



Murder

Stephen **slipped** silently into the house. His heart was **thumping** violently in his chest. He made his way up the darkened stairs to his room. With every step he was terrified that he would be caught. He lay fully clothed on his bed, his body **tense** and his eyes moving wildly around the room. He was exhausted but sleep wouldn't come. The hours **crawled** slowly past.

"Dead, dead, dead."

The word **pounded relentlessly** in his mind. From downstairs he could hear the voices of his mother and stepfather talking as they made breakfast. His mother's quiet voice was soon lost under the louder, more aggressive voice of Arthur, his step-dad. He was complaining about the traffic on the Clifton **Suspension Bridge**. Stephen buried his head under his pillow.

"What am I going to do?"

He bit his lip to stop himself from crying out in fear. He had never been so scared in his life. Every time he shut his eyes he could see the whole horrible scene playing out in front of him. He knew it was only a question of time before the police caught up with him.



to slip	<i>hier</i> hineinschleichen
to thump	<i>hier</i> pochen
tense	angespannt
to crawl	kriechen
to pound	hämmern
relentlessly	schonungslos
suspension bridge	Hängebrücke

Detective Inspector Charles Billington and Sergeant Daniel Fox looked at the busy area in front of them. DI Billington rubbed his

hands over his tired face. **Stubble** prickled against his skin where he hadn't shaved that morning. He had put on fresh clothes that morning but they already looked **creased**. At forty-five he was getting too old for these early mornings.

Exercise 1: Adjectives. Lesen Sie weiter und unterstreichen Sie alle sieben Adjektive!

His young sergeant, however, looked rested and seemed full of energy. Danny's thick black hair was slightly messy, but other than that he looked as if he had just come from a relaxing afternoon watching the cricket!

The usual peace of these woods on the hills over Bristol had been **disturbed**. The area was now alive with activity. The black and yellow police tape fluttered in the breeze. Even though it was still early, a small crowd had gathered. Detective Inspector Billington **sighed** as he recognized the reporter from the local newspaper. The serious-looking constable on duty was doing a good job of making sure that no one crossed the tape into the **crime scene** behind, but the detective knew it wouldn't be long before the questions started. "Right, Danny, let's **get this over with**."

He led his sergeant past the constable at the tape and into the **clearing** in the centre of the woods. He nodded at the **forensics** team at work.



stubble	Bartstoppeln
creased	zerknittert
to disturb	stören
to sigh	seufzen
crime scene	Tatort
↩ to get sth. over with	etw. hinter sich bringen
clearing	Lichtung
forensics	Kriminaltechnik

“Morning, Andrew what have you got for me, then?”

Andrew Cavendish, the forensics team leader sat back on his heels and looked up at him.

“The body is of a man about fifty years old. Cause of death is likely to be a **shotgun blast** to the chest.”



shotgun blast

Schuss aus einer Flinte

to soak

hier: durchsickern

post mortem

Autopsie

to survey

begutachten

gun club

Schützenverein

↪ **inside job**

Werk von Insidern

lack of progress

mangelnder Fortschritt

The body was lying on its back with its arms out to the sides. The man was obviously dead. The blood from the huge gun shot wound in his chest had stopped flowing a long time ago. It had **soaked** into the man's shirt and coat and into the leaves below his body.

“It looks like he has been dead for several hours. Time of death would be in the early hours of this morning,” said Andrew before adding,

“but we won't know for certain until the **post mortem**.”

DI Billington stood back from the corpse and **surveyed** the scene. Sergeant Fox came to stand by his side. He took one look at the body and said, “I know him, sir.”

“You do?”

“Yes, sir. It's George Morris, a local landowner and **gun club** owner. I met him a few weeks ago. He had come to the station to talk to Detective Singh, the officer in charge of his case. A number of rare, expensive guns had been stolen from his club, sir. Detective Singh thought it may have been an '**inside job**' Mr Morris had come to complain about the **lack of progress**.”

The DI looked thoughtfully at the body. “George Morris. Hmm, I've heard of him.”

“I wonder what he was doing in the woods in the middle of the night, sir?” said Danny. “It's such an isolated spot.”

"I don't know, Sergeant, but look around you. The **undergrowth** has been disturbed in a wide area around the body. There was a struggle." "Whatever George Morris found in this clearing last night, I don't think he was expecting it."

Exercise 2: Unscramble. Bringen Sie die Buchstaben in die richtige Reihenfolge!

1. It's such an **teioslad** _____ spot.
2. There was a **ggrutsel** _____.
3. George had come to **inoacpml** _____ about the lack of progress.
4. The **grurwnotedh** _____ has been disturbed.

The group of policemen and women huddled together near the entrance to the woods. It was a cold morning and the officers were stamping their feet to keep warm. The police vans that were parked

at the side of the road provided a bit of **shelter** from the wind. Detective Inspector Billington had taken care to move his officers far enough away from any members of the public so that he could talk without being **overheard**.



undergrowth	Unterholz
shelter	Schutz, Unterschlupf
to overhear	zufällig hören
victim	Opfer

"Okay, let's start at the beginning. Who found the **victim**?" A young, tired-looking officer stepped out of the crowd.