annie, who happened to be in Cincinnati that day, took him up on his challenge – and won. Franks soon began courting Annie and they were married a year later. In 1885 they joined Buffalo Bill’s Wild West show, where one of her fellow performers was the American Indian chief Sitting Bull. It was Sitting Bull who gave Annie the nickname “Little Sure Shot.”

Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show

Buffalo Bill was born William Frederick Cody on the frontier on February 26, 1846. His fame began as with his reputation as a master buffalo hunter. While hunting buffalo for pay to feed railroad workers, he shot and killed 11 out of 12 buffalo, earning him his nickname and show name “Buffalo Bill.” In 1883 Cody got his idea for a Wild West show. The shows consisted of reenactments of history combined with displays of showmanship, sharp-shooting, hunts, racing, or rodeo style events. Each show was 3–4 hours long and attracted thousands of people daily. A typical historical scene would have been a reenactment of the Battle of the Little Bighorn”. Buffalo Bill used poetic license to both glorify himself while heightening the villainy of the “bad guys” (outlaws or Indians). His show is credited with romanticizing the Wild West.
Queen Victoria’s Golden Jubilee
The Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria was celebrated on June 20, 1887 on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of her accession to the throne (June 20, 1837). She began her day with breakfast outdoors under the trees at Frogmore, where her late husband, Prince Albert, had been buried. That evening, fifty European kings and princes were invited to a banquet in Buckingham Palace in the Supper Room, followed by music in the ballroom. The celebration continued the next day with a procession to Westminster Abbey, where a service was held. She returned to Buckingham Palace, where she waved to the cheering throng from her balcony. That night, she watched fireworks from her garden.

Emile Vernet – Artist
In this play, Sherlock Holmes claims to be related to the French painter Emile Vernet. (This is also referenced in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s Sherlock Holmes story *Adventure of the Greek Interpreter*). They are referring to Emile Jean-Horace Vernet who was known for his paintings of battlefield scenes as well as his portraits. He was the son of another famous painter, Carle Vernet, and was born June 30, 1789 in Paris’ Louvre Museum (appropriately enough), where his parents were staying during the French Revolution. He received many commissions during his lifetime, and was well known for his historical accuracy. In fact, when Vernet was asked to remove a certain obnoxious general from one of his paintings, he replied, "I am a painter of history, sire, and I will not violate the truth.” Vernet died in Paris in 1863.

The Pinkerton Agency
Pinkerton National Detective Agency was established in the United States by Allan Pinkerton in 1850 as a private security guard and detective agency. Pinkerton became famous when he claimed to have foiled a plot to assassinate president-elect Abraham Lincoln, who later hired Pinkerton agents for his personal security during the Civil War. During the labor strikes of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, businessmen hired the Pinkerton Agency to infiltrate unions, supply guards, keep strikers and suspected unionists out of factories, and recruit goon squads to intimidate workers.
Word Search

Find the following words in the puzzle below:
detective, Pinkerton, Sherlock Holmes, Dr. Watson, Annie Oakley,
Buffalo Bill, Americans, The Mole, London, Queen Victoria,
Jubilee, clue, Mrs. Hudson, anagrams, Mycroft Holmes, Moriarty,
tunnel, Charlotte Lichter, Major Ramsey, St. Katherine Docks,
Maggie Malloy

N D R W A T S O N Z T U N N E L
O S N A C I R E M A Q A I P D P
S K C O D E N I R E H T A K T S
D E Y T R A I R O M K F Z G B O
U F M X L B U F F A L O B I L L
H S C L J U B I L E E E B W E J W
S E M L O H T F O R C Y M V C N
R L T O U H N O D N O L E I E A
M Q X B A E K D M M P E E T L N
A H N L C U W C Y W H B L C O A
N Y E S M A R R O J A M D E M G
C H A R L O T T E L I C H T E R
P I N K E R T O N J R J Q E H A
Y E L K A O E I N N A E J D T M
M A G G I E M A L L O Y H E R S
Q U E E N V I C T O R I A S I L
True and False

Write T if the statement is True and F if the statement is False.

1. ___ The character Sherlock Holmes was created by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.
2. ___ This play is set in America, hence “the American Problem.”
3. ___ Annie Oakley has disguised herself as Mrs. Hudson, the housekeeper.
4. ___ Charlotte Lichter invented The Mole, a tunneling machine.
5. ___ In this play, Solomon Moses is the brother of Annie Oakley.
6. ___ Sherlock Holmes trusty assistant is Major Ramsey.
7. ___ In this play, the Queen celebrating her Jubilee is Queen Elizabeth II.
8. ___ Annie Oakley was also known as Little Sure Shot.
9. ___ Mycroft Holmes is Sherlock’s uncle – and a painter.
10. ___ Sherlock and his brother speak in code using anagrams.
11. ___ Major Ramsey threatens to kill Mycroft.
12. ___ Barter Theatre is located in Abingdon, VA.
13. ___ Phoebe Ann Moses is also known as Annie Oakley.
14. ___ “Mayhem” Maggie Malloy is Dr. Watson’s love interest.
15. ___ Sir Henry falls in love with Beryl Stapleton.

Matching

Draw a line connecting the person/place in the 1st column with the corresponding description in the 2nd.

1. Sherlock Holmes  a. Little Sure Shot
2. Maggie Malloy  b. Sherlock Holmes’ assistant
3. Annie Oakley  c. has immunity
4. Major Ramsey  d. American criminal
5. Charlotte Lichter  e. Phoebe Ann Moses’ bodyguard
6. Mrs. Hudson  f. consulting detective
7. Dr. Watson  g. invented The Mole
8. The Pinkerton  h. a housekeeper
Questions/Activities

1. Read the first Sherlock Holmes story, *A Study in Scarlet*, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. How does the Sherlock Holmes in that story compare to the one in the play? How does Dr. Watson compare?

   **Write a paper that compares and contrasts the characters of Holmes and Watson in the book with the Holmes and Watson in Barter’s production!**

2. In this play, Charlotte Lichter invents a tunneling machine known as The Mole. Using the internet, **research the history of tunneling boring machines (TBM’s).** How many different types are there? What do they have in common? What do they look like? How have they changed over the years? How do they work? **Present your findings to the class.**

3. This set uses sliders and casters to bring on different set pieces in order to create different locations for various scenes. How effectively do you think this worked? Pick a scene from your favorite Sherlock Holmes detective story and design a set for it that would work in your school’s auditorium. Some things to keep in mind: the number of people in the scene, blocking (how people are to move about the set) and sightlines (the ability of the audience to see the action on stage from any seat in the house.) **Create a rendering and model of your set and present it to your class, explaining your design.**
4. Sherlock and his brother Mycroft speak in code using anagrams.

*anagram*: a word, phrase, or name formed by rearranging the letters of another, such as *cinema*, formed from *iceman*.

See how many anagrams you can make with the following words:

- coin
- life
- bleat
- save
- point
- tap
- may
- meet
- remit
- regal

Select your favorite character from the play, pick an important day in their life that influences this play then write a journal entry about that day as that character. For example, you might pick the character of Charlotte Lichter and write about the day you discovered The Mole was stolen, or you might pick the character of The Pinkerton and write about the day you saved Sherlock’s life. Be as specific as possible and write as that character would.

5. Using pictures from magazines or newspapers, construct a collage representing one of the characters from *Sherlock Holmes and the American Problem*. Display the collages around the room and see if the other students are able to match the collage to the character.
Write a critique of Barter Theatre’s production of *Sherlock Holmes and the American Problem*. Be sure to include what you liked, didn’t like and what you would have done differently.

6. Locate the following on a current street map of London, England: Sherlock Holmes residence at 221-B Baker Street, The Bank of England (on Threadneedle Street), The American Embassy (Victoria Street), St. Katharine Docks (where The Mole was stolen) and Seamore Place (Rothschild residence). Determine the distances between each of these various locations. How quickly could someone traverse these distances in the 1890’s? How does this affect the time passage in this play?

---

**Comedy vs. Tragedy**

**comedy:** a dramatic work that is light and often humorous or satirical in tone and that usually contains a happy resolution of the thematic conflict.

**tragedy:** A drama or literary work in which the main character is brought to ruin or suffers extreme sorrow, especially as a consequence of a tragic flaw, moral weakness, or inability to cope with unfavorable circumstances.

Given these definitions, would you categorize *Sherlock Holmes and the American Problem* as a comedy or a tragedy? Cite three samples from the play to support your position. Does a character’s point-of-view influence your findings? Discuss.
7. When Sherlock Holmes meets Phoebe Ann Moses, he remarks that her name “is golden and hums like a hive of bees.” When she is surprised by this, Sherlock explains that “I sometimes hear color and taste sound.” The playwright is implying that Sherlock has a form of synesthesia. Using the internet, **research synesthesia** and its many forms. Do you know anyone who has it? **Present your findings to the class.**

8. Charlotte Lichter was an American woman with a mining engineering degree. How many American women had engineering degrees in 1887? How does that number compare with the number of men who had engineering degrees in 1887? How does it compare with the number of women in engineering today? Are women encouraged to pursue degrees in the sciences? Why or why not? **Discuss.**

9. In this play, the American Ambassador wanted Major Ramsey to steal the money printing plates from the Bank of England in order to wreak havoc on the British government. He is seeking revenge; he believes that if the British government had supported the Union during the American Civil War, he (the American Ambassador), who was an officer for the Union Army, would not have lost his arm. **Using the internet, research England’s role in the American Civil War.** Who did they side with? Why? Do you think the American Ambassador had a legitimate complaint? **Discuss.**

10. What would happen to England’s economy if the country were suddenly flooded with millions of extra 10 pound notes? **Using the internet, research how England printed its paper money in 1880’s compared to how they print it now.** Be prepared to explain how the paper money system worked then and now and what backs up its worth. How does it compare to the American monetary system?
10. Sherlock Holmes used the power of observation to solve crimes. How observant are you? Take the following quiz and test your powers of observation:

a) On a standard traffic light, is the green on the top or the bottom?

b) In which hand is the Statue of Liberty’s torch?

c) When you walk, does your left arm swing with your right or left leg?

d) On the United States flag, is the top stripe red or white?

e) Which way does water go down the drain, clockwise or counterclockwise?

f) On which side of a women’s blouse are the buttons?

g) Which way do fans rotate?

h) How many sides does a stop sign have?

i) Do books have even-numbered pages on the right or left side?

j) How many sides are there on a standard pencil?

k) How many curves are there on a standard paper clip?

Correct answers to Observation Quiz:
a) bottom b) right c) right leg d) red e) clockwise f) left g) clockwise h) 8 i) left j) 6 k) 3

**Suggested Further Reading/Links**

**Books by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle:**

**Sherlock Holmes Novels:**
- *A Study in Scarlet*
- *The Sign of Four*
- *The Valley of Fear*

**Sherlock Holmes Short Story Collections**
- *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*
- *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*
- *The Return of Sherlock Holmes*
- *His Last Bow*
- *The Case-Book of Sherlock Holmes*
- *The Complete Sherlock Holmes Short Stories*

**To find out more about Sherlock Holmes, check out the links below:**

**Sherlock Holmes Museum Virtual Tour** – the video tour of Sherlock Holmes’ residence at 221-B Baker Street, London
http://www.sherlock-holmes.co.uk/video.html

**Sherlock Holmes – the Official Website** – for more on Sherlock Holmes
http://www.sherlockholmes.com/