

THE FAMOUS MR HOLMES

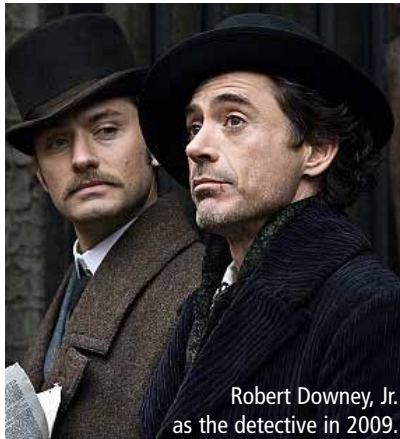


Sherlock Holmes is the world's most famous detective. Since Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's first story about him in 1887, people have read stories about him in 60 different languages. 75 actors have played him in 254 films and TV shows.

Did you know?

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was a doctor. He wrote the first Sherlock Holmes story when he didn't have enough work.

He based his detective on one of his teachers at Edinburgh University.



Robert Downey, Jr.
as the detective in 2009.

Conan Doyle wrote 70 Sherlock Holmes stories. Conan Doyle killed his detective in the thirty-sixth story because he wanted to write about different characters. But later, he wrote more Sherlock Holmes stories. He decided that the detective was only pretending to be dead.

Basil Rathbone was famous as Sherlock Holmes.

Sherlock, with Benedict Cumberbatch as Sherlock Holmes and Martin Freeman as John Watson, is one of Britain's most popular TV series. But how does the world of Cumberbatch's detective compare with the one that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle wrote about 130 years ago?



Who's your favourite detective from a book, film or TV show? Why?

Conan Doyle's stories

- Holmes uses forensic science – a new idea in the 1880s – to solve crimes.
- Dr Watson works with Holmes and tells readers about their adventures in his diary.
- Watson was a doctor with the British army in Afghanistan in 1880.
- In 'The Sign of Four', Holmes and Watson help Mary Morstan to find her father. As they work on the case, Watson and Mary fall in love and decide to get married.

The Sherlock TV series

- As well as forensic science, Sherlock uses mobile phones and the Internet in his crime work.
- John Watson works with Sherlock and writes a blog about their adventures.
- John was a doctor with the British army in Afghanistan before 2010.
- Mary Morstan is a nurse. She works with John and they fall in love. In 'The Sign of Three', they get married.

What do these words mean? You can use a dictionary.

actor base on character pretend series forensic science