

Detective Fiction Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

Detective Fiction trivia explores the mysteries, investigators, and storytelling traditions that shaped one of literature's most popular genres. From Edgar Allan Poe and Arthur Conan Doyle to modern police procedurals and psychological thrillers, it highlights how detective stories evolved across books, film, and television. Expect a mix of easy, funny, family-friendly, and hard questions that reward both casual readers and devoted mystery fans.

HARD DETECTIVE FICTION TRIVIA

1. Which country is the setting of Soji Shimada's puzzle mystery *The Tokyo Zodiac Murders*?

Answer: Japan

2. Who wrote *The Tokyo Zodiac Murders*?

Answer: Soji Shimada

3. Which detective was created by Seishi Yokomizo?

Answer: Kosuke Kindaichi

4. Name the Seishi Yokomizo novel that features Kosuke Kindaichi among its central detective-fiction works.?

Answer: *The Honjin Murders*

5. Inspector Montalbano investigates in what fictional Sicilian town?

Answer: Vigata

6. Who directed the 1955 French thriller *Les Diaboliques*?

Answer: Georges Clouzot

7. *Les Diaboliques* was adapted from a novel by which writing duo?

Answer: Boileau-Narcejac

8. Which police detective was created by Maj Sjöwall and Per Wahloo?

Answer: Martin Beck

9. Henning Mankell is the creator of which Swedish inspector?

Answer: Kurt Wallander

10. In *The Bridge*, which real-world structure connects the two countries at the center of the story?

Answer: Oresund Bridge

11. What was Andrea Camilleri's first Inspector Montalbano novel?

Answer: *The Shape of Water*

12. Which inspector was created by Ngaio Marsh?

Answer: Roderick Alleyn

13. Margery Allingham's gentleman sleuth is named what?

Answer: Albert Campion

14. Who wrote the historical-detection classic *The Daughter of Time*?

Answer: Josephine Tey

FUNNY DETECTIVE FICTION TRIVIA

1. Which rumpled TV detective started showing up on television in the 1960s before becoming a 1970s fixture?

Answer: Columbo

2. What catchphrase-like line is Lieutenant Columbo famous for dropping when it seems like he's already headed out the door?

Answer: Just one more thing.

3. Which detective is known for obsessive-compulsive traits, turning every case into a battle against both crime and crooked picture frames?

Answer: Adrian Monk

4. On *Psych*, who pretends to be psychic while solving cases with a very non-supernatural amount of observation?

Answer: Shawn Spencer

5. *Veronica Mars* works as a teenage private investigator in what California location?

Answer: Neptune, California

6. Which series traps its mystery-solving energy inside one apartment building with three amateur sleuths?

Answer: *Only Murders in the Building*

7. In which film does Inspector Clouseau appear, proving that chaos can wear a badge?

Answer: *A Shot in the Dark*

8. Who played Inspector Clouseau in the *Pink Panther* films?

Answer: Peter Sellers

9. Which film cheerfully mixes noir detective fiction with animation, as if a hard-boiled case fell into an ink bottle?

Answer: *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*

10. *The Great Mouse Detective* scurries through which historical setting?

Answer: Victorian London

11. Which animated series features gadget-driven detective adventures from Chip and Dale?

Answer: *Chip 'n Dale: Rescue Rangers*

12. What 1976 film spoofed famous fictional detectives instead of asking them to act with

complete dignity?

Answer: Murder by Death

13. Which 1985 comedy mystery film was based on a board game, turning family game night into a body-count problem?

Answer: Clue

FUN DETECTIVE FICTION TRIVIA

1. Which hard-boiled operative came out of Dashiell Hammett's typewriter first: Sam Spade, Philip Marlowe, or the Continental Op?

Answer: The Continental Op

2. Philip Marlowe made his first novel entrance in which title?

Answer: The Big Sleep

3. Ross Macdonald introduced which private investigator to detective fiction?

Answer: Lew Archer

4. If a noir hero needs a name that lands like a punch, which detective was created by Mickey Spillane?

Answer: Mike Hammer

5. Who created the armchair genius Nero Wolfe?

Answer: Rex Stout

6. In the Nero Wolfe stories, who pulls double duty as assistant and narrator?

Answer: Archie Goodwin

7. Nick Charles doesn't investigate solo in his debut adventure. Which partner joined him in The Thin Man?

Answer: Nora Charles

8. Which novel gave Nick and Nora Charles their debut as a detective duo?

Answer: The Thin Man

9. Who wrote The Thin Man, the book that introduced Nick and Nora Charles?

Answer: Dashiell Hammett

10. Which medieval mystery title came from Umberto Eco?

Answer: The Name of the Rose

11. Brother Cadfael solves mysteries in a habit, but who created him?

Answer: Ellis Peters

12. Which detective with a clerical title was created by G. K. Chesterton?

Answer: Father Brown

13. Who wrote the landmark mystery novel The Moonstone?

Answer: Wilkie Collins

DETECTIVE FICTION FAMILY TRIVIA

1. Which writer created the detective Lord Peter Wimsey?

Answer: Dorothy L. Sayers created Lord Peter Wimsey.

2. Who created the Hardy Boys series?

Answer: The Hardy Boys series was created by Edward Stratemeyer.

3. The Nancy Drew books were published by what organization?

Answer: The Nancy Drew books were published by the Stratemeyer Syndicate.

4. Which cousins used the Ellery Queen byline?

Answer: The Ellery Queen byline was used by cousins Frederic Dannay and Manfred B. Lee.

5. True or false: Ellery Queen is both a detective character and a pseudonym.?

Answer: True

6. Who created the television detective Foyle?

Answer: Anthony Horowitz created the television detective Foyle.

7. Foyle's War is set during which major historical conflict?

Answer: Foyle's War is set during World War II.

8. Which author wrote the Dublin Murder Squad novels?

Answer: Tana French wrote the Dublin Murder Squad novels.

9. Who created the detective Precious Ramotswe?

Answer: Alexander McCall Smith created Precious Ramotswe.

10. Which character is the forensic pathologist created by Patricia Cornwell?

Answer: Patricia Cornwell created forensic pathologist Kay Scarpetta.

11. Who wrote Presumed Innocent?

Answer: Presumed Innocent was written by Scott Turow.

12. Sue Grafton's alphabet mystery series features which detective?

Answer: Sue Grafton's alphabet mystery series features Kinsey Millhone.

EASY DETECTIVE FICTION TRIVIA

1. In which novel did Arthur Conan Doyle first introduce Sherlock Holmes?

Answer: A Study in Scarlet

2. Which detective did Agatha Christie create: Hercule Poirot or Sam Spade?

Answer: Hercule Poirot

3. What is the name of Agatha Christie's village sleuth?

Answer: Miss Marple

4. Who played Lieutenant Columbo on television?

Answer: Peter Falk

5. Raymond Chandler created which private detective?

Answer: Philip Marlowe

6. Sam Spade was created by which writer?

Answer: Dashiell Hammett

7. In what year did Nancy Drew first appear?

Answer: 1930

8. What pen name appears on the Nancy Drew books?

Answer: Carolyn Keene

9. Which mystery-writing sleuth is the main character in Murder, She Wrote?

Answer: Jessica Fletcher

10. A story built around uncovering who committed the crime is called a what?

Answer: whodunit

11. True or false: Cozy mysteries usually keep graphic violence to a minimum.?

Answer: True

12. Andrea Camilleri created which detective?

Answer: Inspector Montalbano

13. Georges Simenon is famous for creating which inspector?

Answer: Inspector Maigret

Source: <https://triviagong.com/themes/detective-fiction>