

## SPELLBOUND

### "he soon dispelled the idea" [STUD]

*We've seen occasional confusion in the Sherlock Holmes stories, such as the changing dates in "The Red-Headed League" (from April to October) and Watson's wife calling him James instead of John.*

*So, it's interesting there was a spelling error in "The Cardboard Box" that helped Holmes narrow down the identity of the culprit.*

*The box was addressed to "Miss S. Cushing,*

*Cross Street, Croydon."*

*Holmes makes the following observations about the writing:*

*"Done with a broad-pointed pen, probably a J, and with very inferior ink. The word 'Croydon' has been originally spelled with an 'i', which has been changed to 'y'."*

## **SPELLBOUND**

### **"he soon dispelled the idea" [STUD] (continued)**

*He then concludes:*

*"The parcel was directed, then, by a man—the printing is distinctly masculine—of limited education and unacquainted with the town of Croydon."*

*Without the spelling error, where would that have left us?*

*The handwriting would have still shown whatever "masculine" qualities Holmes saw in it.*

*Would a properly-spelled "Croydon" have eliminated his conclusion about the man's education, though?*

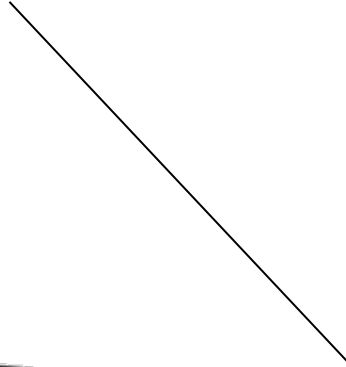
*Or was it the handwriting itself, absent the spelling error, that gave Holmes the impression the man was not highly educated?*

*We can draw our own conclusions about the state of affairs at Baker Street Elementary...*

**MASTER STAMFORD, HOW WOULD YOU  
SPELL THE WORD 'CROCODILE' ?**



K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L



**THAT IS NOT THE  
CORRECT SPELLING...**

**YOU DIDN'T ASK FOR THE  
CORRECT SPELLING, YOU ASKED  
HOW I WOULD SPELL IT...**



**HILARIOUS... SINCE, YOU BELIEVE IT  
STARTS WITH A 'K', NAME ANOTHER  
ANIMAL WHOSE NAME BEGINS WITH A 'K'**



**KOALA ?**

**VERY GOOD... NOW  
ONE THAT STARTS  
WITH A 'T'...**



**TWO-KOALAS ?**

**NOT SO FUNNY...  
ONE LAST CHANCE...  
WHAT ABOUT AN  
'M' ?**





**MAYBE-A-KOALA ?**



**I THINK SHE'S READY FOR THE  
SUMMER BREAK... HER HEAD IS  
ON THE DESK AGAIN...**

