***A Study in Pink***

***Part 1 - Meeting Sherlock***

*http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/products/8193*

*http://arianedevere.livejournal.com/43794.html*

**Teacher’s Notes**

Level: Pre-advanced – Advanced

Time: 90 minutes

Focus: listening, speaking

Introduction:

*Sherlock* is a fast-paced, challenging series for students to watch. However, it is very popular, so many students may have seen it in their own countries, either dubbed or subtitled, which will help with understanding and motivation.

This is the very first episode of the first series, so it’s a good one to start with, as it introduces the main characters, Sherlock Holmes and John Watson.

The vocabulary pages are designed to be photocopied on a separate sheet. You can use it to preteach vocabulary before watching, between a first and second watching, or simply allow students to refer to it as and when they need to. The exercises for further vocabulary work based on scenes 2 and 3 are probably best done after all the listening comprehension exercises have been completed.

Scene 1:

NB Encourage students to look for visual clues as well as listening to what is said.

*Answers: Dr John H Watson; has been in a war zone; doesn’t own much but it includes a gun, a crutch, and a laptop; has “trust issues” according to his therapist; feels that nothing happens to him.*

Scene 2:

*Answers: 1. a) they were at Bart’s together b) he got shot while abroad c) a place to live, maybe a flatshare d) someone else he knows was looking for a flatshare*

*2. to discover more about bruises 3. that they go and look at a flat together 4. that he has been in either Afghanistan or Iraq, and that he is looking for a flatmate. More specifically, he’s been in the military as an army doctor, he has a therapist, he has a brother, who he won’t ask for help even though the brother is worried about him, maybe because he’s an alcoholic and recently walked out on his wife.*

*5. He doesn’t understand him, and is somewhat surprised, and confused 6. Molly fancies Sherlock (alters her lipstick) but Sherlock isn’t interested (treats her coldly and unfeelingly)*

Scene 3:

*Answers:*

*1. Because John referred to him as an amateur and he wants to prove that he isn’t.*

* He’s been in the military *(haircut, way you hold yourself)*
* He was an army doctor *(conversation as you entered the room – “bit different from my day”)*
* He was in a war zone *(he has a limp when he walks but doesn’t notice when he stands – partly psychosomatic – so injured in traumatic circumstances)*
* He was in Afghanistan or Iraq *(injured in traumatic circumstances, suntanned face but not above wrists)*
* He has a therapist *(he has a psychosomatic limp)*
* He has a brother *(expensive phone but can’t find a place to live – engraving says Harry Watson)*
* His brother recently walked out on his wife *(engraving says from Clara xxx but he’s given the phone away)*
* His brother’s worried about him *(given him the phone, so wants to stay in touch)*
* He won’t go to his brother for help *(still looking for a flatmate)*
* His brother’s an alcoholic *(scratches round the charger socket)*

*2. He’s just proved that he’s not an amateur – i.e. he is very good at what he does.*

*3. John says “that’s amazing” whereas most people say “piss off”*

*4. All except that Harry is John’s sister Harriet, not his brother.*

Vocabulary work:

*Scene 2: Social phrases:*

We were at Bart’s / school / university / college together.

Bad day, was it?

Sorry, you were saying?

I was wondering if you’d like to have coffee.

Bit different from my day.

Old friend of mine.

How do you feel about …

Would that bother you?

*Scene 3: Fixed expressions*

1. out of their depth (= in a situation too difficult for them)
2. wounded in action (= injured in battle)
3. stay in touch (= keep in contact)
4. shot in the dark (= random guess)
5. there you go, you see (= that proves I’m right)
6. spot on (= exactly correct)

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***Scene 1: Watch the opening scene of* A Study in Pink*.* (0:00-2:09)**

What do we learn about this man?

* His name?
* His past?
* His possessions?
* His problems?

***Scene 2: Watch the scene where John meets Sherlock.* (7:10-11:59)**

1. What do we learn from John’s meeting with the man in the park?
2. How do they know each other?
3. What more do we learn about John’s past?
4. What is he looking for now?
5. How does the other man think he can help?
6. Why is Sherlock beating a dead body?
7. What does Sherlock suggest to John?
8. What does Sherlock deduce about John in this scene? (10:20-11:40)
9. How does John feel about Sherlock at this point? Why?
10. What is the dynamic between Molly and Sherlock? How do you know?

***Deductions***

Do you think Sherlock was correct in everything he deduced about John?

How do you think he made those deductions? What kind of evidence was he using?

***Scene 3: Watch the scene where Sherlock explains his deductions.* (17:45-21:41)**

Why does Sherlock decide to explain his methods to John?

1. What explanation does he give for each deduction? (18:47-20:45)

* He’s been in the military
* He was an army doctor
* He was in a war zone
* He was in Afghanistan or Iraq
* He has a therapist
* He has a brother
* His brother recently walked out on his wife
* His brother’s worried about him
* He won’t go to his brother for help
* His brother’s an alcoholic

1. Why does Sherlock say to John “You see, you were right”?
2. What’s John’s reaction to Sherlock’s explanation? How is this different from people’s normal reaction?
3. Were all of Sherlock’s deductions correct?

***Meeting Sherlock – Vocabulary Page***

**Scenes 1 and 2**

alibi

Bart’s = St Bartholomew’s Hospital (a major training hospital in London)

bruises

civilian

death by natural causes

flatmate

flatshare

invalided home

limp

military service

mortuary

psychosomatic

riding crop

therapist

**Scene 2 – Social Language**

**Scene 3**

amateur

consult

crime scene

engraving

extraordinary

gadget

private detective

romantic attachment

scratches

scuff marks

sentiment

sober

sunbathing

tanned

traumatic

**Scene 3 – Fixed Expressions**

These expressions from this scene are in the correct order. Fill in the missing words, and try to deduce their meaning from the context.

1. … when the police are **out of their d…….**
2. … of the injury were traumatic. **Wounded …… a……………**
3. …. that says he wants you to **stay ….. t……..**
4. … about the drinking? **Sh…… in the d……..**
5. … never see a drunk’s without them. **There y…. g…. , you s……** .
6. … Harry is a drinker. **S…….. on**, then.