



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VIII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of Submission: August 2026
WORKSHEET NO: 15	Topic: THE CASE OF THE FIFTH WORD <u>ANSWER KEY</u>	Note: To be written in the notebook

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

Q1. Nolan and Davenport were very close. Support this statement with evidence from the chapter, 'The Case of the Fifth Word'.

ANS: They met in prison, became friendly due to shared interests, and Davenport lived with Nolan before the robbery.



Q2. Why did Davenport disappear right after the jewellery hold-up? What might his plans have been if Nolan had not died?

ANS: He disappeared to avoid suspicion after the robbery. If Nolan hadn't died, they might have waited longer to retrieve and share the hidden jewellery.

Q3. What does Mrs. Brown's interest in the case tell us about her?

ANS: She is curious and engaged, as she asks questions and tries to understand the code.

Q4. Explain why Chief Brown was proud of his son.

ANS: He was proud because Encyclopedia solved mysteries quickly, like finding the jewellery with one question.

Q5. Why were Chief Brown's suspicions regarding Nolan and Davenport justified, even when there was a lack of concrete proof?

ANS: His suspicions were justified because Nolan and Davenport were friends from prison, lived together before the robbery, and a clerk thought she recognised Nolan.

Q6. Analyse the role of the four-word coded message in the story.

ANS: The code (Nom, Utes, Sweden, Hurts) represented days (Monday to Thursday), hiding the fifth word (Fir for Friday), which led to the jewellery's location in a fir tree's jug.

Q.7. Write a character sketch on Leroy with the help of the character trait stable given in 'Let us discuss' section.



You may begin it like this: "Encyclopedia was a knowledgeable eighth grader who never forgot a fact that he read."

ANS: Encyclopedia was a knowledgeable eighth grader who never forgot a fact that he read. He was humble, not boasting about helping his father, and wanted to fit in with other boys. As a good listener, he quietly understood his parents' discussions. His cleverness allowed him to solve cases with just one question.

1. **Read the given extract and answer the questions that follow.**

Chief Brown would have liked to tell everyone about his only child. But who would believe him? Who would believe that the best detective alive was an eighth grader? So, he said nothing.

Encyclopedia never spoke of the help he gave his father. He didn't want to seem different from other boys. But there was nothing he could do about his nickname. He was stuck with it. Only his parents and teachers called him by his real name, Leroy. Everyone else called him Encyclopedia.

1. Complete the following sentence with a suitable reason.

Chief Brown's dilemma can be called unique because _____.

Ans: Chief Brown's dilemma can be called unique because he wanted to tell everyone his son was a brilliant detective, but no one would believe an eighth grader could be so talented.

2. What can be inferred about why Encyclopedia never spoke of the help he gave his father?
- A. He is shy and lacks confidence in his abilities to share his insights.
 - B. He wants to avoid the jealousy others might feel about his skills.
 - C. He desires to blend with the other boys to prevent seeming different.
 - D. He is embarrassed about being smarter than most adults around him.

Ans: C. He desires to blend with the other boys to prevent seeming different (text states he didn't want to seem different).

3. The parents choose not to call their son 'Encyclopedia'. Select the reason that is false.
- A. For them, he is more than his unique abilities; he is their child, with a personal identity.
 - B. Calling him by his real name reflects their affection and the desire to acknowledge him as an ordinary boy.
 - C. They want him to be remembered as different from the others around.

Ans: C. They want him to be remembered as different from the others around (parents use his real name to treat him as

4. What does the writer mean by the fact that Leroy was ‘stuck with’ the name Encyclopedia?

Ans: It means everyone called him Encyclopedia because of his vast knowledge, and he couldn’t change this nickname.

2. Read the given extract and answer the questions that follow.

Chief Brown studied the four words: Nom Utes Sweden Hurts. He shook his head and passed the notebook to Mrs. Brown again. “Can you figure it out?”

“Nom is a shortening of nominative, a grammatical term,” stated Mrs. Brown, who had taught English and other subjects in high school. “Utes is an American Indian tribe. Sweden is a country in northern Europe. Hurts is hurts.”

She lifted her gaze to Encyclopedia and shook her head. “I can’t figure it out,” she confessed. “Davenport disappeared right after the hold-up,” Encyclopedia reminded her.

1. What does Chief Brown’s reaction of shaking his head suggest about his understanding of the four words?
 - a. He is confident that the words are a clue.
 - b. He is confused, unable to make sense of the words.
 - c. He believes the words are random and meaningless.
 - d. He thinks the words are unrelated to the case.

Ans: He is confused, unable to make sense of the words (shaking his head indicates confusion).

2. Identify whether the given statement is true or false. Mrs. Brown explained the actual meanings of the individual words rather than decoding the hidden message behind them.

Ans: Mrs. Brown explained the actual meanings of the individual words rather than decoding the hidden message behind them- True (she defines each word literally, not as a code).

3. What does Mrs. Brown’s inability to decode the words suggest about the message?

Ans: It suggests the message is cleverly hidden and requires specific insight to understand.

4. Complete the following sentence suitably.
The purpose of Encyclopedia’s reminder in the last line of the extract was to _____. (refocus the discussion on the context of the crime/suggest that the coded message was meant for Davenport/imply that the message was likely a clue about the location of the stolen jewellery)

Ans: The purpose of Encyclopedia’s reminder in the last line of the extract was to suggest that the coded message was meant for Davenport.