

# August Heat

by William Fryer Harvey

**Read the story carefully. You may wish to reread it a second time.**

**Answer the following questions TRUE or FALSE:**

1. Withencroft had been sick a great deal in his life.	T	F
2. It was a very cold day in Clapham, a suburb of London.	T	F
3. Withencroft did not eat lunch that day.	T	F
4. The criminal was extremely skinny with long thin arms and legs.	T	F
5. The gravestone has a big flaw on the back.	T	F
6. The gravestone was being made to be presented in an exhibition.	T	F
7. Mr. Atkinson had seen the name in the gravestone before somewhere	T	F
8. The first date on the gravestone was correct.	T	F
9. Withencroft agrees to stay with Mr. Atkinson until midnight (thus proving the gravestone date irrelevant).	T	F
10. Atkinson's wife was a quiet, large woman, with red hair.	T	F

## 11. Comprehension: *Short answer questions:*

a. What did Withencroft sketch that day? (Give complete answer). \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

b. What did the inscription on the gravestone read? (Give complete answer). \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

c. Who is Maria? \_\_\_\_\_

d. What was Withencroft doing while he sat at the window? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 12.** Using the "Vocabulary Worksheet", find and define **4 words** from the story that you have never seen or do not know the meaning.
- 13.** Using the Y-Chart on the next page, write in point form your impressions of the story. (i.e. How did it make you feel? What effect did it have on you? Did it create any mental images? What other senses were activated? )
- 14.** In August Heat we meet Withencroft, an artist who is writing down the "remarkable" events of his day, including the "strange coincidence" of his encounter with a stone mason. The story ends abruptly, leaving the reader to imagine the implied ending.

What do you think happens next? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**15. Epitaphs**

An Epitaph is a statement on a gravestone or tomb. It is a short piece of prose or verse written in honour of a dead person. Sometimes it takes the form of a short story about the person buried there. See the examples below:

**Epitaph for William H. Bonney:**

*Truth and History.  
21 Men.  
The Boy Bandit King  
He Died As He Lived  
William H. Bonney "Billy the Kid"*

**Epitaph for Robin Hood:**

*Here underneath this little stone  
Lies Robert, Earl of Huntingdon.  
No archer was as he so good,  
And people called him Robin Hood.  
Such an outlaw as he, and his men,  
Will England never see again.*

**Task:**

On the Tombstone graphic organizer on the last page, write **ONE** epitaph for person whom you admire. It could be someone you know, a celebrity, a hero, a villain, or someone extra special... like your Language Arts Teacher! (*Feel free to colour the tombstone and artfully write your epitaph*)

# Y-Chart Graphic Organizer

Using the Y-Chart below, write in point form your impressions of the story.

(i.e. How did it make you feel? What effect did it have on you? Did it create any mental images? What other senses were activated? )



How did it make you feel?  
What effect did it have on you?

What mental images did you create?

What other senses did the story activate?  
(i.e. Sight, Smell, Hearing)

## Vocabulary Worksheet

WORD:

Draw a Picture:

# of Syllables: \_\_\_\_\_ # of Vowels: \_\_\_\_\_

Synonym (Same): \_\_\_\_\_

Antonym (Opposite): \_\_\_\_\_

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Use in a Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

## Vocabulary Worksheet

WORD:

Draw a Picture:

# of Syllables: \_\_\_\_\_ # of Vowels: \_\_\_\_\_

Synonym (Same): \_\_\_\_\_

Antonym (Opposite): \_\_\_\_\_

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

Use in a Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

