

Séquence : Let's investigate!
Texte utilisé en évaluation de compréhension écrite

- 1 "Silver Blaze is a fine race horse, owned by Colonel Ross," said Holmes. "The trainer, John Straker, was found dead in a field near the stables one morning earlier this week, with a nasty head injury. The horse had vanished."
- "But why would anyone want to steal a racehorse?" I asked. "It is not as if they can sell it and someone else
- 5 can run races with it. Everyone in the horse-racing business knows Silver Blaze. As you rightly said earlier, Holmes, it is the most famous horse in the country."
- "And the best," said Holmes. "Which is why someone might want to cause the animal harm. To prevent it running in the Wessex Cup next week."
- "By Jove!" I exclaimed. "Of course. With Silver Blaze in the race, the other horses do not stand a chance. 10
- But if Silver Blaze does not run, another horse will win, and some people will stand to make a lot of money."
- Holmes nodded. "The main rival to Silver Blaze is a horse owned by Lord Backwater. Surely Lord Backwater is not involved, but perhaps the stable manager is."
- "That's certainly possible," I agreed.
- "The rival stable is at Mapleton, only a few miles distant from where Silver Blaze disappeared. The stable 15 manager is one Mr. Silas Brown, and by all accounts he is not a pleasant fellow."
- I leaned forward. "So, this Brown surely is the culprit?"
- Holmes wagged his finger. "Not so fast, Watson. He is certainly a suspect. But we cannot assume someone is guilty just because they live nearby and are unpleasant."

Source: Williams. Sherlock Holmes re-told for children: Silver Blaze (p. 49). Odyssey. Édition du Kindle.