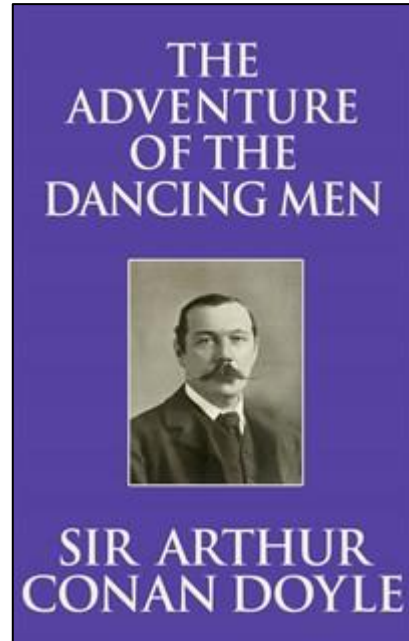


# Codes!

The book called “The Adventure of the Dancing Men” by Arthur Conan Doyle is a very famous book about the detective that everyone knows called Sherlock Holmes.

The book is a murder mystery that Sherlock Holmes and his good friend Watson solve.

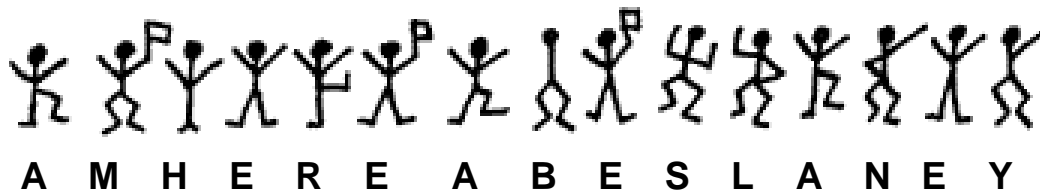
In the book there is a code.



**“The Adventure of the Dancing Men” by Arthur Conan Doyle.**

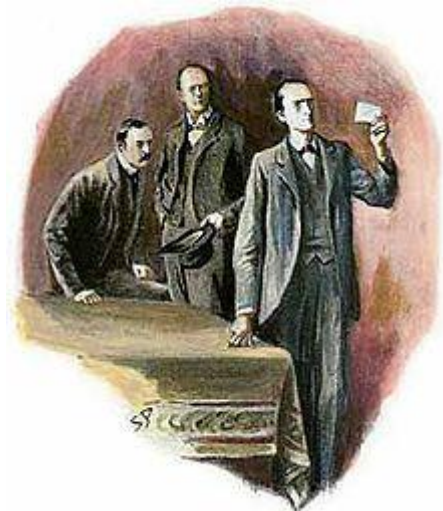
*Sherlock Holmes held up the paper so that the sunlight shone full upon it.*

*It was a page torn from a notebook. Holmes examined it for some time. The markings were done in pencil and ran in this way:*



*The message is*

**AM HERE ABE SLANEY**



*“See if you can read this message Watson” said Holmes with a smile. It contained no words, but this little line of dancing men.*



### Task One

Try to decipher the “dancing men” code.

What does the message say?

#### Clues:

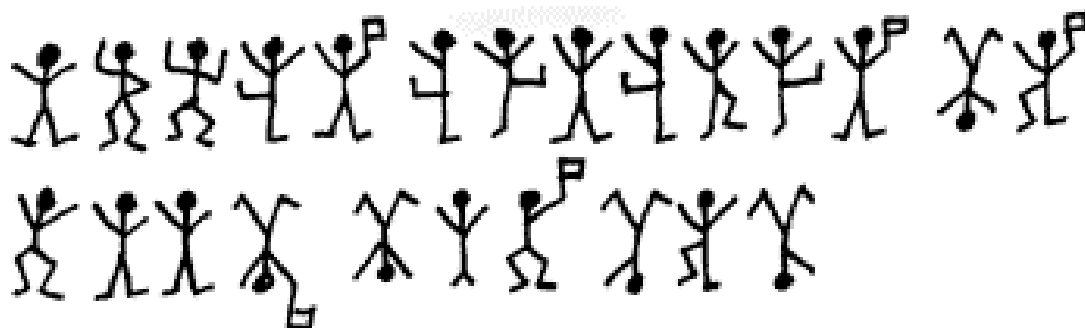
- ✓ The flag shows the end of a word.
- ✓ Use the answer to the first code to work out what each drawing means.



### Task Two.

Here is another code from the story ‘The Adventure of the Dancing Men’.

Use the clues from Task One to break it.



What does the message say?

## **Answers.**

### **Task one.**

**COME HERE AT ONCE**

### **Task two.**

**ELSIE PREPARE TO MEET THY GOD**

## **Teacher Comments.**

**Students enjoy codes.**

**These codes come from the famous Sherlock Holmes story, “The Adventure of the Dancing Men”. The story is a good one and I believe it has been made into a movie twice and several times adapted in television programmes.**

**The codes are tricky to work out and are a challenge for students.**

**Good luck!**