

Shake Hands For Ever

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A Before Reading

- 1 *Shake Hands For Ever* is a murder mystery. Make a list of reasons why people commit murder.

Example: money,...

- 2 In *Shake Hands For Ever*, the crime that the police are investigating is a murder – the crime of deliberately killing someone. But what other types of crime are there? Match the descriptions on the left to the types of crime on the right. The first one is done for you.

| | |
|---|------------------|
| 1 The crime of deliberately killing someone | arson |
| 2 The crime of stealing money or property | vandalism |
| 3 The crime of physically attacking someone | robbery |
| 4 The crime of deliberately burning a building | burglary |
| 5 The crime of entering a building illegally in order to steal things | murder |
| 6 The crime of deliberately damaging or destroying things | assault |

- 3 Look at each of the following pictures from the story. Without looking at the book, what do you think is happening? Write your ideas next to each picture.





B While Reading

- 4 As the story progresses, Inspector Wexford finds different clues which help him to solve the case. As you read, keep a record of the useful information he finds out on the page(s) given about different aspects of the case. The first one is an example.

| Aspect of the case | Clues |
|---|--|
| Angela Hathall, page 12 | <i>Her passport is three years old and has never been used, she was thirty-two years old and Australian, and she lived alone in the house during the week.</i> |
| Results of the report, page 18 | |
| Nancy Lake and Angela Hathall's meeting on the day of the murder, page 20 | |
| Robert Hathall's behaviour on the day of the murder, page 23 | |
| Things that were missing, page 24 | |
| How and when Angela Hathall was murdered, page 28 | |
| Hathall's car on the day of the murder, page 43 | |
| Robert Hathall's London accommodation, page 51 | |
| A sighting of Robert Hathall, page 53 | |
| The possible murder weapon, page 55 | |
| Robert Hathall's travel plans, page 58 | |
| Morag Grey, page 65 | |
| False bank accounts, pages 70–71 | |
| The connection between Robert Hathall and Morag Grey, page 74 | |

- 5 Imagine you are Inspector Wexford. Write a short report about what you discovered at the murder scene. Include what you found there, and what you discovered about Angela and Robert Hathall. Also include days and times. Start like this:

I arrived at Bury cottage at 8pm. I found a passport, purse and driving licence in her handbag. She was 32 years old and was born in Australia...

- 6 Below are some of the people from the story. What do you find out about their character and appearance? Make notes in the spaces below the pictures.



| Inspector Wexford | Robert Hathall | Nancy Lake | Angela Hathall |
|-------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|
| | | | |

C After Reading

- 7 Imagine you are a 'fly on the wall', listening in on a telephone conversation between Robert and Angela Hathall. They have just committed the murder, are on the run from the police and are going to plan to fly to Brazil. Write a dialogue for the phone conversation.

Start:

Robert: *Hello Angela – it's me. How are you?*

Angela: *Fine darling. I miss you. What are we going to do?*

- 8 There are 11 words from the book in the grid, both vertical and horizontal. One of the words is done as an example. Can you find the others?

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| I | N | S | P | E | C | T | O | R | B |
| N | L | C | N | Q | A | D | P | L | O |
| Q | A | A | N | W | S | C | A | I | R |
| U | P | R | O | V | E | N | R | G | F |
| E | T | F | O | Y | M | U | R | N | L |
| S | T | R | A | N | G | L | E | V | D |
| T | P | A | Z | H | L | M | S | H | Y |
| G | K | U | A | T | O | S | T | E | C |
| E | I | D | R | G | V | A | J | L | M |
| W | T | H | O | N | E | S | T | E | F |
| I | Z | H | M | F | S | H | D | B | S |