

READING PART 1 (6)

For questions 31-36. read the text below and choose the best answer (A, B, C or D).

I had seen little of Holmes recently as my marriage had made us drift away from one another. My attention was absorbed by home-centred interests, while Holmes, who loathed every form of society, remained in our lodgings in Baker Street, buried among his old books and alternating from week to week between cocaine and ambition. The drowsiness produced by the drug contrasted with the fierce energy of his own nature.

He was still, as ever, deeply attracted by the study of crime, and occupied his immense faculties and extraordinary powers of observation in following up clues and clearing up mysteries that the police had failed to solve. From time to time I heard some vague account of his latest doings, such as the case of the Dutch Royal family. I knew very little of my former friend and companion, however, apart from news articles in the daily press.

One foggy evening I was returning from a journey to a patient (as I had now returned to civil practice) when my way led me through Baker Street. As I passed the well-remembered door, I was seized with a keen desire to see Holmes again and intrigued to find out how he was. His rooms were brilliantly lit, and even as I looked up, I saw his tall figure moving swiftly across the room. It was clear to me that he was at work again. I rang the bell and was shown up to the chamber which had formerly been in part my own.

His manner was not effusive. It seldom was; but he was glad, I think, to see me. With hardly a word spoken, but with a kindly eye, he waved me to an armchair, threw across his case of cigars, and indicated a spirit case and a gasogene in the corner. Then he stood before the fire and looked me over in his singular introspective fashion.

"Wedlock suits you," he remarked. "I think, Watson, that you have put on seven and a half pounds since I saw you."

"Seven!" I answered.

"Indeed, I should have thought a little more. Just a trifle more, I fancy, Watson. And in practice again, I observe. You did not tell me that you intended to go into harness."

"Then, how do you know?"

"I see it, I deduce it."

QUESTIONS

31 What do we learn about the narrator's relationship with Holmes in paragraph 1?

- A** They fell out over a case they were solving.
- B** They hadn't met for some time.
- C** Holmes got married.
- D** Holmes preferred to stay at home by himself.

32 What does the word *lodgings* mean in paragraph 1?

- A** an office
- B** a crime case
- C** a hiding place
- D** accommodation

33 In paragraph 2, the narrator reveals that

- A** he had kept in touch regularly with Holmes.
- B** he was worried because Holmes no longer investigated crimes.
- C** he knew what Holmes was doing because he had read about him.
- D** Holmes had failed to solve any crimes recently.

34 In paragraph 3, the narrator

- A** was glad he was still a part-time investigator.
- B** was enjoying his job as a doctor.
- C** was looking forward to seeing Holmes again.
- D** unlocked the door and went in.

35 In paragraph 3, the narrator mentions he is now working again as a

- A** teacher
- B** detective
- C** patient
- D** doctor

36 In paragraph 4, the narrator felt

- A** Holmes didn't want to see him.
- B** Holmes was acting coldly towards him
- C** scared because Holmes threw things at him.
- D** Holmes was pleased to see him but didn't show it openly.

ANSWERS AND ANALYSIS

31 (b) *I had seen little of Holmes recently*

32 (d)

33 (c) *I knew very little of my former friend and companion, however, apart from news articles in the daily press.*

34 (c) *I was seized with a keen desire to see Holmes again*

35 (d) *I had now returned to civil practice*

36 (d) *he was glad, I think, to see me*