



INSPECTOR STONE

THE CASE OF THE MISSING RING
CASE NOTES: PART THREE



Another set of case notes, another set of mistakes. I must do something about this secretary. Luckily I've got you to help me. The first task is to match the verbs on the right.

THE VERBS

Infinitive	Past simple
answer	had brought
bring	stole
find	took
have	found
leave	answered
see	left
steal	saw
take	

Vocabulary

thief
person who steals something

lent (to lend)
gave (to give) something to someone for a limited time, expecting them to return it

GRAMMAR NOTES

Past simple negatives

When we form negative sentences in the past simple tense, we use **didn't** and the infinitive form of the verb.

Example: *I didn't steal the ring.* I didn't steal the ring.

Despite my explaining it to her several times, my secretary wasn't always sure which verb form to use in the case notes below. Can you help her by choosing the correct words? Use my grammar notes on the left if you need to.



THE CASE IS ALMOST SOLVED...

Somebody has stolen the bride's ring. There are five suspects. Naturally, they all say they didn't *took/take/taking* it.

I didn't *has/had/have* any more questions for the suspects, so I left them and went into the garden. I didn't *found/finding/find* any more clues there, but I heard the suspects talking. I listened outside the window.

All of the suspects were very angry. The bride was crying. She always cries. She said she didn't *steal/steals/stole* the ring. Do I believe her? I'm not sure.

The best man said the mother of the bride stole the ring. She wanted to know about the £5000 that the groom owes the best man. The best man didn't *answering/answer/answered* her questions. What does that mean?

The mother of the bride talked a lot. She made lots of mistakes with past simple negatives when she was talking. Very strange.

The groom said he didn't *see/sees/saw* who took the ring. He sounded confused. But I am not confused... I think I know who stole the ring.

The mother of the bride made six mistakes with past simple negatives. Maybe she was feeling nervous. I wrote down all the things she said below. Please can you cross out the mistakes and rewrite her sentences correctly? I might give the mother of the bride your corrections to try to... educate her. Or perhaps she made the mistakes on purpose?



THE MOTHER OF THE BRIDE'S MISTAKES

1. "Darling, of course you didn't stole your ring."
2. "You didn't stole it!"
3. "Young man, I didn't saw anything."
4. "No darling, I didn't had my glasses."
5. "You didn't answering my question!"
6. "We didn't brought him here just to disappear!"

ANSWERS

THE VERBS

steal – stole
see – saw
have – had
bring – brought
answer – answered
take – took
find – found
leave – left

THE MOTHER OF THE BRIDE'S MISTAKES

1. "Darling, of course you didn't ~~stole~~ steal your ring."
2. "You didn't ~~stole~~ steal it!"
3. "Young man, I didn't ~~saw~~ see anything."
4. "No darling, I didn't ~~had~~ have my glasses."
5. "You didn't ~~answering~~ answer my question!"
5. "We didn't ~~brought~~ bring him here just to disappear!"

THE CASE IS ALMOST SOLVED...

Somebody has stolen the bride's ring. There are five suspects. Naturally, they all say they didn't ~~took~~ / take / ~~taking~~ it.

I didn't ~~has~~ / ~~had~~ / have any more questions for the suspects, so I left them and went into the garden. I didn't ~~found~~ / ~~finding~~ / find any more clues there, but I did hear the suspects talking. I listened outside the window.

All of the suspects were very angry. The bride was crying. She always cries. She said she didn't steal / ~~steals~~ / ~~stole~~ the ring. Do I believe her? I'm not sure.

The best man said the mother of the bride stole the ring. She wanted to know about the £5000 that the groom owes the best man. The best man didn't ~~answering~~ / answer / ~~answered~~ her questions. What does that mean?

The mother of the bride talked a lot. She made lots of mistakes with past simple negatives when she was talking. Very strange.

The groom said he didn't see / ~~sees~~ / ~~saw~~ who took the ring. He sounded confused. But I am not confused... I think I know who stole the ring.