

# Death on the Nile

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES

### Part 1 (Chapters 1–5)

#### 1 Comprehension

Who is being talked about? Match the names from the box to the sentences below.

Simon Doyle   Marie   Tim Allerton   Linnet Ridgeway  
Jacqueline de Bellefort   Rosalie Otterbourne

- 1 'She once stuck a small knife into a boy who was being cruel to a dog.' \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 'You must make a lot of enemies.' \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 'He's poor and he loves the countryside.' \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 'She wanted to marry a man who has a job in Egypt.' \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 'Pity she looks so bad-tempered.' \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 'I think he looks conceited.' \_\_\_\_\_

#### 2 Listening

Mark the statements true (T) or false (F). Listen to Chapter 1 to check your answers. Can you correct the false statements?

- 1 \_\_\_ Joanna wants to wear Linnet's pearl necklace.  
.....
- 2 \_\_\_ The pearls are worth about five thousand pounds.  
.....
- 3 \_\_\_ Linnet tells Joanna that she wants to get married as soon as possible.  
.....
- 4 \_\_\_ Jackie's parents lost all their money.  
.....
- 5 \_\_\_ Hercule Poirot watches Simon and Linnet in a restaurant.  
.....
- 6 \_\_\_ Linnet doesn't like Simon when she first meets him.  
.....

#### 3 Vocabulary

Replace the underlined words with words and phrases from the box which mean the same. All the words are in the Glossary.

hesitated   consequences   let me down   conceited  
made threats   investigate   my trustee   terrace

- 1 Darling Linnet! I knew you wouldn't disappoint me.  
.....

- 2 Monsieur Poirot, do you have serious crimes to find out what happened about? .....
- 3 My best friend says that I am too proud of my abilities.  
.....
- 4 The flat area of stone where people can sit outside the Cataract Hotel looked down on the Nile.  
.....
- 5 This is the man who has legal control over my money and property, Mr Pennington.  
.....
- 6 There was a second when you paused slightly before doing it. .....
- 7 Sometimes, we must accept the results or effects of what we have done. ....
- 8 She said that she would do unpleasant things – she said that she would kill us both. ....

#### 4 Grammar

Andrew Pennington and Sterndale Rockford, Linnet Ridgeway's American trustees, are discussing Linnet's marriage at the beginning of Chapter 2.

Can you complete the gaps in their conversation with the correct modal verbs from the brackets?

In his New York office, lawyer Andrew Pennington looked up from the letter he was reading for the second time.

He said to his partner: 'Linnet has got married...'  
'What?' Sterndale Rockford was shocked. Then he said, 'Well, what are we going to do about it?'

'The *Normandie* sails today. One of us <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (could / may) go.'

'Surely you don't want to go over to England to speak to her British lawyers!'

'No, no. Linnet's going to Egypt for her honeymoon. She's planning to be there for at least a month...' said Pennington.

'If I go there, I think there <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (shouldn't / might) be ways of... managing the problem,' he added.

'A meeting by chance... Linnet and her husband... a honeymoon atmosphere... It <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (might / can) be possible...'

Pennington looked serious. 'I hope I <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (can / should) do it.'

His partner said: 'You <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (must / have) got to...'

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

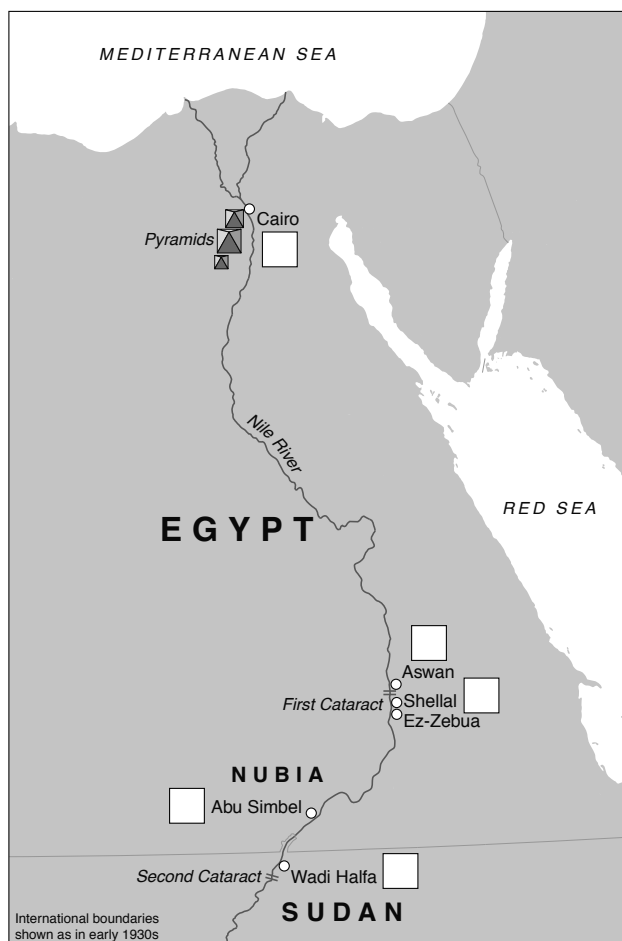
**Part 2 (Chapters 6–10)**

**1 Comprehension**

Number the places on the map to show where each event happened.

- 1 This is where Hercule Poirot first meets Simon and Linnet Doyle and Jacqueline de Bellefort at the Cataract Hotel.
- 2 This is where the *Karnak* begins its journey.
- 3 This is where Simon and Linnet meet Mr Pennington 'by chance'.
- 4 This is where Colonel Race joins the *Karnak*.
- 5 This is where a rock falls and nearly kills Linnet.

**Route of the *Karnak* in 1937**



**2 Comprehension**

Complete the sentences with the names of the passengers on the *Karnak*.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ is a famous writer who is on a Nile Tour with her daughter.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ is Joanna Southwood's cousin.
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ is an Italian archaeologist.

- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ is Miss Van Schuyler's nurse.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ is a young Englishman who doesn't say much.
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ is the man responsible for Linnet's money until she is 21 or married.
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ is a British Intelligence officer.
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ is scared that Jacqueline wants to kill her.

**3 Comprehension**

Order the events as they appear in Part 2 of the story.

- \_\_\_ a Poirot meets Signor Richetti.
- \_\_\_ b Jacqueline shoots Simon in the leg.
- \_\_\_ c The passengers board the *Karnak*.
- \_\_\_ d Simon Doyle books tickets on the *Karnak*.
- \_\_\_ e The passengers visit the temple at Abu Simbel.
- \_\_\_ f Andrew Pennington asks Linnet to sign some documents.
- \_\_\_ g Linnet reads Signor Richetti's message.
- \_\_\_ h Simon saves Linnet when a rock rolls down the hill where they are sitting.
- \_\_\_ i Poirot takes the train to Shellal.
- \_\_\_ j Colonel Race arrives.
- \_\_\_ k Jacqueline's gun disappears.
- \_\_\_ l Miss Van Schuyler's velvet shawl is missing.

**4 Language**

In Chapter 6, Poirot says:

*There are many wonderful things to see in Egypt.*

Mr Ferguson replies that the pyramids are:

*Huge pieces of useless stone built to make a few rich kings feel important.*

-ful and -less are suffixes that turn a noun into an adjective.

-ful gives it a positive meaning and -less gives it a negative meaning.

Can you write the correct suffix in each of the sentences below?

- 1 Simon Doyle: Linnet's much more care \_\_\_\_\_ than I would be. I just sign where they tell me to.
- 2 Signor Richetti: That message is for me. It is very bad to be care \_\_\_\_\_ like this.
- 3 Cornelia: Miss Van Schuyler has to be care \_\_\_\_\_ of her health.
- 4 Mrs Otterbourne: Quite a lot of interesting people here now, aren't there? The young, rich and beauti \_\_\_\_\_, famous writers...
- 5 Poirot: I will talk to her, Madame. But I am not hope \_\_\_\_\_.

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

**Part 3 (Chapters 11–15)**

**1 Comprehension**

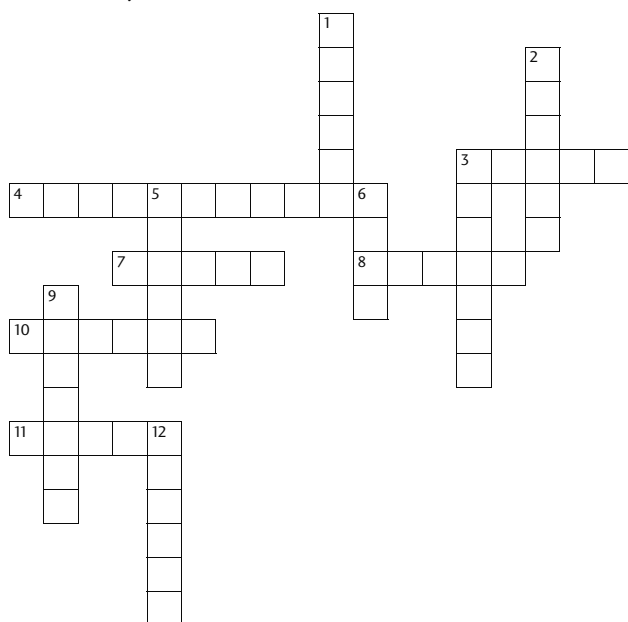
Colonel Race sends a message to the police telling them about the murders on the *Karnak*, but he makes **seven** mistakes. Underline and rewrite them.

There have been two murders now on the *Karnak*.  
The first was the murder of Linnet Doyle. She was killed with a knife in her bathroom. Someone wrote the letter P on her wall in nail varnish. We found the gun in the river with an expensive handkerchief wrapped in a velvet shawl. Miss Doyle's pearl necklace is also missing. We started a search of the cabins for both the pearl necklace and the same handkerchiefs, but Miss Bowers came to give us the pearl necklace back. She says Miss Robson stole it. But these are not the real pearls. As we were searching the cabins, we found another dead body – it was Jacqueline de Bellefort.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_

**2 Vocabulary**

Complete the crossword puzzle below. The words are all in the Glossary.



**Clues**

**Across**

- 3 A large piece of cloth women wear over their shoulders or head – Miss Van Schuyler's is made out of velvet.
- 4 A description for someone who does not show any feelings.
- 7 This proves you were somewhere else when a crime was committed – Miss Bowers is this for Jacqueline on the night of Linnet's death.
- 8 The name for a bedroom on a boat.
- 10 When someone kills another person on purpose.
- 11 Small pieces of glass, wood or plastic with a hole through the middle. They are used for jewellery or decoration. Poirot believes the ones in the necklace Miss Bowers gives him are made of glass not pearl.

**Down**

- 1 A reason for killing someone.
- 2 A string of beads used for counting prayers – Poirot finds one in Tim Allerton's cabin.
- 3 When a liquid has coloured or marked something – like the handkerchief found with the gun.
- 5 The piece of metal fired from a gun – one killed Linnet Doyle.
- 6 The outside part of a ship you can walk around on.
- 9 A person who the police think may be guilty of a crime.
- 12 The sound something makes when it is dropped into water.

**3 Comprehension**

Answer the questions.

- 1 Who made threats to kill Linnet Doyle?  
.....
- 2 What was her motive?  
.....
- 3 Who did she shoot?  
.....
- 4 What is her alibi for the murder of Linnet Doyle?  
.....
- 5 Where was Simon Doyle all night?  
.....
- 6 What was taken from Linnet Doyle's cabin?  
.....
- 7 Who was seen throwing something into the river?  
.....
- 8 What did she throw into the river?  
.....

# Death on the Nile

*Agatha Christie*

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES

### Part 4 (Chapters 16–22)

#### 1 Comprehension

In *Death on the Nile* lots of people lie to Poirot and Race. Match each character with what they lied about.

Andrew Pennington	...lied about not seeing anyone on the deck the night of Linnet's murder.
Rosalie Otterbourne	...lied about taking the pearl necklace.
Jim Fanthorp	...lied about being a criminal.
Simon Doyle	...lied about not getting the letter from Linnet before leaving New York.
Signor Richetti	...lied about really being Lord Dawlish.
Tim Allerton	...lied about wanting to kill Simon Doyle.
Mr Ferguson	...lied about why he was on the boat.
Louise Bourget	...lied about being shot by Jacqueline.
Jacqueline de Bellefort	...lied about not seeing the murderer.

#### 2 Comprehension

Who says each of these sentences? Circle the correct option.

- 'So just how clever is Hercule Poirot?'  
Colonel Race / Jacqueline de Bellefort
- 'I didn't see anyone.'  
Mrs Otterbourne / Rosalie Otterbourne
- 'As I came round the corner I saw someone knock on the maid's door.' Hercule Poirot / Mrs Otterbourne
- 'Recently several things made my uncle begin to suspect Pennington...' Mr Fanthorp / Simon Doyle
- 'I admit that I took the pearl necklace from Linnet's cabin.' Mrs Van Schuyler / Tim Allerton
- 'Richetti is a very dangerous man.'  
Colonel Race / Hercule Poirot
- 'It's so easy, killing people.'  
Simon Doyle / Jacqueline de Bellefort

#### 3 Writing

In Chapter 20, Poirot explains that: *And then the plan goes wrong. Louise Bourget has seen...*

In her cabin, Louise Bourget writes what she has seen in a diary. Complete the text for her.

February 12th

I can't believe what has happened. I am going down the River  
<sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, on a boat called the  
<sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ as maid to  
<sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. Last night, after I had left  
 Mrs Doyle at about <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, I couldn't  
 sleep. I went back to the promenade deck and I saw  
<sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ run from the  
<sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ room into  
<sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ cabin. A few minutes later, he ran  
 out again. And then this morning, his wife was found dead.  
 What is interesting is that he has an <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
 because everyone says <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ shot him  
 in the leg before <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ was killed. But,  
 I think he wasn't shot in the leg then and that he killed her  
 and then shot himself. I'm going to ask him for  
<sup>11</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ to keep quiet or I'll tell the  
 famous detective <sup>12</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ what I saw.

#### 4 Language

Poirot says that Jacqueline acted as '*quick as lightning*'. This is a simile. Similes describe something by comparing it to something else. Can you complete the following similes with the words in the box?

feather	wolf	post	bee	lamb	pig
---------	------	------	-----	------	-----

- As deaf as a \_\_\_\_\_.
- As light as a \_\_\_\_\_.
- As fat as a \_\_\_\_\_.
- As gentle as a \_\_\_\_\_.
- As busy as a \_\_\_\_\_.
- As hungry as a \_\_\_\_\_.

#### 5 Comprehension

Mark the statements true (T) or false (F). Can you correct the false ones?

- \_\_\_\_ Simon Doyle doesn't love Jacqueline de Bellefort.  
.....
- \_\_\_\_ It was Jacqueline who first mentioned killing Linnet.  
.....
- \_\_\_\_ Jacqueline thinks there wasn't enough evidence to convince a jury until Simon admitted what they had done.  
.....
- \_\_\_\_ Jacqueline thinks it gets harder to kill people when you've already killed someone.  
.....
- \_\_\_\_ Jacqueline kills Simon to save him from the death penalty.  
.....
- \_\_\_\_ Poirot suspected that Jacqueline had a second gun.  
.....
- \_\_\_\_ Poirot is surprised that Jacqueline shoots Simon.  
.....

**ANSWER KEY (STUDENT ACTIVITIES)**

**Part 1 (Chapters 1–5)**

**1 Comprehension**

- 1 Jacqueline de Bellefort
- 2 Linnet Ridgeway
- 3 Simon Doyle
- 4 Marie
- 5 Rosalie Otterbourne
- 6 Tim Allerton

**2 Listening**

- 1 T
- 2 F – They are worth 50,000 pounds.
- 3 F – She says she doesn't want to marry anyone yet.
- 4 T
- 5 F – He watches Simon and Jacqueline.
- 6 F – She likes him very much.

**3 Vocabulary**

- 1 let me down
- 2 investigate
- 3 conceited
- 4 terrace
- 5 my trustee
- 6 hesitated
- 7 consequences
- 8 made threats

**4 Grammar**

- 1 could
- 2 might
- 3 might
- 4 can
- 5 have

**Part 2 (Chapters 6–10)**

**1 Comprehension**

- 1 Aswan
- 2 Shellal
- 3 Cairo
- 4 Wadi Halfa
- 5 Abu Simbel

**2 Comprehension**

- 1 Mrs Otterbourne
- 2 Tim Allerton
- 3 Signor Richetti
- 4 Miss Bowers
- 5 Jim Fanthorp
- 6 Andrew Pennington
- 7 Colonel Race
- 8 Linnet Doyle

**3 Comprehension**

- 2 a
- 11 b
- 4 c

- 1 d
- 6 e
- 5 f
- 8 g
- 7 h
- 3 i
- 9 j
- 12 k
- 10 l

**4 Language**

- 1 careful
- 2 careless
- 3 careful
- 4 beautiful
- 5 hopeful

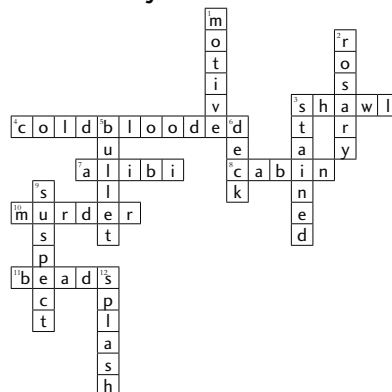
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**1 Comprehension**

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- 1 gun
- 2 cabin
- 3 J
- 4 blood
- 5 cheap
- 6 Miss Van Schuyler
- 7 Louise Bourget

**2 Vocabulary**



**3 Comprehension**

- 1 Jacqueline de Bellefort.
- 2 Linnet married the man she loved.
- 3 Simon Doyle
- 4 She was in a cabin with Miss Bowers all night.
- 5 in Dr Bessner's cabin
- 6 her pearl necklace
- 7 Rosalie Otterbourne
- 8 her mother's alcohol

**Part 4 (Chapters 16–22)**

**1 Comprehension**

Andrew Pennington	lied about not getting the letter from Linnet before leaving New York.
Rosalie Otterbourne	lied about not seeing anyone on the deck the night of Linnet's murder.
Jim Fanthorp	lied about why he was on the boat.
Simon Doyle	lied about being shot by Jacqueline.
Signor Richetti	lied about being a criminal.
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Mr Ferguson	lied about really being Lord Dawlish.
Louise Bourget	lied about not seeing the murderer.
Jacqueline de Bellefort	lied about wanting to kill Simon Doyle.

**2 Comprehension**

- 1 Colonel Race
- 2 Rosalie Otterbourne
- 3 Mrs Otterbourne
- 4 Mr Fanthorp
- 5 Tim Allerton
- 6 Colonel Race
- 7 Jacqueline de Bellefort

**3 Writing**

- 1 Nile
- 2 *Karnak*
- 3 Linnet Doyle
- 4 11 o'clock
- 5 Simon Doyle
- 6 observation
- 7 his wife's / Linnet's / Mrs Doyle's
- 8 alibi
- 9 Jacqueline de Bellefort
- 10 Linnet Doyle / his wife / Mrs Doyle
- 11 money
- 12 Hercule Poirot

## Death on the Nile

*Agatha Christie*

### ANSWER KEY (STUDENT ACTIVITIES)

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#### 4 Language

- 1 post
- 2 feather
- 3 pig
- 4 lamb
- 5 bee
- 6 wolf

#### 5 Comprehension

- 1 F – He does love her.
- 2 F – It was Simon who first mentioned killing Linnet.
- 3 T
- 4 F – She thinks it gets easier.
- 5 T
- 6 T
- 7 F – No, he's not surprised. He expected it.