

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_

## Recipe for a Mystery

English 7

When cooking up a mystery, authors use this tasty recipe.

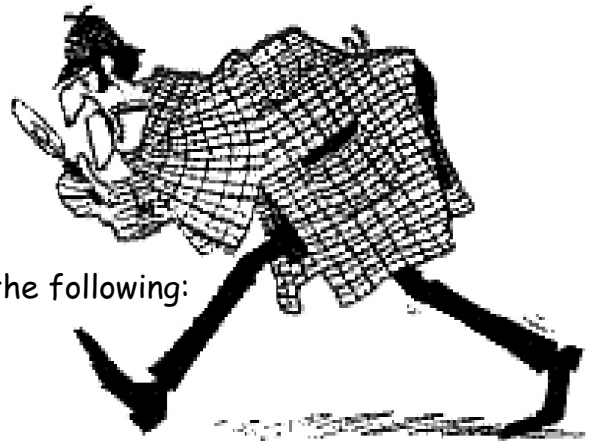
**DIRECTIONS:** Check off all of the ingredients found in the mystery you read.

### CHARACTERS:

- Suspects:** Characters believed to have possibly committed the crime
- Detectives:** Characters trying to solve the mystery
- Witnesses:** Characters who saw the crime being committed

### SETTING:

- The location where the mystery takes place
- The time period the mystery takes place



### PLOT:

When reading a mystery, the story usually includes the following:

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

### CLUES:

- Hints that can help the reader and the detective solve the mystery, which can include things people say or do, or objects that are found that provide important information

### RED HERRINGS:

- Distractions or false clues that may lead the reader or the detective off track and may make it more difficult to solve the mystery

### RECIPE FOR A MYSTERY:

Most mystery stories are set up the same way. The structure of the story may look like this:

- Beginning:** Characters are introduced and the reader learns about the problem.
- Middle:** Detectives work to solve the mystery by interviewing suspects and gathering clues
- End:** The mystery is solved.