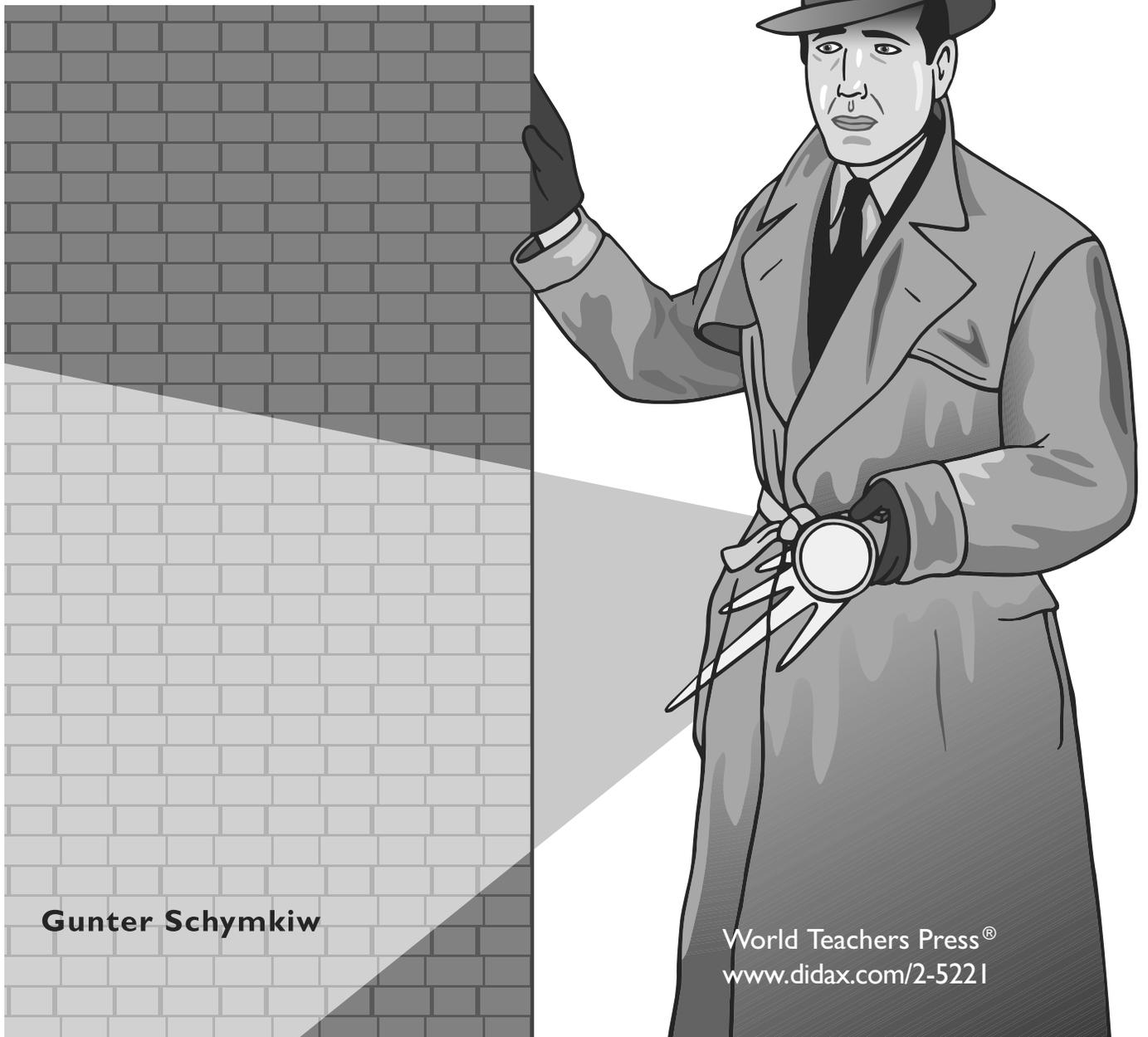


# COMPREHENSION DETECTIVE

Grades 3-5



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## Foreword

The Comprehension Detective series offers students opportunities to think critically, logically, and creatively to solve problems.

Each problem-solving activity is in the context of a short mystery story which students should find both challenging and stimulating, as they are put in the situation of being a detective whose task is to solve a crime.

To do this, they must gather information by responding accurately to a series of text-related questions. From the information collected, they are required to make connections and draw logical conclusions to solve each short mystery.

While the main focus of the activities is thinking logically or creatively within the literary framework, various other learning areas are covered.

Students will respond with enthusiasm to the challenges presented to them in this book.

Also available in this series:

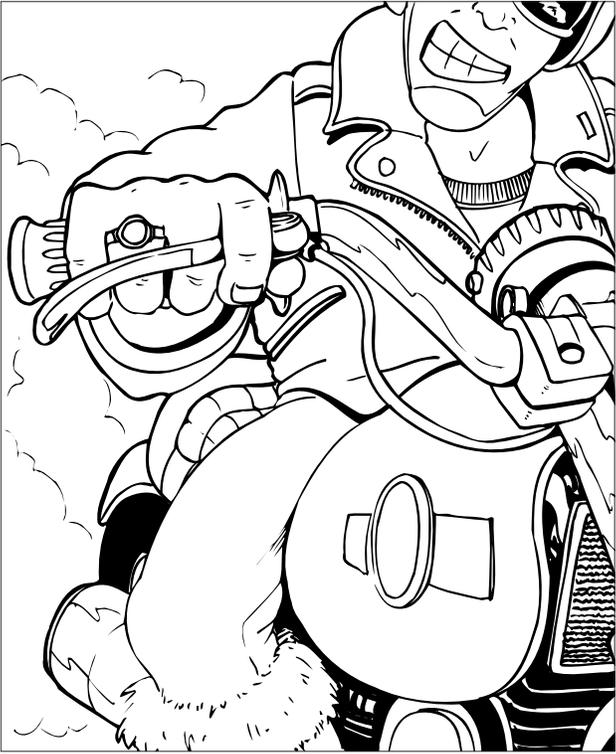
Comprehension Detective, Grades 6 to 8



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## The Fast-footed Felon

Denver Pike was not someone any person would call a friend. Even though he was quite clever, he had not put his talent to good use. He was lazy and untrustworthy.

One thing that Denver could do well, however, was run. With so much natural talent as an athlete, he had been approached by a number of football teams to play for them. But Denver was too lazy to stand up to the hard training required of a top level player. He had another use for his great speed.

Denver snatched people's wallets, purses, or handbags. Once he had done this it was impossible for his surprised victims to catch him as he made a speedy getaway.

With the proceeds of his robberies he'd been able to buy his latest pride and joy, a shiny new motorcycle. All he had to do was register it and he'd be as free as a bird.

Denver turned the handle and pushed open the door of the motor registry office. He took a ticket and sat down to wait his turn. As he sat waiting, he noticed that the man two seats up from him had placed his keys and wallet on the seat between them.

Denver could see that the wallet was bulging with bills. His nasty little mind saw this as easy pickings. The man was in his fifties; no match for the speedy 20-year-old Denver.

Unable to resist, Denver picked up the wallet, ran to the door, turned the handle and pushed the door to open it. What had happened? The door did not budge no matter how hard he pushed.

Unfortunately for Denver, the man caught him easily. In fact, he caught Denver before he left the motor registry office. 👁

Can you use your detective skills to find out why Denver's little scheme fouled up?

1. Write short answers to these questions.

(a) Name two of Denver Pike's bad qualities.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(b) Name two of his good qualities.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(c) Why did Denver fail as a top level football player?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(d) What did Denver use his speed for?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(e) What had he bought with the proceeds of his robberies? \_\_\_\_\_

(f) Why did he go to the registry office?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(g) What two things did Denver do to the door to enter the registry office?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(h) What did he notice on the seat near him?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(i) What did Denver do to open the door when trying to make his escape?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(j) Where did the man catch up with Denver?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

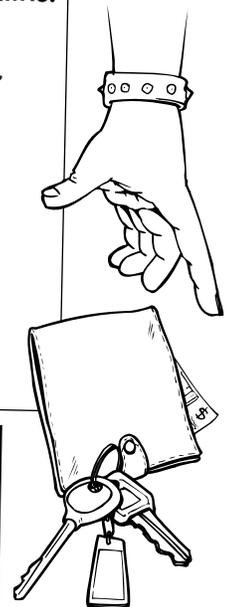
2. Denver would be "as free as a bird" when he had his motorcycle registered. This expression is a **SIMILE**. Similes compare things from different groups that are alike. Choose words from the word bank to complete the similes.

bat      nails      daisy      mouse      hills      bee

(a) as busy as a \_\_\_\_\_ (b) as tough as \_\_\_\_\_

(c) as blind as a \_\_\_\_\_ (d) as quiet as a \_\_\_\_\_

(e) as old as the \_\_\_\_\_ (f) as fresh as a \_\_\_\_\_



3. Can you see where Denver fouled up? Write your answer in one or more sentences.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_