

On the Case

Name _____

Problem/Solution

What is the problem in this story?

How was the problem solved?

Discuss and list some other things that could have caused this problem.



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An idiom is an expression or group of words, which, when used together, carry a message that is different from the meaning of each of the words on their own.

Match the idiom on the left with its meaning on the right.

to pull the wool over someone's eyes

the end

Put a sock in it.

not feeling well

raining cats and dogs

to get up

Rise and shine!

to deceive or trick someone

That's all folks!

pouring rain

under the weather

what you eat influences how healthy you will be

You are what you eat.

to tell someone to be quiet

Write the meanings of these idioms.

back to square one _____

kick the bucket _____

hat trick _____

needle in a haystack (reread page 6 of the book if you are not sure) _____



On the Case

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Comprehension

Use the book to help you answer the questions. Record your answers.

What was the first item to go missing? _____

As more items disappeared, what did the students begin to suspect was happening?

How did Jen feel when she discovered that her blue pen was missing? Why do you think she felt this? Check the book and find words or actions that make you think this.

What special tools does a detective need? _____

Why do you think Ms Klein spoke to the class about the missing items when she got wind of what was happening? _____

What do you think it means to keep your eyes and ears open? Check page 15 of the text to reread this idiom. _____

Think of words that describe Jen. What makes you think of Jen this way?

What kind of person would you expect a detective to be? _____

What else do you think Mr Hudson could have done to get the students to pick up their belongings? _____



On the Case

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1. Does the title of the book help you know what it is about? Why or why not?

2. Did the title, cover illustration, and blurb make you want to read this story? Give reasons.

3. What will you remember about this book?

4. Why do you think the author wrote this story?

5. Could you relate to this story? Give reasons.

6. Have you read other mystery books? If yes, what were their titles?

7. What does a reader need to know in order to understand this story?

8. Did you get excited about solving the mystery?



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Think about how you felt as you read this story. The author carefully chose characters, words, and events to make the reader feel a certain way.

1. What sort of mood did the author create for this story?

2. Think of some words that describe how you felt as you read the story. Find words in the story that made you feel this way.

3. Which character is most like you? In what ways?

4. Choose a character that you disliked and write what you disliked about this character.

5. How did your feelings change as you read the story? Did the author intend to make you feel this way?

7. How did the author build tension in this story?

8. How did the author want you to think about Mr Hudson? Did this make you like or dislike him?



On the Case

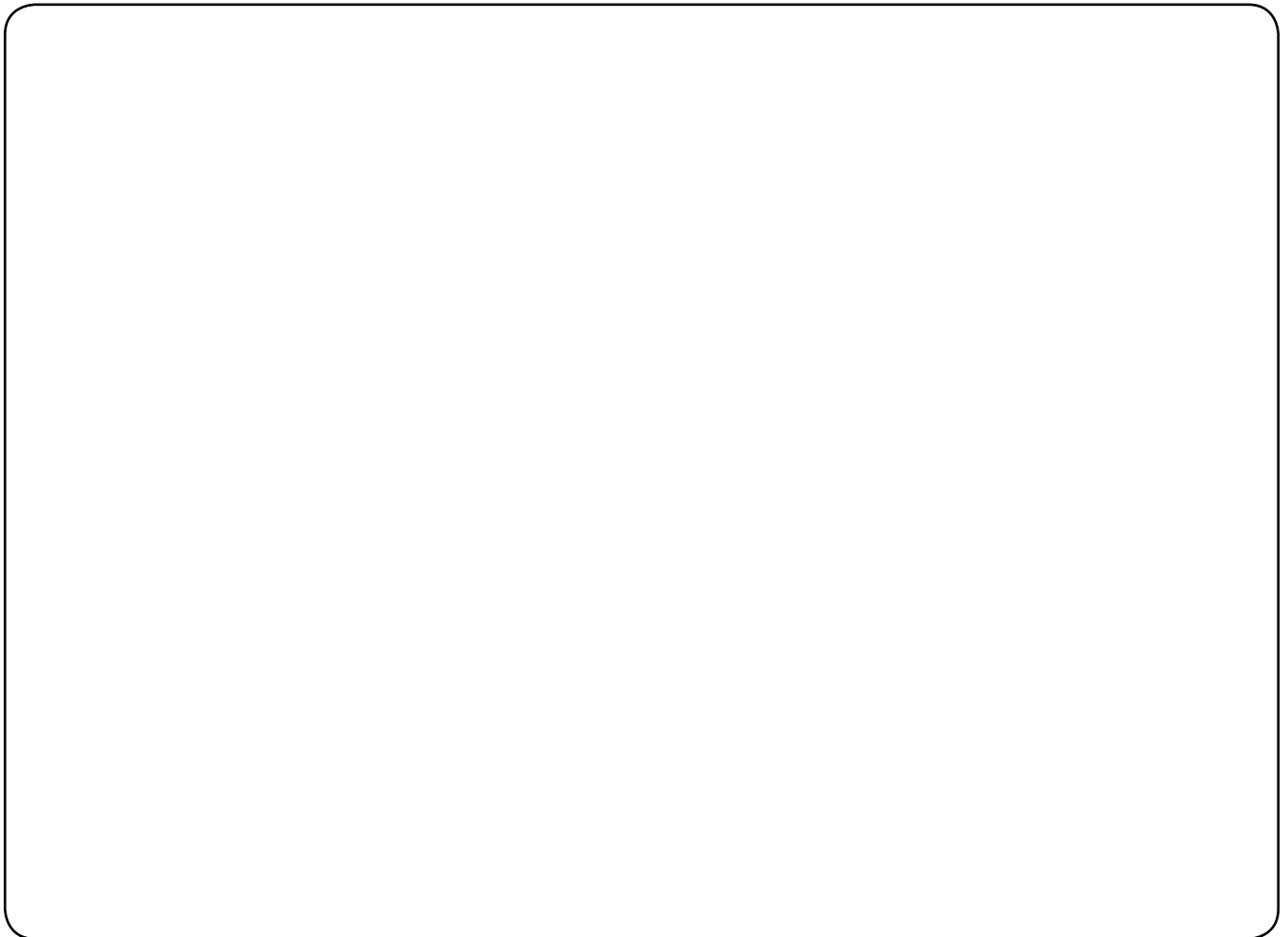
Name _____

Multiple Intelligences (intrapersonal, interpersonal, verbal-linguistic, visual-spatial)

Work on your own to write a list of tips for students to help them look after their belongings more effectively.

Work with a partner. Compare your lists and put a cross next to the tips that are the same. Discuss any extra tips on each list. Come up with one list of tips.

Work together to write your tips onto the chart below. Think of ways to decorate your chart appropriately.



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In this text the author needed to build tension in the classroom to keep us guessing and keep the case alive. The author built the tension without making any of the main characters appear to be guilty.

How did the author build the tension? Check the book and record your responses. Page numbers are provided to help you.

First (page 5) _____

Second (page 7) _____

Third (page 8) _____

Fourth (page 8) _____

Fifth (page 13) _____

Sixth (page 15) _____

Finally (page 21) _____



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Notes



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