

Murder Mystery – Part 1

The room felt icily cold as she walked into it. Her fingers felt for the light-switch on the wall. It was never where she thought it was. She found it and suddenly the room was bathed in light. Her husband was where he normally was, at his desk. He was slumped over and was sleeping. She walked over to the desk, put the lid onto the open bottle of whisky, and tutted. She didn't like him drinking so much, but he always did when she was away in London. She ran a hand through his hair. He felt cold. She pushed him back so that she could look at him. It was then that she realised something was wrong. She stared at him, he wasn't breathing. She grabbed his wrist, no pulse, nothing. Upstairs her son was woken by the sound of uncontrolled screams.

Questions and opinions:

1. Who is she?
2. How is she related to the man?
3. What has happened to him?
4. Are the people in the story rich?
5. Where do they live?

Vocabulary hunt:

- a. Part of the arm next to the hand
- b. The adv and adj used to describe the room
- c. Sat down in a very heavy way, body normally leaning forwards
- d. To make a noise with your tongue and teeth to show you don't like something
- e. The feel of someone's heartbeat

Modal Verbs:

What do you think has happened in the story?

To talk about possibilities in the past we use:
could/might + have + p.p.

“she could have been shopping in London”

Write down a couple of ideas

Murder Mystery – part 2

Shortly after, the police and a doctor were called. Below are the police report on the dead man and the doctor's forensic report.

Police Report

Family

The dead man was 63 years old, named Kenneth (Ken) Brown. Married for the second time, to Jennifer (aged 46). His first wife died 8 years ago. His son, Adam, has lived at home since finishing his chemistry degree.

Hobbies

Keen golfer and member of the local club. Gardener.

Work

He owned a business importing and distributing computer components. This had always been fairly successful, which allowed him to buy the large house in this village as well as a flat in London.

Other notes

His money made him unpopular with many of the other people who lived in the village.

Kenneth Brown



Read the police report and make some notes about him and his life.

Then read the forensic report on the next page and add any more ideas to your notes.

Do you have any more ideas about what happened to Ken Brown?

He might have _____ / He could have been _____

Forensic report

The deceased was a man in his early 60s. He appeared to be healthy for his age, though according to the local doctor he took medication for a heart condition.

He drank often and regularly too much, the amount of alcohol in his blood was 5 times the amount legal when driving.

There were no signs of struggle or a fight, so we can rule out him being killed by an intruder.

However, one police officer noticed that the glass next to his body still contained some whisky. When this was examined, it was found to contain other substances. These have been sent to a laboratory for further examination

Vocab questions

Find a word that means:

- a. The dead person
- b. Seemed
- c. Problem / illness
- d. Someone who came into the house secretly
- e. Something else/extra
- f. A place where you do experiments

Take notes on the note paper about the phone call from the lab to the police.

Especially, listen to what they say about the cause of death.

