

# The Curious Case of the Missing Sleigh

The North Pole was buzzing with excitement as Christmas Eve had finally arrived. Mrs Claus fed the reindeer and presents were bundled into huge, heavy sacks for their journey around the world. However, as the elves opened the garage to load Santa's sleigh, they found that it was nowhere to be seen! Santa's sleigh was missing and there were only two hours left until Christmas Day.

As Detective Chief Inspector on the case, you know that one of the elves must have moved Santa's sleigh – but which one? You have taken down the names and descriptions of 20 elves who were seen near Santa's garages on Christmas Eve. There are also five important clues that have been discovered inside the garage.

To crack the case, you will need to solve each clue and check the information with the list of names. Will you be able to solve the mystery and find the sleigh before the first child wakes up on Christmas morning?

**Good luck!**



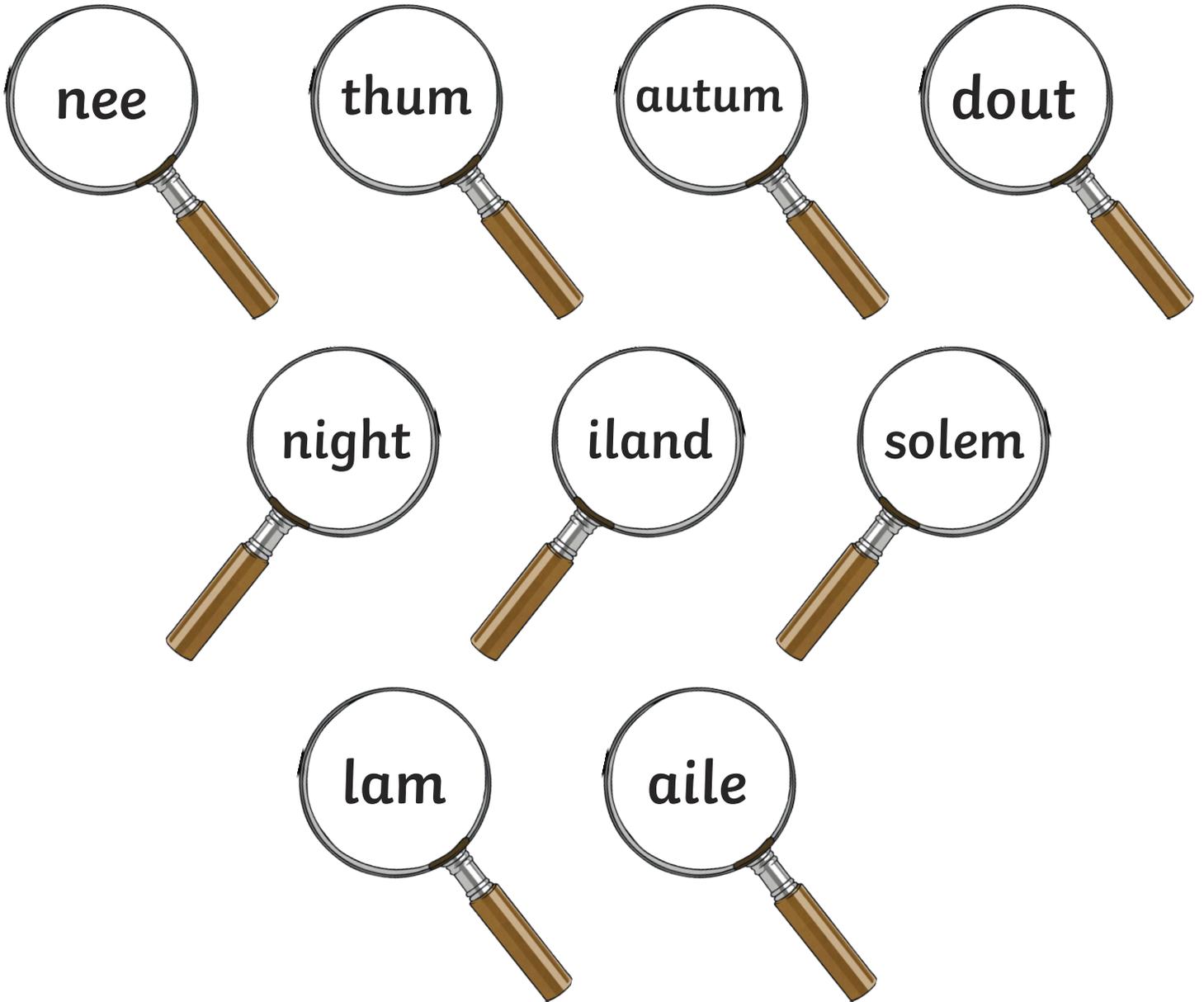
# Elf Descriptions

Elf Name	Shoe Size	Hair Colour	Hat Colour	Job in the Workshop	Christmas Eve Snack
Berry Cracklecheer	3	black	red	gift wrapper	cookies
Bing Picklebeard	2	black	green	tree decorator	mince pies
Blitz Sparklejoy	4	blonde	red	gift wrapper	stollen
Buddy Glittersnoot	7	black	red	inventor	cookies
Butters Gingersnap	5	brown	green	bow applier	mince pies
Buttons Twinklegift	8	blonde	green	gift wrapper	cookies
Coco Sparklestar	6	black	red	inventor	stollen
Fluffy Hollyhat	2	ginger	white	bow applier	mince pies
Frosty Morningdance	7	brown	red	inventor	stollen
Fuzzle Chillyscarf	4	black	green	gift wrapper	cookies
Hope Flippyjoy	5	blonde	green	tree decorator	mince pies
Jewel Sleepynight	9	ginger	white	bow applier	stollen
Jingle Crackerbox	3	black	red	gift wrapper	cookies
Pepper Snowivy	9	brown	white	inventor	mince pies
Perky Happyhat	6	ginger	white	tree decorator	stollen
Pookie Snifflesnuff	8	black	red	inventor	cookies
Shimmer Snowtree	3	brown	white	tree decorator	mince pies
Snowball Milkglitter	5	black	green	gift wrapper	stollen
Tiny Sugarfun	2	blonde	white	tree decorator	cookies
Winter Candyplum	4	black	red	inventor	mince pies

The cheeky elf who moved Santa's sleigh must be \_\_\_\_\_.

## Clue 1 A Cut above the Rest

Whilst examining the garage floor, you find an important piece of evidence. Trapped inside the shutters is a long strand of hair belonging to the culprit. Draw a line to match the word to the silent letter that is missing from it in order to spell it correctly. The silent letter with the most matching words will show the colour of the culprit's hair.



 <b>k</b> ginger hair	 <b>n</b> blonde hair	 <b>s</b> brown hair	 <b>b</b> black hair
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The silent letter with the most matching words is \_\_\_\_ so the culprit's hair must be \_\_\_\_\_.

## Clue 2 A Shred of Evidence

On the floor, beside a sack of presents, is a scrap of material. It must have been torn from the culprit's hat as they quickly fled the scene. Read the sentences below. Decide which spelling pattern is needed to correctly complete the words. The spelling pattern that is used the most will show you the colour of the culprit's hat.

Sentence	-ant	-ent	-int
I hope that we are all proven innoc_____.			
We need to start being more observ_____ on Christmas Eve.			
I heard that the police found a fingerpr_____ at the scene.			
The expect_____ children will be so disappointed on Christmas Day.			
The culprit should do the dec_____ thing and return the sleigh.			
I'm hesit_____ to leave the presents unattended now!			
Poor Sa_____ Nick does not deserve this.			
I hope that this does not become a frequ_____ occurrence.			
Santa should not be so toler_____ or this will happen again.			



If **-ant** is used the most,  
the elf's hat is **red**.



If **-ent** is used the most,  
the elf's hat is **white**.

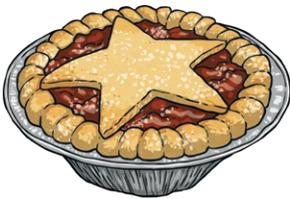
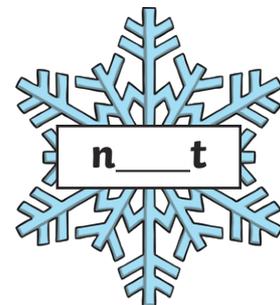
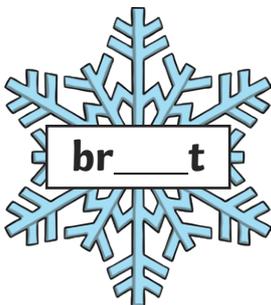
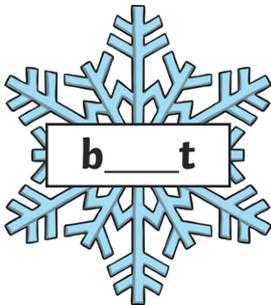
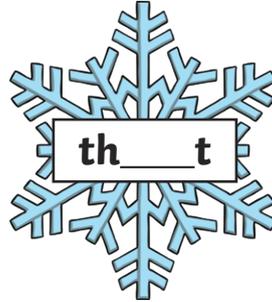


If **-int** is used the most,  
the elf's hat is **green**.

The spelling pattern which is used most is \_\_\_\_\_ so the culprit's hat must be \_\_\_\_\_.

## Clue 3 A Tasty Hint

Whilst examining the snow outside of the workshop, you find a trail of crumbs. They must have dropped from the culprit's favourite Christmas Eve snack. Look at the words below. Decide which spelling pattern is needed to correctly spell the word and add it in. The spelling pattern which is used most often will show you what the culprit likes to eat on Christmas Eve.



If the spelling pattern **or** is missing most, the culprit loves eating **mince pies**.



If the spelling pattern **ough** is missing most, the culprit loves eating **cookies**.



If the spelling pattern **au** is missing most, the culprit loves eating **stollen**.

The spelling pattern used most often is \_\_\_\_\_ so the culprit's favourite snack must be \_\_\_\_\_.

## Clue 4 Elf and Safety

Alongside sleigh tracks, part of an ID badge was found in the snow. It gives the job of the cheeky elf who moved the sleigh. To find out which job it is, you must solve this puzzle. Each of these sentences has one piece of punctuation missing. Add the missing punctuation from the options below. The most common piece of missing punctuation will tell you what the elf does for Santa.

Is it even possible to deliver all of the presents now

The elves were all busy nobody saw the sleigh being taken.

I can't believe someone has taken the sleigh it is so disappointing.

Bobbins one of Santa's elves heard a strange noise earlier.

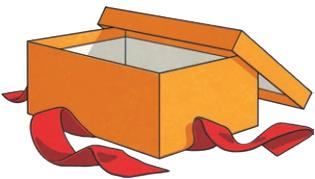
I'm shocked that there is such a cold hearted elf working for Santa.

The presents may not be delivered on time many children will be upset.

Can you believe that an elf could be so unkind

The children in Australia they wake up first may end up disappointed.

Santa Claus works hard all year he does not deserve this.



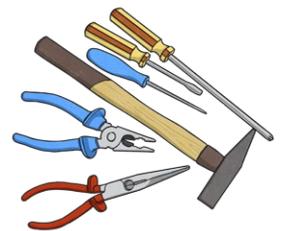
If **brackets** are missing most, the culprit is a **gift wrapper**.



If a **question mark** is missing most, the culprit is a **bow applier**.



If a **hyphen** is missing most, the culprit is a **tree decorator**.

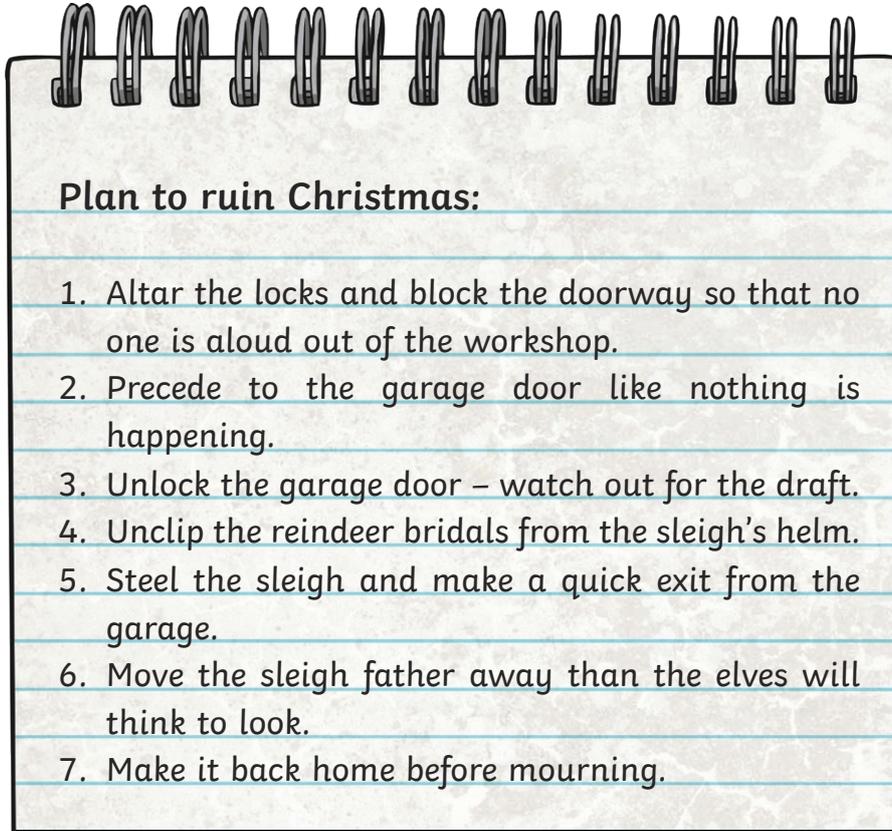


If a **semi-colon** is missing most, the culprit is an **inventor**.

The most common piece of missing punctuation is a \_\_\_\_\_ so the culprit must be \_\_\_\_\_.

## Clue 5 Putting Their Foot in It

Just as you were about to give up your search, you find a handwritten set of instructions written by the culprit. It explains their entire cunning plan! Circle the incorrectly-used homophones and write the correct versions below. The total number of incorrectly-used homophones is the same as the cheeky elf's shoe size.



**Plan to ruin Christmas:**

1. Altar the locks and block the doorway so that no one is aloud out of the workshop.
2. Precede to the garage door like nothing is happening.
3. Unlock the garage door – watch out for the draft.
4. Unclip the reindeer bridals from the sleigh's helm.
5. Steel the sleigh and make a quick exit from the garage.
6. Move the sleigh father away than the elves will think to look.
7. Make it back home before mourning.

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There were \_\_\_\_\_ incorrectly-used homophones so that must be the culprit's shoe size.