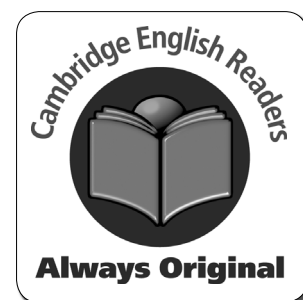


Worksheet

Level 5



Murder by Art Janet McGiffin

Before reading

- Look at the cover of the book. What does the picture show?
 - Read the blurb and then look at the contents page. Who do you think is murdered and how?
 - Look at the map on page 5. What more can you find out about where the story is set? Who lives closest to the Art Space?
 - Look at the descriptions of the characters on page 4. What three main areas of work are the characters involved in?
 - If you have the recording, listen to Chapter 1.
- Ronoldo finds out Rosa has been shot.
 - Shirley and Maxine follow Ronoldo to Latoya's flat.
 - Latoya Jones dies.
 - Maxine's car breaks down.
 - Maxine finds out Grabowski's friend has been shot.
- Describe the district where Latoya's flat is.
 - What do you think happened to Latoya?

Check your reading

Chapter 1

- Match the beginnings and endings of the sentences.
 - Maxine and Shirley work
 - Detective Grabowski and Maxine meet
 - Lillian Hochstedder and Soren Berendorf are
 - Detective Grabowski doesn't know
 - Rolondo has brought
 - A medical technician has brought
 - both artists.
 - Latoya Thompson to the hospital.
 - where Wyoming Syzinski is.
 - two wounded people to the ER.
 - at Mercy Hospital.
 - each other regularly.
- Who
 - is going to an art exhibition?
 - needs a new car?
 - lives with Latoya Thompson?
 - leads a gang?

Chapter 2

- Put the events in the correct order.
 - Maxine sees Latoya had a lot of a TB drug in her stomach.
 - They only find a box of chocolates in Latoya's flat.

Chapter 3

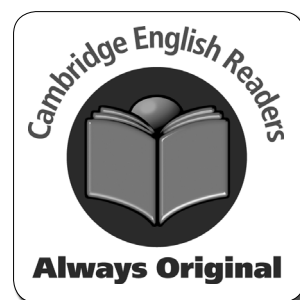
- Describe Soren Berendorf's sculptures.
- Describe Lillian Hockstedder's sculptures.
- Who are these people?
 - She's wearing a cotton dress and sensible shoes.
 - He's got black hair and is playing the piano.
 - She has blonde hair and is wearing a tight green dress.
 - He's wearing yellow trousers, a pink shirt and a purple scarf.
 - She has smooth black hair and is wearing a red dress.
- Where did Maxine finally see Grabowski?
- Why did it take Maxine and Louie so long to reach Grabowski?
- What did Maxine's foot hit when she was following the men to the kitchen?
- Why didn't Soren Berendorf move away when the chairs started to fall?

Chapter 4

- Are these statements True or False?
 - Soren Berendorf is dead.
 - Grabowski was made lead detective on the case.
 - Maxine caused the accident when her foot hit the rope.
 - Only four people know the code to the garage.
 - Someone had stolen Grabowski's new car.
 - Grabowski drove Maxine back to the hospital.
- At the end of the chapter Grabowski goes to do something he has done before. What is it, and why did he do it before?

Worksheet

Level 5



Murder by Art Janet McGiffin

Chapter 5

- Put the adjectives in the box into the correct sentences.

serious sensitive well-trained unconscious
nice sharp

- Maxine says the EMTs are _____.
 - Grabowski gave blood but Wyoming is still _____.
 - Grabowski say the rope was cut with a very _____ knife.
 - Louie says he's a _____ person and has a skin allergy.
 - Maxine says Louie talks too much to commit a _____ crime.
 - Louie feels that he's being punished for being _____ to Soren.
- Why does Grabowski want to talk to Louie?
 - Why doesn't Louie like Soren Berendorf?

Chapter 6

- Which two actions does Louie keep doing which show he feels nervous?
- Which two things didn't Grabowski understand?
- How does Louie know so much about what was going on between Helen, Lillian and Soren?
- What happened to Lillian two years ago?
- What did Helen want after that?
- Which woman disliked Soren
a because he didn't like her statues?
b because he wanted to change the agreement?
- Who do you think killed Soren Berendorf, and why?

Chapter 7

- Match the beginnings and endings of the sentences.
 - Grabowski searched
 - Grabowski found
 - Grabowski allowed
 - Grabowski asked
 - Grabowski told

- Helen to check her emails.
 - Helen that he knew she had said she'd kill Soren.
 - the shop, the Art Space and the cars.
 - some knives in Louie's and the Art Space kitchens
 - Helen about her relationship with Lillian.
- Complete the sentences:
 - Leo says Soren cut the rope because.....
 - Helen says Lillian cut the rope because....
 - Lillian says Helen cut the rope because.....
- Who do you think had the best motive for cutting the rope now?
- Where does Grabowski go after questioning the suspects and why?
- What information does Grabowski have about the shooting of Rosa and Wyoming?

Chapter 8

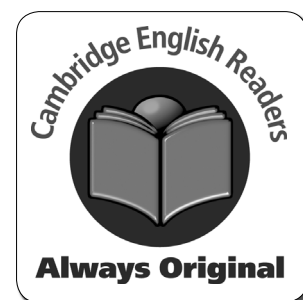
- Put the names of the characters in the box into the correct sentences.

Lillian and Helen Helen Louie
Officer Koranda the art store owner
the captain of detectives Koranda's neighbour

- _____ both hated Soren Berendorf.
 - _____ says Koranda often gave a blonde woman a white box.
 - _____ talks too much.
 - _____ says Grabowski can't investigate the shooting.
 - _____ said Soren regularly broke contracts.
 - _____ said Lillian's eyesight was bad.
 - _____ has disappeared.
- Why doesn't the captain of detectives let Grabowski investigate the shooting?
 - Who was the blonde woman who visited Koranda, and what do you think was in the white box he gave her?

Worksheet

Level 5



Murder by Art Janet McGiffin

Chapter 9

1. What is the result of the autopsy on Latoya Jones?
2. Who does Maxine go looking for, and why is she worried about him?
3. How does Maxine feel when she sees Grabowski and Helen going to the restaurant?
4. What does Maxine find in the garage?
5. What two actions does she take when she finds the man?
6. What two things does Maxine find when they get to Louie's?
7. Who do you think the man in the box is? What has happened to him?

Chapter 10

1. Which of these statements are True?
 - a) Maxine knew who the man in the box was.
 - b) Louie says he went to buy medicine and knives.
 - c) Lillian said she couldn't come to meet Helen.
 - d) Helen wants Grabowski to go back to the restaurant with her.
 - e) Maxine and Grabowski stop for lunch together.
 - f) Maxine knows that Louie makes and sells fake antiques.
2. Do you agree with what Grabowski says at the end of the chapter? Why/why not?

Chapter 11

1. Put the correct adjective from the box into the sentences.

angry important bad high responsible

- 1) Grabowski felt he had missed an _____ detail in Lillian's studio.
- 2) Maxine feels _____ for Latoya's death.
- 3) Maxine got _____ about the police not investigating Latoya's death.
- 4) Lillian's home was surrounded by a _____ stone wall.
- 5) Grabowski was in a _____ mood after talking to Maxine about Latoya's death.

2. What is different about the teeth in the head Grabowski sees and the one Maxine saw in the Art Space?
3. Why do you think Lillian kept biting her nails?

Chapter 12

1. Put the events into the correct order.
 - a) Rolondo goes to Rosa's apartment.
 - b) Maxine fails to phone Grabowski.
 - c) They find all Wyoming's things on the floor.
 - d) Wyoming wakes up.
 - e) Maxine gets hit on the head.
 - f) Rolondo takes Maxine to Wyoming's apartment.
2. Why is Maxine angry when she can't call Grabowski?
3. What does Maxine want Wyoming to do?
4. What do you think will happen to Maxine?

Chapter 13

1. Who
 - a) put a wet cloth on Maxine's head?
 - b) hurried out before Grabowski came?
 - c) was angry?
 - d) did Grabowski have dinner with?
 - e) does Grabowski think Helen knows about?

Chapter 14

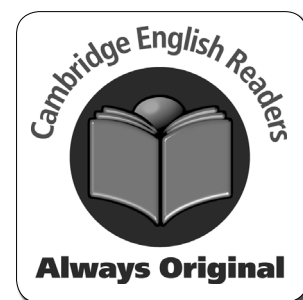
1. What does Maxine do about the chocolates?
2. Who took the chocolates to Madison?
3. What did Maxine get from Ronoldo's cousin?
4. Which three people does Wyoming draw?
5. How did Wyoming know (a) Lillian (b) Helen (c) Soren?
6. What do you find out about the chocolates?

Chapter 15

1. Put the places that Grabowski went to last night and this morning in the correct order:
 Lake Michigan
 Lillian's house
 Mercy Hospital
 Rolondo's apartment

Worksheet

Level 5



Murder by Art Janet McGiffin

Koranda's house
Several inner city bars

- What was the relationship between
 - Lillian and Koranda?
 - Lillian's husband Leo and Koranda?
- What did Grabowski find in Lillian's studio and her car?

Chapter 16

- Match the beginnings and endings of the sentences.
 - Maxine was right about
 - Maxine finds Louie
 - Louie thought he was taking
 - Louie tells Maxine
 - Louie saw that
 - Helen told Louie
 - his allergy tablets but they were sleeping pills.
 - the rope was breaking and went to tell Helen.
 - there being INH in the chocolates.
 - not to tell Grabowski that he'd seen the rope breaking.
 - in bad condition in his flat.
 - everything that happened at the Art Space.
- What does Helen tell Maxine about the crime?
- Does Grabowski believe that Helen saw Louie cut the rope?
- Who gave Wyoming the chocolates that killed Latoya?

Chapter 17

- Answer these questions with short answers.
 - Where is Maxine after midnight?
 - What does she find inside the clay sculpture?
 - What problem does Lillian have with her eye?
 - Who found out about the sculptures first?
 - Did Lillian cut the rope?
 - Who were the chocolates Lillian took to Wyoming from?
 - Who tells Lillian to stop talking?

Chapter 18

- Where is Officer Koranda?
- Where had he been kept?

- What had Koranda asked for from Leo?
- What happened when Leo and Koranda had a fight?
- Who cut the rope and why?
- Why had Helen put sleeping pills in Soren's drinks?
- Why did Helen put INH in Wyoming's chocolates?
- Who arranged for the people to shoot at Wyoming and Rosa?
- What does Grabowski say he has at the end?

Chapter 19

- What does Maxine find out about her 'new' car?
- What do Maxine and Grabowski do for Wyoming?
- Where are the characters and what are they doing?
- What does Louie say was the cause of everything?
- What does Grabowski say makes the world go round?

After reading

Choose some of these activities.

- Write a summary of the story from the point of view of either Lillian or Helen.
- If you were making a film of this story, which famous actors would you choose to play the main roles (Grabowski, Maxine, Helen, Lillian, Leo, Soren)?
- Think of another title for *Murder by Art* and explain why it would be good.
- Write an email to the author, Janet McGiffin, saying what you liked and didn't like about the story.
- Write a description of Grabowski, talking about his background, present life and character.
- What do you think happens to Grabowski and Maxine after the end of the story? Write a paragraph.
- Make a quiz about this story for the other students, e.g. some True/False questions or some correct/incorrect sentences.
- Write a newspaper report about the completion of the case.
- Which character do you like most and least? Explain why.