

Play: *Sherlock Holmes* • Issue: November 2, 2009

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Abstract & Concrete Nouns

A **concrete noun** is something you can detect with your five senses—you can smell, see, touch, taste, or hear it. An **abstract noun**, such as “compassion,” cannot be detected with your senses.

**Directions:** Read the sentences below from *Sherlock Holmes*, and decide if the boldface word is an abstract or a concrete noun. In the blank provided, write an **A** for abstract and **C** for concrete.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The **year** is 1890.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Holmes silently enters the halls leading underneath the **cathedral**.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Irene leaves an **envelope** with information about the missing person.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. I'm sure it's quite a **mystery** as to where you are.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. We don't ask you to share our **faith**.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. I have one **question**, Sir Thomas.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Watson can't resist the **temptation** to examine the body with Holmes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. I cautioned you to accept that this is beyond your **control**.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. You remember the **thug** who died at Reordon's?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. At noon **tomorrow**, the world as you know it ends!

## WRITE NOW!

Now try writing your own paragraph using concrete and abstract nouns. On a separate sheet of paper, write one paragraph describing something you are passionate about. After you are done, underline the concrete nouns and circle the abstract nouns. Use at least three of each. Here are some abstract nouns you might include:

passion	love	thoughtfulness	tenderness
compassion	success	feeling	happiness
empathy	pleasure	sympathy	enjoyment