

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Writing Lesson Outline	4
Additional Activities	5
Write Your Own Mystery	6
Mystery #1: Delivery or Take-out?	
Student Reproducibles	7
Discussion Prompts	11
Mystery #2: The Canine Caper	
Student Reproducibles	14
Discussion Prompts	21
Mystery #3: A “Lotto” Lies	
Student Reproducibles	27
Discussion Prompts	32
Mystery #4: The Pupil with Peeking Pupils	
Student Reproducibles	36
Discussion Prompts	40
Mystery #5: Running Home with a Home Run	
Student Reproducibles	43
Discussion Prompts	47
Mystery #6: A Pileup of Cars and Problems	
Student Reproducibles	52
Discussion Prompts	60
Mystery #7: No Defense	
Student Reproducibles	67
Discussion Prompts	71
Answer Key	74

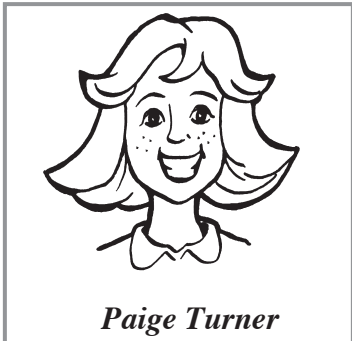
Mystery #4

T H E P U P I L
W I T H
P E E K I N G P U P I L S

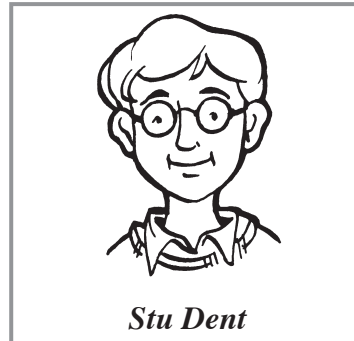


NOTE: All people in this story are fictional. (I bet you could have figured that out, though!)

Background Information



Paige Turner



Stu Dent

Mr. Ed Ucate teaches 6th graders in St. Paul, Minnesota. His students had just returned from their winter vacations, and he thought it might be a good time to surprise them with a writing quiz. Mr. Ucate assigned the class a narrative paper with the subject of what had happened during the winter break. Although the class had just recently returned, the teacher thought this would be a nice opportunity for each student to raise his or her grade.

The only student Mr. Ucate was worried about was Paige Turner. Her family had moved from Australia over the break. The teacher was unsure of her writing abilities, but he thought it would be a good chance to get to know her writing style. He had not planned on grading her paper unless she did well.

Before giving the quiz, Mr. Ucate decided to change the seating chart. He put Paige at a desk to the left of one of his prized pupils, Stu Dent. Stu was an honor-roll student who always did well on quizzes and tests. Also, Stu and Paige were the only two left-handers in the class, and Mr. Ucate thought it might be nice for Paige to feel like she didn't stand out in that way. He knew that Stu liked his old seat next to his buddy (fellow straight-A student, Reid Abook), but Mr. Ucate felt that it would be good to change the classroom around a bit. Because most teachers at the school seated their students in alphabetical order, it seemed that Reid and Stu had been sitting next to each other for years.

As the writing quiz started, Mr. Ucate was called and had to leave the classroom. He returned shortly before the class was dismissed. The bell rang and the students stood up, formed a single-file line, and deposited their drafts on Mr. Ucate's desk.

Mr. Ucate brought the papers home and soon discovered a dilemma: two of the papers were almost identical, as if they were born just minutes apart. The two in question belonged to Stu and Paige. The teacher pondered, but he could not remember any obvious clues as to who cheated. However, after careful consideration of the classroom conditions and close observation of the papers, Mr. Ucate was able to conclude which pupil had peeking pupils.