The Jewel That Was Ours

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1 Student's own answer. The student will probably say that the Browns do not have a good relationship because they are not honest with each other. Some clues are in the following sentences. 'Howard was going to meet an old friend, but he had not told his wife.' 'Eddie Stratton turned and looked into the eyes of Mrs Shirley Brown. Shirley glanced at her husband, then nodded at Eddie and smiled.' The student might also mention that Eddie and Shirley go for a walk together without their own partners.

2 Student's own answer. The student may suggest that perhaps Sheila was with Kemp at the time Morse is asking about. In Chapter 1, the two of them have discussed a meeting at about that time. Sheila is perhaps embarrassed about her relationship with Kemp, and doesn't want to tell Morse about it herself.

3 Morse suspects that the Strattons have stolen the Tongue themselves, to get the insurance money. He thinks that they probably didn't bring the jewel to Britain at all.

4 Because he had been drinking alcohol just before his car accident in which a woman was killed. Kemp is lucky because he was not sent to prison for this.

5 Ashenden has said that he visited Magdalen College the previous afternoon. But Morse has found out that the college was closed to visitors that whole previous day.

6 Sheila was slightly drunk when they first met. Because of this, Morse has decided that Sheila is not the kind of person who has good taste. He is surprised to find out that he was wrong about this.

7 The police had found a copy of the American group's tour programme at Parson's Pleasure. A change to one of the times had been written by hand. This change had used the continental seven [7]. Morse wants everyone in the group to write down the number seven. He wants to find out who writes this number in the continental way. He already knows that the group arrived in Britain on 27th October, so he will get the answer to his question.

8 Morse wants to make sure that Cedric Downes is not at home. He wants to talk to Lucy Downes on her own.

9 Because the garden of the Downes' house is close to the River Cherwell. Kemp's body was found in this river, not very far from the Downes' house. If the body entered the river near the Downes' house, it could have been carried by the river to the place where it was found.

10 Morse finds out the odds for the horse which Ashenden bet on from a newspaper. He knows how much money Ashenden bet on it, because he has seen the betting-slip. So he is able to calculate how much money Ashenden has won.

11 Student's own answer. The student will probably mention that Sheila Williams tells Morse that Kemp was in love with Lucy Downes. Morse thinks that Cedric Downes found out about this, and killed Kemp when he found him making love with Lucy. Morse knows that Lucy has left Oxford that morning with a suitcase. He thinks that the case contained the clothes of Kemp, who was naked when his body was found. Morse and Lewis find a path in the Downes' garden which leads right to the edge of the Cherwell. Morse thinks that this must be where Kemp's body was put into the river.

12 Lewis only knows what he found in the suitcase in the evening. He can't be sure that Kemp's clothes weren't in it when Lucy left home in the morning. She could have got rid of them during the day.

13 Because when Ashenden had taken the phone call from Kemp, he had made a mistake. He thought that Kemp was telling him that he was at Paddington, the London railway station. But Kemp was really saying the name – Babbington's. Kemp was calling from his publishers' office. The two names sound quite similar.

14 Because the Wolvercote Tongue would not be handed over to the Museum. It would still be the property of Laura Stratton when it was 'stolen'. Therefore, the Strattons, not the Museum, would get the insurance money.
15 Student's own answer. The student might say that nobody would suspect someone like Janet Roscoe of being a murderer. OR that because she was dying, it didn't matter if she did get suspected, as long as Phil Aldrich was not suspected. By giving Eddie Stratton an alibi, they got one for Phil too. This is because Eddie claimed that he saw Phil on a train. OR the student might say that the police could easily find out that Philippa Mayo was called Philippa Aldrich before her marriage. This information was available in Britain, so that the police might find out that Phil was Philippa's father. But it would be more difficult for the police to find out that Janet Roscoe was really Phil’s wife and Philippa’s mother. This is because this information was only available in the US. So Janet did not really need an alibi as much as Phil did. For this reason, giving Eddie a true alibi, so that he could give a false alibi to Phil, was a good idea.