

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Read this passage. Circle any words in the highlighted section that you do not understand.

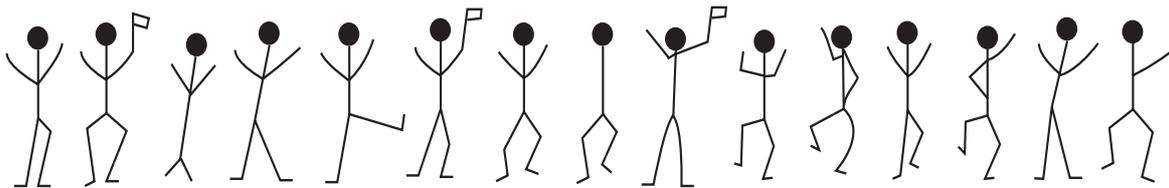
We heard someone walk up the stairs, and then a tall man came into the room. He had clear eyes and healthy skin and looked like a man who lived in the country. He noticed the strange piece of paper he had sent us, lying on the table.

‘Well, Mr Holmes, what can you tell me about these?’ he asked. ‘I know that you like puzzles. I don’t think you will find a puzzle stranger than this one. I sent these drawings to you in the post so that you could study them carefully before I came.’

‘Yes, these are very strange, Mr Cubitt. They look at first like the work of a child. But why do you think they are so important?’

‘I don’t, Mr Holmes, but my wife does. She is very frightened. She says nothing, but I can see it in her eyes. That’s why I want to know what the drawings mean.’

Holmes held up the paper with the light behind it. It was a page of writing paper, and the drawings on it were done with pencil. They looked like this:



(from *The Dancing Men*, page 3)

How many words have you circled? Write the number here:

What level should you be reading?

If you circled 0 words, this level may be too easy for you. Try the level above this one.

If you circled 1–4 words, this level may be right for you. Try another sample to be sure.

If you circled 5 words or more, this level may be too hard for you. Try the level below this one.

A Midsummer Night's Dream and Other Stories from Shakespeare's Plays

Edited by David Foulds

Read this passage. Circle any words in the highlighted section that you do not understand.

Viola felt very sorry for the poor lady. She knew how it felt to lose a much-loved brother.

She wanted to go and work for Olivia as her servant, but the captain said that she could not. Since her brother died, Olivia had allowed no one to enter the house, not even Prince Orsino, who loved her.

'Then,' said Viola, 'if I cannot work for the lady, I shall work for the Prince himself. You, captain, must help me, and I will pay you well. Get me some clothes and I will dress myself as a young man. Then take me to the Prince and tell him I want to be his servant-boy. I will sing to him and work hard for him. But do not tell anyone who I really am.' The captain agreed to Viola's plan and he promised to keep her secret.

Viola gave him some money and he bought her the clothes she wanted. When she was dressed in the clothes, she looked exactly like her brother, Sebastian. Then the captain took Viola to see the Prince.



(from *Twelfth Night*, pages 17–19)

How many words have you circled? Write the number here:

What level should you be reading?

If you circled 0 words, this level may be too easy for you. Try the level above this one.

If you circled 1–4 words, this level may be right for you. Try another sample to be sure.

If you circled 5 words or more, this level may be too hard for you. Try the level below this one.