

Wasp's Next Worksheet

A - Instructions: On a separate piece of paper look up each word and write a definition. Use a dictionary or reference PC to assist you. Please write out the word and then the definition.

Absurd	Foreboding	Resolutely
Cadaverous	Grim	Slaken
Dandified	Hospitable	Suitor
Denounce	Impersonal	Vaguer
Fathom	Languorous	Vivacity
Fascinate	Lull	

B - Instructions: On a separate sheet of paper answer the following questions. Express your answers using complete sentences.

1. What warning does Hecule Poirot give John Harrison?
2. How seriously do you think Harrison takes Poirot's warning about Claude Langton? Explain your answer.
3. Why do you think Poirot gets so excited when trying to convince Harrison that Langton is capable of murder?
4. What 'murder' plot does Poirot actually prevent?
5. Critics often mention "Christie's technique of trickery."
 - a. How does the author use trickery in this story?
 - b. Who is the victim of this trickery?
6. A surprise ending is an unexpected twist in the plot at the end of the story. Especially in mystery and detective fiction, the idea is to surprise the reader, even though important clues have been planted. From the very beginning of this story, Christie cleverly directs the plot to a surprise ending.
 - a. Why is the ending unexpected?
 - b. Do any details prepare the reader for the ending?

C - Instructions: *Connect to life:* On your own paper, respond to the following writing prompt. Think about the way Poirot gathers evidence, approaches his suspect, and goes about getting a confession of guilt. How do the methods of this character compare with those of real-life detectives or even other fictional detectives as portrayed in films and television shows?