My name’s Dr Watson, and I’m a good friend of the famous detective Sherlock Holmes. Two days after Christmas last year I went to his house – 221B Baker Street. I wanted to say ‘Happy Christmas!’ to him. When I arrived, I found him in the sitting room. He was by the window with some newspapers next to him. There was an old hat on a chair near him, and he had a magnifying glass in his hand.

‘You’re working on something,’ I said. ‘Shall I go?’

‘No,’ said Holmes. ‘Sit down and look at that interesting old hat over there.’
I sat down. It was cold out in the street, but it was nice and warm in Holmes’s sitting room.

‘Why are you interested in that old hat? Is it something to do with a crime?’ I asked.

Holmes laughed. ‘Not a crime, no,’ he said. ‘I got it from Peterson, the doorman at the Baker Street Hotel.’

‘He found it in the street and brought it here on Christmas Day for me to look at. He also brought a dead bird with him – a good fat Christmas goose – at the same time.

‘I gave the goose back to him this morning. He’s cooking it at his house now and he’s going to eat it for dinner tonight.’

‘First it was a hat, and now you’re talking about a goose!’ I said. ‘I don’t understand.’

‘Then let’s begin when it all began,’ said Holmes.

‘At about four o’clock in the morning of Christmas Day, Peterson went home after work. When he got to Tottenham Court Road he saw, in the street in front of him, a tall man with a goose over his shoulder.

‘There were some young men in the street in front of them. Suddenly one of them hit the tall man’s hat off his head and it fell into the road. Then the tall man tried to hit the young man with his walking stick, but by accident he broke the window of a shop behind him.

‘At that moment Peterson ran to the man to help him, but the tall man ran away. Perhaps he felt bad about breaking the shop window. Perhaps he thought that Peterson – in his doorman’s coat and hat – was a policeman.'
READING CHECK

Are these sentences true or false?

a The story happens in December. ☑ ☐

b Holmes tells his friend Watson about a tall man with an old hat. ☐ ☐

c The tall man left a yellow bird in the street. ☐ ☐

d A hotel doorman – Peterson – gave the hat and the bird to Holmes. ☐ ☐

e Holmes gave the bird to Watson. ☐ ☐

f Peterson’s wife found a green diamond in the bird. ☐ ☐

WORD WORK

1 Look at the pictures and complete the crossword.

2 Read the blue squares and write the name of another blue jewel. ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐