

A NEW SHERLOCK HOLMES

To modern readers, Conan Doyle's Sherlock stories describe people and places from over 100 years ago. But to Conan Doyle's first readers, Sherlock was an exciting *modern* character. The makers of the new Sherlock wanted modern viewers to think of him in the same way.

The same but different

Just like the first Sherlock Holmes, the modern Sherlock is joined on his cases by Dr John Watson. Both Conan Doyle's stories and the new, Sherlock stories start with Watson coming home from war in Afghanistan.

Both Sherlocks use the science of their time. The new Sherlock knows all about modern science and technology such as computers and microscopes.

In Conan Doyle's books, the adventures are 'told' by Watson in his journal. In the new Sherlock, John writes a blog.

Conan Doyle's Sherlock sometimes smoked a pipe when he was thinking about cases; he described some difficult cases as 'two pipe problems'. The new Sherlock has stopped smoking but he still uses nicotine patches. In one story he describes a case as a 'two patch problem'!

'That hat'

Sherlock is famous for wearing a kind of hat called a *deerstalker*. In fact, Conan Doyle never described this hat. The artist who did the first pictures just drew Sherlock this way.



In one story the new Sherlock is trying to avoid a photographer. He pulls on the nearest hat – a deerstalker. The picture appears in the newspaper and so again Sherlock becomes famous for 'that hat'.

What's
your favourite
detective story?
Why do you
like it?

A new hound

'The Hound of the Baskervilles' is Conan Doyle's most famous story. The idea came from a real legend about a terrible 'ghost dog'.

In the Conan Doyle story, there seems to be a monster dog on the moors. Sherlock learns that it is actually a real, huge dog. A man called Stapleton painted it so that it glowed in the dark. He did this to frighten a local family, the Baskervilles, and get their home and money.

In the new story the writers keep the idea of a monster dog on the moors, but they make the story more modern with secret science experiments and dangerous drugs. They use a lot of the same character names, but this time Stapleton is *not* the criminal.

What do these words mean? You can use a dictionary.
character journal blog nicotine patch legend