

# CHAPTER 1

It was a cold, grey January morning. **Detective** John Stones got out of his car and **hurried** into the police station. He saw Bill Watson and shook hands with him. He had known Bill for a long time. He was a good friend.

“Good morning, Bill. Has it been a quiet night?” asked Detective Stones.

“Yes, John. I think all of Eskham’s **criminals** stayed at home last night. I don’t think they like cold weather,” said Bill.

Detective Stones laughed.

“Well, I hope it stays quiet today. I have a lot of paperwork to do,” the detective said and walked upstairs to his office.

Eskham police station was an ugly, old building, but he loved it. It felt like home to him. He had spent his whole career here. He had started at the station twenty-five years ago when he was only twenty-one years old. He was a young, trainee police officer then and didn’t know anything. He loved the job and worked hard. He learned about police work. He also learned about Eskham and its people. After a few years, he took his exams and became a detective.

**detective** (noun) a person whose job is to find information about crimes

**hurry** (verb) to go quickly

**criminal** (noun) someone who has committed a crime



*“Good morning, Bill. Has it been a quiet night?”  
asked Detective Stones.*

At first, he worked on smaller crimes. Now, he was the station's most experienced detective. He was **in charge of** all the **murder** investigations. Everyone knew Detective Stones. In the last ten years, he had solved every single murder in the city of Eskham. Not one murderer had escaped. He was very proud of his record.

The detective had a quiet morning. He did not like paperwork, but it was an important part of the job. He sat in front of his computer and wrote his reports. After four hours, he was very bored. He decided it was time for lunch. He picked up his coat and walked towards the office door. That was when the telephone rang. It was his boss.

“John, someone has found a body. I need you to go and **investigate**,” said his boss.

Detective John Stones **sighed**. He knew the day was too quiet. Eskham was a large, busy city. There were always problems somewhere.

“What happened?” he asked. He was pleased really. He was always excited when he had a new job. This was why he became a police officer. He wanted to investigate crimes and catch criminals.

“I don't know much about it,” said his boss. “A railway engineer rang the police. His job is to check the railway track. He was

**in charge of** (idiom) responsible for something or somebody

**murder** (noun) the act of killing a person

**investigate** (verb) to try and find out the facts about something (e.g. a crime)

**sigh** (verb) to take in and let out a long, loud breath in a way that shows you are bored, sad, relieved, etc.

walking along the track this morning. He reached an area just outside the town. It's an area with lots of bushes and long grass next to the track. He saw a hand sticking out of the long grass. He went to look, and there was a man's body."

"I see," Detective Stones was thinking. "It's a strange place for a murder. Perhaps it was an accident. Perhaps a train hit the man."

"You're probably right," answered his boss, "But I need you to go there and check."

Detective Stones left the office and walked downstairs to his car. He didn't hurry. He had been a murder detective for a long time. This did not seem like a murder. Why would the murderer and the victim be next to the railway track at night? If the murder happened somewhere else, why did the murderer leave the body by the track? Why not hide it?

Trains often hit people. Sometimes, they stood in front of the train **deliberately**. Sometimes, it was an accident. People walked across the track at night. They didn't understand how quickly the trains travelled.

It probably wasn't a murder, but Detective Stones didn't mind because he could leave the office and the paperwork.

**deliberately** (adverb) in a way that is planned; on purpose

## Quiz-2

**Complete the sentences with *mustn't*, *doesn't have to* or *don't have to*.**

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1. “She ..... get out of bed until I say,” ordered the doctor.
2. He wants to go abroad. He ..... stay in England.
3. They ..... come to dinner tonight if they are busy.
4. He ..... learn to drive. He can catch the bus where he lives.
5. We ..... leave our passports on the table.  
Put them away.
6. You ..... finish all your food if you're already full.
7. I ..... tell anyone her secret. I promised not to.
8. She ..... give in her homework today.
9. He ..... work on the machine without wearing glasses.
10. They ..... return their library books.  
They can finish them first.
11. I ..... eat nuts because they make me ill.
12. They ..... open the windows if they're feeling cold.
13. He ..... forget to wear his life jacket when he is at sea.
14. He ..... go to work on Friday because he has the day off.
15. She ..... go out in the snow. She has a bad cold.

# VOCABULARY QUIZZES

## Quiz-1

Complete the sentences with the words below.

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**disappeared**    **examined**    **grabbed**    **hurried**    **investigate**  
**sighed**        **stabbed**    **approached**    **cut**        **remember**  
**continued**    **searched**    **pointed**        **threw**      **collected**

1. The fisherman ..... heavily when the huge fish escaped.
2. The girl ..... to the noisy aeroplane above her head.
3. I ..... my grandma when I look at her photo.
4. The murderer had fatally ..... his victim with a knife.
5. The officer ..... the body very carefully and wrote a report.
6. The man ..... into the shop to get out of the pouring rain.
7. The rabbit suddenly ..... into the large hole.
8. The man ..... his newspaper in the bin as he walked home.
9. He ..... to write, but the exam had finished.
10. The woman ..... for the first aid kit in the kitchen.
11. Our cake is ..... into eight slices so everyone gets a piece.
12. He ..... the boy's arm as he slipped into the deep water.
13. She heard a loud noise downstairs and went to .....
14. The passengers were waving when the train ..... the station.
15. The boy ..... the plates from the tables in the café.

## Quiz-2

**Complete the sentences with the words below.**

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<b>criminal</b>	<b>detective</b>	<b>figure</b>	<b>murder</b>
<b>revenge</b>	<b>robbery</b>	<b>weapon</b>	<b>victim</b>
<b>prison</b>	<b>safe</b>		

1. She saw the dark, shadowy ..... at the window.
2. The ..... of the robbery lost her handbag and purse.
3. The police try to keep everybody ..... in the street and at home.
4. He spent five long years in .....
5. The ..... happened in the town. They have found the murderer who did it.
6. The ..... solved the murder case and received an award.
7. She wanted ..... She was angry and she didn't like him.
8. The ..... looked guilty in court.
9. I found the ..... that he used in the robbery in his car.
10. He broke the window when he carried out the .....  
He didn't harm anyone though.