

Murder in Battersea Park

Niveau A2

Bernie Martin



The Murder

It is 6 a.m. and **Constable** Andrew Parker is jogging. Jogging is his hobby, and he runs through Battersea Park in London, which is just a couple of miles south of Marble Arch. He runs four days a week and likes to look at the black swans on the lake.

As he jogs past the playing area, he notices a young girl who is sitting on a bench with her head in her hands. He calls out and asks if she's okay, and she smiles at him and answers that she's just a bit tired.

Satisfied, Andrew Parker jogs on to the end of the park where he turns round and runs back the way he has come.

A few minutes later, as he is about to pass the bench on his way back, he sees the girl still sitting there. She is now leaning back on the bench and seems to **be asleep**. Andrew Parker sees that her handbag has fallen to the ground. He smiles, jogs over and picks it up. As he puts the bag next to her on the bench, the girl's head falls to one side. Andrew puts his hands out to stop her from hurting herself. His hands **support** the back of her head, but she is getting heavier. He **gently rests** her head on the bench and feels that something is terribly wrong.

"Miss? Are you okay? Miss?"

constable



Polizist,
Wachtmeister

**to be (fast)
asleep**

(tief und fest)
schlafen

to support

(unter)stützen

gently

sanft, zärtlich

to rest

(aus)ruhen

She doesn't reply. Andrew realizes that the girl isn't asleep. He lets go of her head and starts to reach for her bag to find out who she is, when he notices that his hands are wet and **sticky**. In horror, he looks at the blood, then feels for a pulse – but there isn't one. He checks his watch, 6:14 a.m., then he takes out his mobile phone and calls his colleagues.

sticky



klebrig

to snore

schnarchen

bell

Klingel, Glocke

to mumble

murmeln,
nuscheln

receiver

Telefonhörer;
Empfänger

murder

Mord

body

hier: Leiche

At twenty past six, Detective Inspector Robert Kenny is fast asleep and **snoring**. He suddenly hears a **bell** ringing and reaches to the bedside table to switch the alarm clock off. His fingers find the button of the alarm clock, but the bell continues ringing. He hears his wife's voice **mumbling** in the dark.

"It's the telephone."

More awake now, he reaches over and lifts the **receiver**. "Hello?"

"Inspector Kenny?"

"Yes. Do you know what time it is?"

"Yes. Sorry, Inspector, but we have a **murder**."

Inspector Kenny wakes up very quickly. "Where?"

"In Battersea Park, sir."

"When?"

"About fifteen minutes ago. It was actually a constable who discovered the **body** while he was jogging. He's still there now."

"Right. I'm on my way. Can you inform Sergeant North?"


"That's next on my list, Inspector."

"Tell her to meet me in the park."

"I'll do that. Goodbye, Inspector."

Robert Kenny jumps out of bed and goes for a quick shower. As he is getting dressed, his wife Judith looks at him with sleepy eyes.

"Don't forget."



wedding anniversary	Hochzeitstag
sigh	Seufzer
to remind sb. (of sth.)	jmd. (an etw.) erinnern
curious	neugierig
to protect	(be)schützen

"What, Judith?"
 "We are going to Alfredo's for our **wedding anniversary** at 7 p.m. this evening."
 "Yes. Right. Of course."
 Judith sits up in bed.
 "You forgot, didn't you?"
 "Of course not!"

Robert Kenny walks to the bed and gives Judith a kiss on the cheek. As he closes the bedroom door behind him, he lets out a deep **sigh**. "Thank God she **reminded me!**"

Exercise 1: Definitions. Enträtseln Sie die folgenden Definitionen!

gonggij **hebnc** **bangadh** **slupe** **rones**
roshew **revaniransy**

- Running to stay fit. _____
- You sit on this in a park. _____
- Ladies put their things in this. _____
- Feel this to see if someone's alive. _____
- Making a noise when asleep. _____
- Standing under water to wash. _____
- Celebrating your wedding day. _____

Battersea Park is not far from Inspector Kenny's home and he arrives there at ten to seven. Two colleagues are keeping back the **curious** people behind tape which is **protecting** the scene of the

crime. Dr Jenkins, the police **pathologist**, is bent down and examining the body. Inspector Kenny goes to him and says good morning. "Good morning, Inspector Kenny."

"Can you tell me anything yet, Dr Jenkins?"
 "It was definitely murder. She was hit on the back of the head with a heavy object."

Inspector Kenny bends down to get a closer look.

"She looks very young."
 "She's nineteen years old, **according to** her student's card. She died between six and six fifteen."

"How can you be so accurate? I hear that you are very good, Doctor, but you must be a real genius."

The doctor laughs. "Actually, Inspector, I'm not a genius. It's all thanks to your colleague."

"You mean the person who found the body?"
 "Exactly. Constable Parker. He jogged past her at about 6 a.m. and when he came back at about six fifteen, she was dead."

"Is he still here?" Inspector Kenny asks.
 "Yes. That's him over there, in the jogging suit standing under the large tree."

"Do you remember the name on the student's card, Doctor?"
 "Yes. It's Linda Farraday. Your office is already checking on it."
 "Great. Thanks very much."

"You're welcome, Inspector."
 Inspector Kenny stands up and brushes the earth from the knee of his trousers. He walks across to Constable Parker, who is still standing under the tree, **muttering** to himself.

"Are you Constable Parker?"
 "Yes, I am. I saw you talking to the doctor. Are you in charge of the **investigation?**"



pathologist	Gerichtsmediziner
according to	laut, zufolge
to mutter	(vor sich hin) murmeln, brummeln
in charge (of)	zuständig (für); leiten
investigation	Ermittlung, Untersuchung



witness

Zeuge

case

hier: Fall; Koffer

slim

schlank

stud

(Ohr-)Stecker

"That's right. My name's Inspector Robert Kenny. Now, tell me exactly what happened."

At that moment, Sergeant Kelly North, Inspector Kenny's assistant, arrives.

"Good morning, Inspector. Good morning, sir," she says, looking at Parker in his jogging clothes.

"Good morning, Sergeant. Could you take notes, please?"

"Certainly, Inspector."

"Sergeant, this is Constable Albert Parker..."

"Excuse me, sir. It's Andrew Parker."

"I'm sorry. This is Constable Andrew Parker. He's our main **witness** in this **case**. Now, Constable Parker, please tell us exactly what happened this morning."

Constable Parker tells them what happened. Kelly North looks him up and down, and she likes what she sees.

"Constable Parker? It seems strange that there was nobody in the park, even at 6 a.m."

"Well... When I was picking up the girl's handbag, I heard a noise behind the bushes. I turned around and saw a man running away." Inspector Kenny looks up in interest.

"Can you describe him?"

"Yes, Inspector. He is quite tall and **slim**, about twenty-five years old. He has short dark hair and I seem to remember a silver **stud** in his left ear."

"That might help. Well done, Constable."

"Did you see anybody else?" Sergeant North asks.

"Well, actually, there was a lady who was walking her dog, but she was a long way away."

Inspector Kenny walks away, mobile phone to his ear, to call his station with the description. Kelly North looks at Parker with interest.

"Ever thought of joining the C.I.D.?"

"The Criminal Investigation Department is my dream, Sergeant."

"Well, why don't you fill in an **ap-
plication** and send it to me?"

"I'll do that, Sergeant. Thank you very much."

"**Don't mention it**, Constable."

Sergeant North walks away with a smile on her face and goes over to Inspector Kenny, who is ready to leave.

"What were you talking to Parker about?" he asks.

"Oh, nothing, sir. Just small talk."

"Right. We need to go and see the girl's family."

Kelly's smile disappears. She **nods grimly**.

"Right, Inspector."



application

Bewerbung

Don't mention it!

Keine Ursache!;
Nicht der Rede wert!

to nod

nicken

grimly

grimmig, streng

Exercise 2: Odd one out. Welches Wort ist das „schwarze Schaf“? Unterstreichen Sie das nicht in die Reihe passende Wort!

1. flat house apartment home

2. protect hit bang strike

3. walk jog run swim

4. mother father young aunt

5. tree flower bench cactus

6. jeans shirt pullover clothes

7. cat tiger dog lion



middle-aged	mittleren Alters
housekeeper	Haushälterin
I'm afraid (not)	leider (nicht), es tut mir leid, aber ...
matter	Sache, Angelegenheit
to show sb. in(to)	jmd. hereinführen
bookshelves pl	Bücherregale
Chippendale furniture	teure Möbelmarke aus dem 18. Jahrhundert
pin-striped suit	Nadelstreifenanzug

They drive to the address and find that it is a big house in a very expensive part of Chelsea. They go to the front door and it is answered by a **middle-aged** woman.

Inspector Kenny gives a little cough and gets ready to give the bad news.

"Mrs Farraday?"

"No, I'm Miss Dunbar, the **housekeeper**. How can I help you?"

"My name's Inspector Kenny and

this is Sergeant North. We would like to speak to Mr and Mrs Farraday, please."

"That is not possible, I'm afraid."

"Why not?"

"Mrs Farraday died two years ago."

"I'm very sorry to hear that. Could we possibly speak to Mr Farraday?"

"Well, he's just about to leave for work."

"Miss Dunbar. This **matter** is very urgent. We're investigating and we need to speak to Mr Farraday."

"Oh! In that case, you should come in."

She **shows them into** a very large living room that is filled with **bookshelves** and **Chippendale furniture**. Miss Dunbar leaves to get Mr Farraday. The officers sit down, very carefully, on two chairs and wait.

A few minutes later, Mr Farraday enters the room. He is a tall, elegant middle-aged man and is dressed in a **pin-striped suit**.

"Good morning. You must be the people from the police. I hope it's not a problem with one of my patients?"

Inspector Kenny looks **confused**.

"Patients?"

"Yes. You see, I'm a doctor. My **surgery** is in Harley Street. I **treat** a lot of famous people and have many rock stars as patients."

"Now I see, Doctor. No, it's not one of your patients. It's your daughter, Linda."

"What is it this time? That girl is always getting into trouble. Have you **arrested** her?"

Inspector Kenny looks at the floor, and Kelly North **pretends** to be busy with her notes.

"I'm afraid I have some bad news for you, sir," Kenny finally says.

"Don't say it's drugs?"

"No, sir. Your daughter was murdered."

"Nooooo!" Dr Farraday shouts.

Suddenly the door opens and a young girl comes running into the room. She **hugs** Dr Farraday.

"Daddy, what's wrong?"

"It's Linda. These people are saying she was murdered."

The girl looks at Kelly North with a question in her eyes. The sergeant nods and the girl **bursts into tears**.

"Oh! No! It can't be true!"

She hugs her father harder, and they both cry into each other's shoulders.

After a few minutes, Dr Farraday stops crying and looks at Kenny and North.

"This is my daughter, Mandy. She is Linda's younger sister. What happened?"

"She was killed in Battersea Park," Sergeant North explains. "I'm sorry, sir... I know this isn't the right moment, but we have to get a



confused	verwirrt
surgery	hier: Arztpraxis; Chirurgie
to treat	behandeln
to arrest	verhaften
to pretend	vorgeben, vortäuschen
to hug sb.	jmd. umarmen
to burst into tears	in Tränen ausbrechen



morgue

Leichen-
schauhaus

positive identification of the body as soon as possible. Could you and Mandy come with us to the morgue?"

"What? You want us to identify the body?"

"You can do it, sir. Mandy doesn't have to," the sergeant replies.

"Yes, all right. I need to ⁱ call my receptionist and cancel some appointments."

"That's fine, sir. We'll wait. We would also like to ask you both some questions at the station, after the morgue."

"Yes. I'll tell her to cancel all my appointments for today."

"What about my school, dad?"

"Yes, Mandy. Tell Miss Dunbar to ring them."

Das Modalverb **müssen** kann im Englischen mit **must**, **need to** oder **have to** übersetzt werden.



Während **must** daraufhin deutet, dass der Sprecher selbst etwas als notwendig empfindet, werden **need to** und **have to** verwendet, wenn die Verpflichtung von außen kommt oder eine allgemeine Tatsache zum Ausdruck gebracht werden soll.