

The Detectives

Preparation materials for primary schools
(For before the show)

The performance that you are going to see describes the circumstances around a murder that happened in England four years ago. We hope that you will be able to solve the case.

Detectives

Can you name six famous detectives? They can be from books, films or television series.

Cabaret

The murder that we will investigate happened during a cabaret performance.

What is a cabaret?

What sort of things can happen in a cabaret?

If you had to do something in a cabaret performance what could you do?

Two problems to solve

We hope that during the performance you will help us to solve the murder case that we present. Here is a short problem for you to practise on.

Problem 1

A small town in England has only two hairdressers shops. Only two people in this town cut hair. One hairdresser is called Stanley Smart. Stanley is well-dressed, has a very clean shop and a very nice haircut. The other hairdresser, Roger Rough, is dirty, untidy and has terrible hair.

If you were in this town and you wanted a very nice haircut, who would you go to, Stanley Smart or Roger Rough? Why?

(We will tell you the solution to this problem in the performance)

Problem 2

Downstairs in a house are three lights switches which are connected to three light bulbs upstairs. The switches can only be turned on and off (they are not dimmer switches) and there is no possible way to see the light bulbs from where the switches are. The problem is, how can you tell which bulb belongs to which switch if you start downstairs with the switches and then go upstairs to the light bulbs only once? (It is possible)

A section of dialogue from the case that you will see

Michael was jealous because his wife Sylvie was having an affair with Christopher, the clown. On the afternoon before the show when one of the actors died, Michael and Sylvie had this argument. We don't know everything that they said because at one point Sylvie spoke too quietly.

Michael It's too much. You've had other men before, but this time with Christopher it's too much.

Sylvie You're just jealous Michael. You're always jealous.

Michael This time it's different. You know I love you, but you must stop hurting me.

Sylvie Don't be silly Michael. *(Sylvie turned around and saw Michael holding a bottle of poison)* Why are you holding this bottle?

Michael I warn you. If you don't stop hurting me like this I'll kill

Sylvie Listen you idiot. In two days this cabaret will finish and then *(Sylvie whispered and we don't know what she said)*

Michael Sylvie, it's impossible. You're so cruel.

Sylvie I'm not listening to this now. *(Sylvie left)*

How would you describe Sylvie as a character? How would you describe Michael? Are these words suitable to describe them?

angry **selfish** **patient** **jealous**
faithful **desperate** **tolerant** **flirtatious**

What do you think Sylvie said when she spoke quietly?

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN THE THEATRE!

KEY FOR TEACHERS

A **cabaret** is a form of variety theatre show which traditionally combines songs, dancing, magic, comedy, and other forms of stage entertainment. A cabaret usually takes place in smaller venues and so wouldn't necessarily have to contain larger circus numbers.

Problem 1: Answer will be given during the performance.

Problem 2: Answer:

One of the lights is left switched on. It is clear which switch that light belongs to.

Another light is switched on for a few minutes and then switched off. The light upstairs will be off, but if he feels the light bulb it will still be warm.

The third light is never switched on. The light will be off and the light bulb will be cold.

THANK YOU FOR VISITING OUR SHOW.

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN THE THEATRE.