Sleuth your way through these mysterious activities!

Answer Key

Solutions to Word Search Mystery

D E H
E U O
W O L A G N U B T L E
N C L G
D U O A
E A W S B
K H S R
M Y S T E R Y O E B O
T B T E K C O L M O A K K
E R R N C E
R I O A K I C O N
C D S L
E G T O C
S E E L
R D

Solutions to Decode the Clues

Clues to unscramble:
Flashlight
Magnifying Glass
Pencil
Notebook

Mystery solution:
Nancy Drew’s Sleuth Bag

Solutions to Logic Puzzles

1) She was walking.

2) One is a quarter and one is a nickel. (While one of the coins is not a nickel, the OTHER one is!)

3) You can push the cork INTO the bottle and shake the penny out.

4) Only 3 women went to lunch: a grandmother, a mother, and a daughter—but the mother is also the grandmother’s daughter!

5) You throw the ball straight up in the air.
Create Your Own Mystery

Nancy Drew isn’t just a super-talented super sleuth—she can also tell a thrilling mystery story. In this game, create your own spooky mystery tale as a group. Sit in a circle and choose someone to start by drawing straws or by having a contest to see who can come up with the best first line for a mystery story. After someone delivers the first line, the next person in the circle comes up with the second line, and so on. Continue until everyone has had a chance to add to the story, and then come up with the last line as a group. (You can make the story last longer by giving everyone two or three chances to add a line.)

Here are some examples of opening lines from some of Nancy Drew’s best mysteries:

“Sorry, miss, but I wouldn’t go near that bridge for a million dollars…”
(From #15 The Haunted Bridge)

“Nancy,” said the voice on the telephone, “you are wanted in New York City!”
(From #12 The Message in the Hollow Oak)

“I wouldn’t go into that spooky old house alone for anything.”
(From #33 The Witch Tree Symbol)

One of the most exciting parts of being a world-famous super sleuth is deciphering clues. Some of Nancy’s favorite puzzles involve hidden words and word searches, like the one below!

Test your puzzle-solving skills by finding and circling all the hidden words listed below. Do you notice something familiar about them? When put together correctly, they spell out the titles of six of Nancy Drew’s most famous mysteries! See if you can figure out which mysteries are hidden in the puzzle.

| W O L A G N U B T T L D L M E |
| R F P T B U B E N C S L J G W |
| K G O G S D F W U R O L A M D |
| V E P A U V E B A W A S M L B |
| P J T H M N D K H Y S L H Z R |
| M Y S T E R Y X O E C Y L B O T B T E K C O L M O L A A K K |
| S E R Q Q H Q H Y X R N O C E |
| L U R I O A K V S L I C P O N |
| C A I C D Y G A E S D W Z L Z |
| R N G Q E G M Y T T O G X C J |
| T N F F F E E R K W L V K A A R B K W F R I F X D W D Z Q |

Reproducible Activity
Create Your Own Mystery

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Here is the word search puzzle:

A H O P Q H D C M L EXH
F K B A E U D H E J S I O C
W O L A G N U B T T L D L M E
R F P T B U B E N C S L J W
K G O G S D F W U R O L A M D
V E P A U V E B A W A S M L B
P J T H M N D K H Y S L H Z R
M Y S T E R Y X O E C Y L B O
T B T E K C O L M O L A A K K
S E R Q Q H Q H Y X R N O C E
L U R I O A K V S L I C P O N
C A I C D Y G A E S D W Z L Z
R N G Q E G M Y T T O G X C J
T N F F F E E R K W L V K A
A R B K W F R I F X D W D Z Q

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Decode the Clues

Quick! Nancy Drew needs help solving the mystery below.
Can you figure out the hidden message?

First unscramble each of the clue words. Then, to solve the mystery, copy the letters in the numbered cells to the cells at the bottom with the same number.

Unscramble the Clue Words:

HTHIGALFL

NIHAGMFGY GLSAS

PICLNE

TOKNEBO

Now copy the letters with the corresponding numbers from above into the spaces below.
What do the clues add up to?
Logic Puzzles

When Nancy Drew isn’t out solving mysteries, she loves to solve logic puzzles to keep her sleuthing brain sharp. See if you can solve a few of Nancy’s favorite brainteasers below!

Hint: To solve these riddles, you will have to think about things a little differently than you normally would!

1) A girl who was just learning to drive went down a one-way street in the wrong direction, but she didn’t break the law. How is that possible?

2) You have two coins that add up to 30 cents. One of them is not a nickel. What are the two coins?

3) If you put a penny into a bottle and close the opening with a cork, how can you get the penny back out of the bottle without pulling out the cork or breaking the bottle?

4) One afternoon, 2 mothers and 2 daughters decide to go to a restaurant for lunch. They arrive and ask for a table for 3 people. How is it possible that there are enough seats for everyone?

5) How is it possible for you to throw a baseball as hard as you can and have it come back to you, even if it doesn’t hit anything, there is nothing attached to it, and no one else catches or throws it?

Handwriting Analysis

Looking for clues? Nancy Drew knows that when it comes to solving crimes, a good detective can use all the clues he or she can get. Here is your fun guide to handwriting analysis!

Copy a paragraph from your favorite Nancy Drew mystery, in cursive, onto an unlined sheet of paper. Then use the handy key below to see what your handwriting tells the world about you! (The key may not analyze some left-handed writers accurately.)

If your lines on the page…
Go straight across: You’re very reliable
Curve up and down: You’re emotional
Slant up: You’re opinionated

If the spaces between words are…
Small: You’re a people person
Large: You’re cool and detached

If your letters…
Go straight up: You have strong willpower
Lean to the left: You’re shy
Lean to the right: You’re optimistic and outgoing
Slant dramatically: You openly express your emotions

If the margins are…
Wide: You’re extravagant
Narrow: You’re thrifty
Small on the left: You’re shy
Small on the right: You’re openminded and articulate
Wavy on the left: You’re absentminded

If the dot on your lowercase i is…
Exactly above: You’re a perfectionist
To the right: You’re creative and original
To the left: You’re deliberate and careful

How do your letters look? If…
They are round and wavy: You’re emotional and sensitive
They are sharp and angular: You’re stubborn
They extend up very high: You have big dreams
They contain small loops: You keep your feelings hidden
They have sharp angles or points: You’re aggressive and bossy
They are all connected: You’re mature and cultured
Your Os and As are open: You are honest and fair
Your Os and As are closed: You keep secrets well
Your Bs, Ds, and Hs are looped: You’re warm-hearted and caring

Miscellaneous:
If you use capital letters within sentences: You have a vivid imagination
If you press lightly on the page: You’re sensitive
If your writing is small: You’re controlling and detail-oriented
If your writing is large: You’re generous
If your signature is the same as the rest of your writing: You’re modest

Reproducible Activity

For more classic Nancy Drew mysteries, visit www.penguin.com/nancydrew
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