English Mastery

Sherlock Holmes: Traditional Homework tasks

Here are some options for homework tasks.

Please refer to your school and department homework policy when setting and marking homework tasks.

Week 1:

Research Task:	Find out more about Sir Robert Peel. Research his contribution to the Metropolitan Police Force.
Creative Writing Task:	Write the opening of a short story which is set in Victorian London. Focus on a plot hook, setting the scene and introducing your main character.

Week 2:

Research Task:	Cholera still affects people in poorer countries in the world. Find out more about where cholera affects people and what people are doing to try to help them.
Creative Writing Task:	Dr. Watson was a military doctor. He was shot in the shoulder and nearly died of typhoid fever. Write a story about Watson's time in the army.

Week 3:

Research Task:	Research the different types of horse-drawn carriages in Victorian London. What were their different uses and costs?
Creative Writing Task:	Write your own descriptive piece of someone moving in with someone new.

Week 4:

Research Task:	Research different actors that have played Sherlock Holmes. Write a short paragraph stating who looks the most convincing and explain your reasons.
Creative Writing Task:	Write your own account of an imagined scandal.

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Week 5:

Research Task:	Research different actors that have played Dr Watson. Write a short paragraph stating who looks the most convincing and explain your reasons.
Revision Task:	Make flashcards for key vocabulary and concepts from the unit (e.g., patriarchal society, tenacious, deduction). Use these flashcards to quiz yourself or a friend.

Week 6:

Research Task:	Research at least 3 other famous detectives. Write about their similarities and differences to Sherlock Holmes.
Creative Writing Task:	Arthur Conan Doyle wrote 60 Sherlock Holmes stories. Look at the titles of the stories. Choose a title that you like the sound of and write the first 500 words of the story.

Week 7:

Research Task:	Lots of things influenced the character of Sherlock Holmes, but many characters today have been influenced by Sherlock Holmes. Find out about how Sherlock Holmes has influenced detective stories since it was published.
Creative Writing Task:	In class, you have created your own detective. Write a scene where your detective meets Sherlock Holmes.

Week 8:

Research Task:	Research the roles and expectations of women during the Victorian era.
Creative Writing Task:	Describe Helen Stoner's thoughts and feelings on her way to visit Sherlock Holmes.

Week 9:

Research Task:	Research three notable Victorian doctors and write a summary of what they are known for.
Creative Writing Task:	Write two paragraphs of the moment Dr Roylott works out that Helen Stoner went to visit Sherlock Holmes and then Dr Roylott's decision to make a visit to Holmes's house.

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Week 10:

Research Task:	Research the roles and expectations of men during the Victorian era.
Creative Writing Task:	Write an alternative ending to The Speckled Band.

Week 11: Review and Assessment

Revision Task:	Select your top 6 Sherlock Holmes quotations (3 from A Scandal in Bohemia and 3 from The Speckled Band) and create flashcards with your key points of analysis for each quotation.

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