

All Ages Online Learning Activities

WHODUNIT?

Can you solve the mini murder mystery?

A Newmarket Tragedy

Our story takes place in the summer of 1868. The citizens of Newmarket have been thrown into a tizzy. A murder has taken place! Gossip can spread quickly in a small town.

The Location: Undisclosed residence on Water Street
Date: August 22, 1898
Time: Shortly after 7o'clock
Victim: Minnie S., received fatal wounds
Weapon: A British Bulldog

Without wasting any time the Chief, the Coroner, the Undertaker and the Constable were called to the residence. The sister of the deceased, Susan, was in a fit of hysteria.

How could such a heinous crime have happened? The inquest was held at the old Town Hall.

Background Information

Sisters: Minnie and Susan

These two loving and devoted sisters remained in their father's house after his death. The house was described as a substantial building, finished with good taste. Each sister received a sizeable inheritance of \$15,000 each. There was a vast amount of jewels in the house. Their father had been a well respected jeweller and amassed a great deal of wealth. There were more jewels kept on the premises than what would normally be found in a private residence.

Susan is known to be mentally fragile and had self-committed herself at the Asylum for the Insane in Toronto.

Minnie is newly engaged, having recently accepted a proposal of marriage. Before the night of the murder Minnie received a gentlemen caller, who was not her fiancé.

Both sisters attended St. Paul's Anglican Church. There had been a recent lesson on the Ten Commandments.

Study the following VIC's (very important clues), to determine who the murderer was.

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Clue #1: The half brother, Fred

Fred's two sisters received an estate and inheritance from their father. There was no mention of Fred receiving any share of the inheritance. He is foreman at Cane's Woodenware Factory.

Clue #2: The Neighbour

A distinguished citizen and well known Barrister. He had to be aroused from his sleep. He will be looking after any financial affairs.

Clue#3: The Servant

She became visibly frightened upon hearing news of the murder.

Clue #4: The Groom-to-be

A wealthy farmer from a nearby community. It had become public knowledge that his fiancé was considering renouncing the engagement. They were to have been married the first week in September.

Clue#5: The Milkman

It was noted during his testimony that the milkman knew the sisters well and sold milk to them. He testified having heard four shots coming from within the house.

The prisoner was arraigned on the charge of **MURDER** and conveyed on the evening train to the Toronto Jail to await a November trial.

The old house was demolished long ago, many believed it had been haunted.

Did you correctly guess Whodunit?

[To find out click here](#)

