



A case for Sherlock Holmes

Where is Princess? (Comparison)



Princess, a valuable and fast racing horse, was kidnapped from McMillan's stables yesterday night. The four jockeys are under suspicion. Holmes and Watson are questioning the jockeys at MacMillan's stables.



Sam Slow:

"I wasn't there that night, had a day off. I haven't been here for long. I have to earn money to pay off my car... had an accident with the old one. I didn't train on Princess, she was Larry's horse. Everyone knows he owes the boss a lot of money. Wouldn't surprise me if the money wasn't for his mum at all."

age: 26

height: 1,66 m

weight: 54 kg

intelligence: not very clever

job experience: 2 years

races won: 0

debts: 500 \$ to the bank (for a new car)



Larry Lovable:

"I simply love my work and I miss Princess a lot. Mostly, Charlie rides him in the races; he is more experienced. Yes, Mr MacMillan lent me 5000\$ to pay my Mum's hospital bill. He is a great man. I will pay him back as soon as I can. Why are you asking about alcohol? Of course I don't drink! I drank water when I was on duty. I can't say why I fell asleep."

age: 27

height: 1,62 m

weight: 52 kg

intelligence: very clever

job experience: 5 years

races won: 11

debts: 5000 \$ to Mr MacMillan



Charlie Careful:

"It's such a shame that the horse was kidnapped. I rode Princess quite often, but Larry was her favourite, they had a special relationship. Larry is a responsible young man, doesn't drink and looks after his loved ones. Now that Princess is gone, I won't take part in the big race on Sunday. Andrew will get his chance on Phoenix instead."

age: 30

height: 1,62 m

weight: 50 kg

intelligence: clever

job experience: 11 years

races won: 25

debts: 0 \$



Andrew Ambitious:

"I am telling you, Larry is to blame. Larry was on duty that night, maybe he was drunk again. No, I don't drink myself. Well, I don't care much about Princess, I will start on Phoenix in the big race on Sunday."

age: 26

height: 1,64 m

weight: 53 kg

intelligence: extremely clever

job experience: 8 years

races won: 15

debts: unknown



Exercises for Sherlock Holmes

Comparison

Comparative form:

short adjectives:

(adjective + -er) than
bigger than, nicer than

long adjectives:

more (adj.) than
more dangerous than

Superlative form:

short adjectives:

the (adjective + -est)
the friendliest, the nicest

long adjectives:

the most (adj.)
the most dangerous

Making comparisons:

equality:

as (adjective) as (as good as, as dangerous as)

if things are unequal:

less (adj.) than (less nice than, less intelligent than)

not as / so (adjective) (not as good as)

the least (adjective) (the least dangerous)

Now compare the jockeys. Use the adjectives given.

I. AGE (YOUNG / OLD)

Sam is _____ (old) Larry.

Larry is _____ (old) Sam.

Larry is _____ (young) Sam.

Andrew is _____ (old) Sam.

Charlie is _____ (old) of them all.

Andrew is _____ (old) Andrew and Larry and Sam.

II. WEIGHT (HEAVY)

Andrew is _____ (heavy) Charlie.

Charlie is _____ (heavy) Larry.

Sam is _____ (heavy) of all four.

III. HEIGHT (TALL)

Sam is _____ (tall) of the three jockeys.

Andrew is _____ (tall) Sam.

Charlie is _____ (tall) Larry.

Andrew is _____ (tall) Charlie.

IV. EXPERIENCE (EXPERIENCED)

Sam is _____ (experienced) Charlie.

Andrew is _____ (experienced) Larry.

Charlie is _____ (experienced) of all three.

V. INTELLIGENCE (CLEVER)

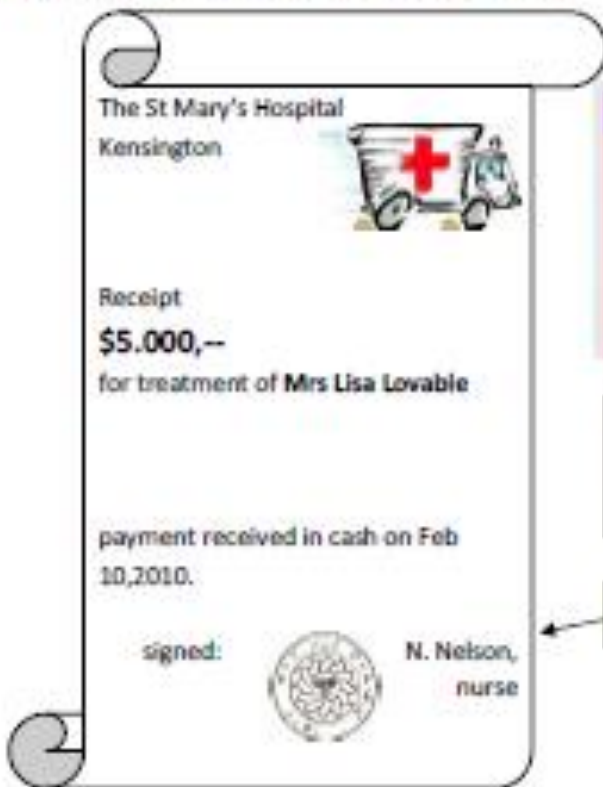
Andrew is _____ (clever) of all three.

Charlie is _____ (clever) Andrew.

Sam is _____ (clever) Larry.

Larry is _____ (clever) Sam.

Searching for more clues to solve the riddle, Sherlock Holmes and Watson found the following evidence. Read and draw conclusions.



A betting ticket for the race on Sunday. Someone had placed quite a lot of money on Phoenix to win the race. Found in Sam's coat.

Hospital bill. Found in Larry's coat.

Empty wine bottles, found in Larry's room. No fingerprints.



A cheque - \$500. Issued by Andrew; payable to Sam. Found in Sam's room.

A pharmacy receipt for a large quantity of narcotics. And a bond from the casino - 25,000 \$ of debts. Found under Andrew's notes.



Bottled water, containing narcotics. Found next to Larry's bed. Sam's fingerprints on them.

Of course, Sherlock Holmes knows now who kidnapped the horse. Do you, too?

I think _____ kidnapped Princess because _____

KEY

It looks as if Larry was to blame. There are wine bottles in his room, and he needed the money urgently.

But Andrew Ambitious kidnapped the horse-with Sam's help. Sam alone is not clever enough to carry out such a plan alone, and someone has to look after Princess while Andrew is in the race on Phoenix. Andrew paid him 500\$ which he needs to pay off his car, so he put narcotics into Larry's water bottle. Thus, Larry fell asleep and Andrew and Sam could kidnap Princess. The wine bottles are a red herring to make Andrew look guilty. Andrew couldn't have started on Phoenix if Princess hadn't been kidnapped. And Andrew needs the money to pay his debts at the Casino.

The hospital bill proves that Larry didn't lie about his mother's illness. Charlie confirms that Larry never drinks alcohol.