

Vocabulary Help: 'The Hound of the Baskervilles'

Chapter 1

Dolichocephalic: (adjective) to have a large skull

Parietal: (adjective) pertaining to or forming the walls of any body cavity

Fulsome: (adjective) offensive and distasteful because excessive

Covet: (verb) to have a desire for something

Agile: (adjective) able to move quickly and easily; nimble

Chapter 2

Shrewd: (adjective) having keen insight; clever

Manuscript: (noun) a piece of writing

Forgery: (noun) something forged or altered

Circumspect: cautious; attentive to all possibilities

Wanton: (adjective) lewd, heartless, unjust

Yeoman: (noun) farmer who cultivates his own land

Flagon: (noun) vessel with a handle, spout, and lid used to serve liquor

Trencher: (noun) a wooden plate used to serve food or cut it

Anon: (adjective) in a little while, soon

Bemused: (adjective) muddled, stupefied, preoccupied

Inquest: (noun) a judicial inquiry, aided by a jury

Chimerical: (adjective) not possible, impractical

Chapter 3

Apparition: (noun) phantom, ghost, unusual sight

Diabolical: (adjective) wicked, cruel

Vestry: (noun) in a church, a room where vestments are kept and put on

Miry: (adjective) muddy, swampy

Chapter 4

Baronet: (noun) inherited English title

Chapter 6

Bracken: (noun) large, coarse, weedy fern

Mottle: (adjective) marked with spots of different shades

Bramble: (noun) a prickly plant or shrub

Summit: (adjective) highest part, top

Warder: (noun) guard or sentinel

Commutation: (noun) substitution of payment or service



Cairn: (noun) mound of stones serving as a memorial

Crenelate: (verb) fortify with battlement

Dais: (noun) raised platform where speakers of guests may sit or stand

Chapter 7

Efface: (verb) to cancel or destroy

Pallid: (adjective) pale, lacking colour

Propitious: (adjective) gracious

Chapter 8

Approbation: (noun) approval, commendation

Choleric: (adjective) easily aroused to anger

Litigation: (noun) a lawsuit

Effigy: (noun) representation of a despised person

Chapter 9

Haughty: (adjective) proud, arrogant

Peremptory: (adjective) putting an end to debate or appeal



Chapter 10

Spectral: (adjective) pertaining to a ghost

Abet: (verb) to encourage and support

Atone: (verb) to make amends

Deluge: (verb) to flood with water

Sodden: (adjective) soaked, saturated

Morass: (noun) tract of low-laying, soft, wet ground

Russet: (adjective) reddish-brown or yellowish-brown in colour

Blackguard: (noun) a despicable scoundrel

Equivocal: (adjective) uncertain, doubtful

Tempestuous: (adjective) stormy, violent

Chapter 11

Stealth: (noun) secret action or movement

Incessant: (adjective) continued or repeated without stopping

Abhor: (verb) to regard with horror or disgust

Reticent: (adjective) reluctant to speak

Magnate: (noun) a person of rank, power, or importance

Constable: (noun) an officer of the peace; a policeman

Incredulity: (noun) refusal to believe

Furtive: (adjective) done on the sly, secret



Decanter: (noun) an ornamental bottle for wine

Curt: (adjective) concise, brief, abrupt

Chapter 12

Lintel: (noun) horizontal top piece over a door or window

Vehemence: (noun) strong feeling

Precipitous: (adjective) steep

Paroxysm: (noun) a sudden and violent outburst

Surmise: (noun) to guess or infer based on evidence

Chapter 13

Unmitigated: (adjective) not relieved or lessened

Connoisseur: (noun) a competent, critical judge

Prim: (adjective) precise, proper, neat

Precipice: (noun) high, steep place

Chapter 14

Exultant: (adjective) rejoicing triumphantly

Hackles: (noun) the hair standing on the back of a dog's neck

Dewlap: (noun) the skin under the throat of an animal

Flank: (noun) the hind part of an animal's side



Insensible: (adjective) not capable or deprived of feeling; unaware

Mastiff: (noun) hunting dog

Phosphorus: (noun) a soft, metallic element

Doddering: (adjective) trebling, tottering

Dupe: (noun) a victim of deception

Quagmire: (noun) marshy ground that gives way under foot

Miasmatic: (adjective) poisonous fumes from swamps

