

BAKER STREET ELEMENTARY
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FAY, MASON, & MASON

RIDDLE ME THIS
"Crime is common. Logic is rare." [COPP]

*Malcolm Gladwell's 2008 Book **Outliers** posited it takes 10,000 hours of deliberate practice to master anything. A recent study has debunked that claim.*

But the notion dedication results in expertise is a powerful one.

We look around at our fellow Sherlockians and imagine how much time, collectively, has been spent not only with the Sherlock Holmes stories, but the thousands of books, articles and other media that have sprung

up as a result of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's creation.

The original Constitution and Buy-Laws of the Baker Street Irregulars stated:

The current round shall be bought by any member who fails to identify, by title of story and context, and quotation from the Sacred Writings submitted by any other member.

RIDDLE ME THIS

"Crime is common. Logic is rare." [COPP] (continued)

Qualification A. If two or more members fail so to identify, a round shall be bought by each of those so failing.

Qualification B. If the submitter of the quotation, upon challenge, fails to identify it correctly, he shall buy the round

There's no way this exercise could be seriously undertaken unless the attendees put in hours of reading, over and over again.

And one might think in today's world, where online and offline search capabilities of the

Canon make us lazier in this regard.

In our case, we strenuously object. Years of reading the Sherlock Holmes stories closely and watching the Jeremy Brett Granada episodes —which quite often lifted dialog directly from the Canon —it's burned into our brain.

We use the search capability to ensure we get the wording exactly right for the quote that precedes every article here.

Meanwhile the boys at Baker Street Elementary have a unique way of getting expertise...

**STAMFORD, YOU FAILED YOUR GEOMETRY
TEST... THAT'S A NEW CLASS RECORD.**

I DON'T BELIEVE IT'S MY FAULT.



**EXPERTS SUGGEST IT TAKES AT
LEAST 10,000 HOURS OF PRACTICE
TO MASTER A PARTICULAR SKILL...**



**WE HAVE ONLY SUFFERED THROUGH
GEOMETRY CLASSES FOR ONE HOUR A DAY
FOR THE PAST TWO MONTHS OF SCHOOL...**



**EVEN BY THE END OF THE YEAR, I WILL STILL
BE THOUSANDS OF HOURS SHORT OF A
THOROUGH UNDERSTANDING TO MASTER THE
SKILL... DON'T YOU HAVE TO ACCEPT PART OF
THE BLAME ?**



**YES MA'AM... YOU SUGGEST I ATTEND 1 HOUR
OF DETENTION UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR
TO HELP MAKE UP THE HOURS ???**



YOU FORGET THE TEACHER HAS OVER 10,000 HOURS OF DEALING WITH STUPID ARGUMENTS...

HARD TO ARGUE WITH HER LOGIC...

