



Murder on the Orient Express

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While reading

Chapter 1

1 Write the names to finish the sentences.

- Ratchett Bouc Mr Harris
Colonel Arbuthnot Mrs Hubbard
Miss Debenham Princess Dragomiroff
- a became very nervous when there was a delay on the train from Syria to Istanbul.
 - b had spent a lot of time in the army in India.
 - c helped Poirot to find a compartment on the Orient Express.
 - d seemed to have a wild animal hidden inside him.
 - e arrived too late to catch the train.
 - f had a husband who had got his money out of his country before the Communists took control.
 - g had a daughter who was teaching at a college in Turkey.

Chapter 2

2 Put the underlined letters in the right place to make a word.

- a Bouc told Poirot that a sgrsapene had been murdered in his bed.
- b The window of Ratchett's compartment was open, but there were no tofoptsnir in the snow.
- c The door was locked and etdolb on the inside.
- d Bouc said that when the police arrived, there would be delays and apnsnestnaselu
- e MacQueen acted svrenyluo as he sat down opposite Poirot.
- f Poirot read the carefully printed dwrngninahti on the notepaper.
- g Poirot bent down to look at the suodnw on Ratchett's body.
- h Poirot found a gun under Ratchett's lipwlo
- i Poirot found a small, pretty kaheihfcerdn on the floor of Ratchett's compartment.
- j Colonel Armstrong's daughter was pdiknadep and then murdered.

Chapter 3

3 Answer the questions.

- a Who did Poirot interview first?
.....
- b What was on the back of the red dressing gown that the lady in the corridor was wearing?
.....
- c Why did Princess Dragomiroff ring her bell?
.....
- d How did MacQueen feel when he found out that Ratchett was really Cassetti?
.....
- e What did Ratchett normally take before he went to bed?
.....
- f Who did Mrs Hubbard think had been in her compartment the previous night?
.....
- g Where had Mrs Hubbard put her jewellery?
.....
- h What did Mrs Hubbard take from her handbag?
.....
- i Why couldn't Mrs Hubbard see if the door between her compartment and the next one was bolted or not?
.....
- j Why had the Swedish lady gone to see Mrs Hubbard?
.....

Chapter 4

4 Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- a Greta Ohlsson said she slept very deeply and didn't know if anybody had entered or left her compartment the night before.
- b Greta said she liked the Americans because they give a lot of money to schools and hospitals in Turkey.
- c Poirot believed that the Italian was the murderer.
- d The conductor, Michel, had lost a button from his uniform.
- e Princess Dragomiroff looked very ugly when Poirot spoke to her.
- f Princess Dragomiroff knew the Armstrong family very well.



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- g Princess Dragomiroff was very sad that Ratchett had been killed.
- h Princess Dragomiroff said that she often saw Linda Arden's youngest daughter.
- i Count and Countess Andrenyi arrived at the restaurant carriage together.
- j Countess Andrenyi said she had only been married for a year.

Chapter 5

5 Underline the wrong word and put the right one.

- a Mr Hardman first said he was travelling for pleasure.
- b Mr Hardman had been to Istanbul to look for a couple of children.
- c Mr Ratchett said the person who was threatening him was tall and dark.
- d Foscarelli was Italian but he had become a British citizen.
- e Bouc said that Italians loved using guns.
- f Miss Debenham said she had been working as a secretary in Baghdad.
- g Hildegarde said the handkerchief was very cheap.

Chapter 6

6 **Finish** the sentences with the right word.

- disproved sharp crowd willingly forwards tidily curled temper refused clue
- a Poirot thinks that the murderer possibly left the watch as a false
 - b Hardman's evidence could easily be by a call to New York.
 - c Mrs Hubbard fell and dropped into Bouc's arms.
 - d There was a of people outside Mrs Hubbard's compartment.
 - e The knife was and covered in blood.
 - f When Poirot asked Mrs Hubbard for permission to search her luggage, she agreed
 - g Countess Andrenyi was up in a chair when Poirot arrived.

- h Miss Debenham to explain the words she had said to Colonel Arbuthnot.
- i For the first time, Miss Debenham showed signs of losing her
- j The red dressing gown was placed in Poirot's suitcase.

Chapter 7

7 **Find** words in Chapter 7.

- a The parts of a watch that move to show us the time. (p. 52)
- b A type of clothes that you wear in bed. (p. 53)
- c Something you find inside a pen. (p. 53)
- d An adjective to describe what something is like after a fire. (p. 54)
- e The daughter of your brother or sister. (p. 56)
- f An adjective to describe somebody who is usually happy. (p. 57)
- g A long look at somebody or something. (p. 58)
- h Moved his head from side to side. (p. 59)

Chapter 8

8 **What's first? Number** the sentences 1–8.

- a Greta Ohlsson admits that she was Daisy Armstrong's nurse.
- b Miss Debenham explains why she lied about her job with the Armstrongs.
- c Poirot explains his first solution about a man who got on the train dressed as a conductor.
- d Poirot shows Colonel Arbuthnot the pipe cleaner and asks him if he murdered Ratchett.
- e Poirot decides to tell the police about his first solution.
- f Poirot explains to all the passengers that that he can think of two possible solutions to the crime.
- g Poirot tells Foscarelli that he knows he drove cars for the Armstrong family.
- h Poirot explains his second solution about twelve people being responsible for Ratchett's death.



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1 Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- a Poirot met Bouc in a hotel restaurant in Istanbul.
- b Poirot knew that Ratchett's name was really Cassetti from the beginning.
- c Some of Ratchett's wounds were very slight but some were very serious.
- d Colonel Armstrong shot himself after his wife died.
- e The conductor, Pierre Michel, didn't see anything the night of the murder because he was sleeping all the time.
- f Mrs Hubbard saw the man that was in her compartment very clearly.
- g All of the women on the train said they didn't have a red dressing gown.
- h Countess Andrenyi had spent many years living in America with her husband.
- i The American, Hardman, had been hired by Ratchett to protect him.
- j Poirot believed that the Countess was the only person not responsible for the murder.

2 What happened first? Number the sentences 1–10.

- a Poirot found a pipe cleaner on the floor of Ratchett's compartment.
- b Linda Arden said she always liked playing amusing characters.
- c A hotel worker told Poirot and Bouc that all the first-class and second-class compartments were full.
- d Greta Ohlsson admitted she had been Daisy Armstrong's nurse.
- e Poirot found an ink spot on Countess Andrenyi's passport.
- f Mrs Hubbard told Poirot that she thought a man had been in her compartment the night before.
- g Poirot told the Countess that he knew she was Mrs Armstrong's sister.
- h The American detective, Hardman, told Poirot about a man with a high voice.
- i Bouc asked Poirot to take command of the murder case.
- j Mrs Hubbard found a big knife in her sponge bag.

3 Write the names to finish the sentences.

Poirot Ratchett Miss Debenham

Colonel Arbuthnot Countess Andrenyi

Mrs Hubbard Mrs Armstrong Pierre Michel

Princess Dragomiroff Hildegard Schmidt

- a gave birth too soon because of her daughter's murder.
- b said that to solve a case, a man just has to lie back and think.
- c believed that the Turks were lazy and had terrible roads.
- d was really the father of the Armstrong's maid.
- e said that a small, dark conductor almost ran into her in the corridor.
- f offered Poirot big money if he would help him.
- g was very ugly and bought expensive clothes and jewellery.
- h was worried that her reputation would be ruined if her photograph was in the newspapers.
- i spoke to Mary on a train platform between Syria and Istanbul.
- j 's husband said she didn't leave her compartment all night.

4 Circle the right words.

- a M. Bouc thought it was very strange that the Orient Express was *empty* / *full* / *delayed* at that time of year.
- b Poirot refused to help Ratchett because he didn't like his *business* / *face* / *wife*.
- c Poirot told Bouc that the first thing he needed was a plan of the compartments and the passengers' *luggage* / *keys* / *passports*.
- d The doctor found a gold watch in the pockets of Ratchett's *soap bag* / *pyjamas* / *trousers*.
- e When Mrs Hubbard thought there was a man in her compartment, she rang for *Poirot* / *her daughter* / *the conductor*.
- f M. Bouc said that he didn't like Italians because they used knives and were good at *lying* / *cooking* / *business*.
- g Miss Debenham said that the woman she saw in the corridor was wearing a red dressing gown and *a hat* / *shoes* / *socks*.