

Detective stories

Intermediate level

Task 1: Warm-up

Watch the video (till 01:55) and write down your associations and feelings.

What did you see in the trailer?
What do you think today's topic is?



Task 2: Discussion

Discuss the questions in pairs.

1. What springs to your mind when you hear the word 'mystery'?
2. Do you know any great mysteries of the world that haven't been solved yet? If so, what are they?
3. Do you like reading detective stories or watching them? What are your favourite ones?
4. Would you be a good detective in solving mysteries?
5. Do you think there will be more or less crime in the future? Why do you think so?



Task 3: New vocabulary

Match the words with the pictures.

- A. commit suicide
- B. shoot oneself
- C. investigation
- D. crime scene
- E. assassin
- F. apprehend
- G. evidence
- H. sentence
- I. suspect



Task 4: Vocabulary work

Fill in the gaps with the missing words (commit suicide, shoot oneself, investigation, crime scene, assassin, apprehend, evidence, sentence, suspect)

1. She hired an ____ to eliminate her rival.
2. The detective understood that it was not just a murder when he found the gun. In fact the victim ____.
3. The bank conducted its own internal ____ into the robbery.
4. Though the police issued the photograph of the ____, they were not sure that he had committed the crime.
5. We are obliged not only to ____ this criminal but also to prove his guilt.
6. The detective was able to find the murderer quickly, because he had left his footprints at a ____.
7. He ____ at the age of thirty, because he had broken up with his girlfriend.
8. His original death ____ was commuted to life in prison.
9. The police didn't have enough ____ to convict him.



Task 5: Watching videos

Watch the trailers of some detective films. Have you seen any of them? If not, which one would you like to see and why?



[Murder on the Orient Express](#)

[Knives out](#)

[Sherlock Holmes](#)

[How to get away with murder](#)



Task 6: Multiple choice

Watch the trailers again and choose the correct answers.
Murder on the Orient Express,
Knives out,
How to get away with murder

1. In which of the films the professor is teaching “Criminal law 100”?
 - a) Murder on the Orient Express
 - b) Knives out
 - c) Sherlock Holmes
 - d) How to get away with murder
2. Who has died in “Murder on the Orient Express”?
 - a) Professor
 - b) Butler
 - c) Count
 - d) passenger
3. In which of the films actions are taking place on the train?
 - a) Murder on the Orient Express
 - b) Knives out
 - c) Sherlock Holmes
 - d) How to get away with murder

4. Why have Harlan's family gathered in the house?

- a) To celebrate New Year
- b) To celebrate Harlan's 85th birthday.
- c) To celebrate Harlan's 81th birthday.
- d) To celebrate Christmas

5. Why do you think the film is titled "How to get away with murder"?

- a) Because characters are allowed to do things that other people would be punished or criticized for
- b) Because the main character is the assassin.
- c) Because characters always run away after murder.
- d) None of the listed above is true.

6. What is true about "Murder on the Orient express"?

- a) Actions take place on the train in winter.
- b) The detective is an old woman from France.
- c) It was raining when the passenger was murdered.
- d) The widow knows who the assassin is.

Task 7: Let's become a detective!

Watch the video (02:14 - 04:11) and do the task. Did you guess right who the murderer was?



Task 8: Follow-up discussion

Discuss the questions in pairs using the new words.

1. What skills must a good detective have to **investigate** the case quickly?
2. What are the first things that a detective should notice at a crime **scene**?
3. Do you think a **suicide** attempt must be punished as murder? Explain your answer.
4. What do you think the proper **sentence** for **assassins** should be?
5. What are the most important **evidences** that a detective could have to find the **suspect**?



Task 9: Inventing a story

Look at the pictures and make up a detective story using the new words.

Meet the characters



Barbara



Donald (victim)



Lex



Amanda

Picture prompts



Keys:

Task 3

A - 3

B - 7

C - 9

D - 1

E - 6

F - 2

G - 8

H - 4

I - 5

Task 4

1 - assassin

2 - had shot himself

3 - investigation

4 - suspect

5 - apprehend

6 - crime scene

7 - committed suicide

8 - sentence

9 - evidence

Task 6

1 - d

2 - d

3 - a

4 - b

5 - a

6 - a