

The Engineer's Thumb

Read from the beginning to '... driving with my new acquaintance to Baker Street.'

1. How much time has elapsed between the events in the story and the narrator recalling them for the reader?
2. In which summer did the events take place?
3. At what time is the narrator alerted to the arrival of the visitor?
4. Two people are in the waiting room: the guard and a stranger. What is the stranger wearing?
5. How old does the narrator think the man is?
6. Why does the narrator not like it when the man laughs?
7. How is the man's wound described?
8. What does the narrator think caused the wound?
9. What is the man's response to being invited to see Sherlock Holmes about what has happened to him?
10. How long afterwards is it when the stranger and the narrator are in a hansom cab on their way to see Sherlock Holmes?

Read to '... having obeyed to the latter's injunction as to holding my tongue.'

11. What impression do you get of Sherlock Holmes from the narrator's description?
12. How long did Victor Hatherley work for Venner & Matheson?
13. How many years has Hatherley owned his own business?
14. How much money has he earned?
15. What are Hatherley's working hours?
16. Describe Colonel Lysander Stark using Hatherley's description.
17. Why has Hatherley been recommended to the Colonel?
18. What does the Colonel do whilst with Hatherley which reflects his unease?
19. How does Hatherley feel about the man?
20. How far away from the station does Stark say the house is?