



## Episode 4 Student Worksheet – Answer Key

Read the following statements and decide which are true (T) and which are false (F).

- F The government minister was fired because of the questionable passing of permits.
- T At least 20 complaints were made about the electronic toy.
- T Employees forced to leave their jobs will get financial compensation.
- F Because of the referendum results, the wind farm will not be built.
- F The tiny painting had been hidden from view for over 100 years.

Fill in the gaps with vocabulary from the headlines (pay attention to the verb form!).

allegedly	controversial	to ignite	resignation
to surface	undisclosed	severance	sweeping

A major tech company is facing backlash after a **controversial** decision to give **severance** packages to hundreds of employees. The **sweeping** move was **allegedly** made for **undisclosed** financial reasons. The sudden **resignation** of the CEO has only fueled speculation, especially after an inside source claimed it was due to internal conflicts. The crisis was **ignited** when leaked memos about planned strikes **surfaced**.

to back	to disrupt	to fast-track	habitat
to lay off	to leak	shortfall	to tuck

A construction project, **backed** by the mayor, has raised concerns among environmentalists. The site is **tucked** behind a protected wildlife **habitat** and could severely **disrupt** the delicate ecosystem. Despite a funding **shortfall** officials are trying **to fast-track** the approval process. Documents, recently **leaked** to the press, reveal that the construction company plans **to lay off** workers.

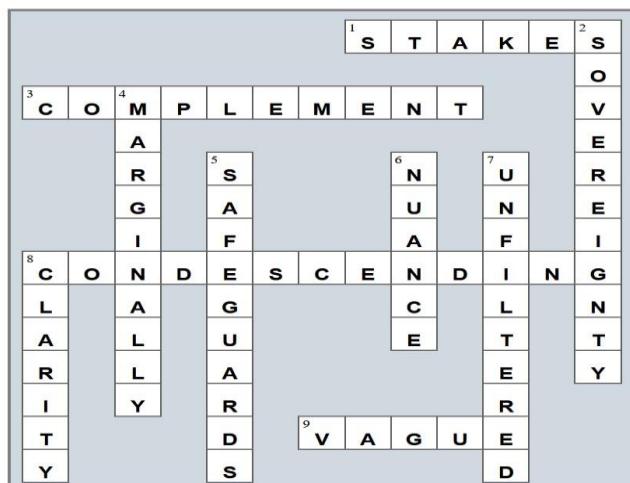
Complete the crossword puzzle with vocabulary from the discussion.

### ACROSS

- The risks or consequences involved.
- To go well with or enhance.
- Talking down to others.
- Unclear or not specific.

### DOWN

- A state's authority to govern itself.
- Slightly; by a small amount.
- Protective measures.
- A subtle difference in meaning or tone.
- Not altered or censored.
- Clearness or ease of understanding.



Decide whether each of the following words is American or British English and fill in the chart. Then write its equivalent in the other variety of English.

1. apartment	2. biscuit	3. garbage	4. truck	5. movie
6. nappy	7. chemist	8. line	9. shopping trolley	10. vacation

American English	British English
1. apartment	1. flat
2. cookie	2. biscuit
3. garbage	3. rubbish
4. truck	4. lorry
5. movie	5. film
6. diaper	6. nappy
7. pharmacy	7. chemist
8. line	8. queue
9. shopping cart	9. shopping trolley
10. vacation	10. holiday

Fill in the gaps with **few**, **little**, **fewer**, or **less**.

There are **few** social media platforms that truly influence global trends, but even **fewer** are seeing growth compared to last year. Creators often have **little** time to keep up with every new feature, and they report having even **less** time now than before. In terms of viral content, **few** trends last more than a week, and analysts say that even **fewer** are original ideas. Users are showing **little** interest in overly polished content, while engagement on such posts is now significantly **less** than it was a year ago.

Answer the following questions about “The Speckled Band”.

1. What was Helen Stoner’s sister wearing on the night in question? **A night-dress.**
2. What happened to Helen Stoner one month ago? **She got engaged.**
3. What happened in the night, which made Helen Stoner seek help? **She heard a low whistle.**
4. Where are Holmes and Watson going to take the train? **To Stoke Moran.**
5. Does the stranger at the door exude positive or negative energy? **Negative energy.**

Describe a strange, quirky, or unexpected item you have in your bag.