

WHAT'S IN A MYSTERY?



A mystery is a type of fiction story that contains these important elements.



CHARACTERS	PLOT
<ul style="list-style-type: none">🔍 Suspects: Characters who have possibly committed the crime🔍 Detective: Character trying to solve the mystery🔍 Witnesses: Characters who saw the crime being committed	<p>When reading a mystery, the story is usually about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">🔍 An event that cannot be explained🔍 A secret🔍 Something that is lost or missing🔍 A crime that has been committed
SETTING	CLUES
<p>This is where the story takes place.</p>	<p>Clues are hints that help the reader or detective solve the mystery. They can be things people say or do, or objects that are found that provide important information.</p>
RED HERRINGS	STRUCTURE OF A MYSTERY
<p>These are distractions or false clues that may lead the reader or detective off track. Red herrings make it more difficult to solve a mystery.</p>	<p>Beginning: Characters are introduced and the reader learns about the problem.</p> <p>Middle: Detectives work to solve the mystery by interviewing suspects and gathering clues.</p> <p>End: Mystery or problem is solved.</p>



WHAT'S IN A MYSTERY?



Let's see if you can identify the mystery elements in
The Mystery of the Missing Dump Truck!

CHARACTERS

Who were the suspects in the story?

Who were the detectives?

PLOT

Check the box that describes the plot of the story.

- An event that cannot be explained
- A secret
- Something that is lost or missing
- A crime that has been committed

CLUES

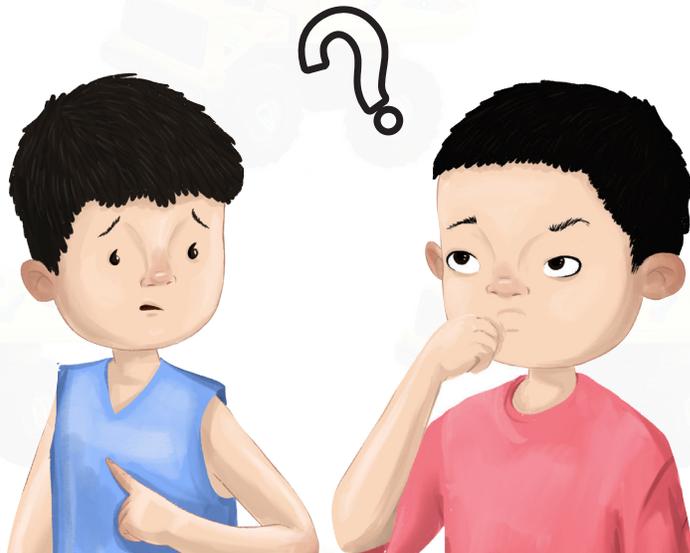
Identify two clues in the story.

SETTING

Where did the story take place?

RED HERRINGS

Name a red herring in the story.



ANSWER KEY

CHARACTERS

Who were the suspects in the story?

- Hailey and Kyle

Who were the detectives?

- Connor and Owen

SETTING

Where did the story take place?

- At a camp (Whispering Willows Camp)

RED HERRINGS

Name a red herring in the story.

- Hailey and the big yellow school bus

PLOT

Check the box that describes the plot of the story.

- Something that is lost or missing

CLUES

Identify two clues in the story.

- The neon rocket sticker on Kyle's jacket
- The blue paint on the shed