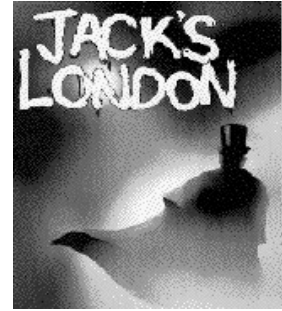


## 6. EVIDENCE ABOUT JACK'S PERSONALITY: (a) THE "DEAR BOSS" LETTER



In the last lesson you considered some of the evidence given by eye-witnesses about the appearance of Jack the Ripper.

Just as important in helping you to decide which suspect is the most likely killer, however, is evidence about his personality.

To do this we need to do more than simply take the evidence at face value. Instead, we have to work things out from the evidence – this is called *making deductions*.

- One major piece of evidence is a gruesome letter sent by the Ripper to the Central News Agency on 25<sup>th</sup> September 1888.
- Your teacher will have a copy of this on OHT and will project it onto the screen. Your job is to write down what it says in these two boxes.

### Questions:

1. What is the "red stuff" Jack is referring to?
2. What can we deduce about Jack from this letter? (Clues – think about education, personality)
3. Some historians think that this letter is a fake, written by a journalist. What reasons might a journalist have for forging a letter such as this?

The "Dear Boss letter" (first page)

25. Sept. 1888.

Dear Boss

I keep on hearing the police have caught me, but they wont fix me just yet. I have laughed when they look so clever and talk about being on the right track. That joke about Leather Apron gave me real fits. I am down on whores and I shant quit ripping them till I do get buckled. Grand work the last job was. I gave the lady no time to squeal. How can they catch me now. I love my work and want to start again. You will soon hear of me with my gunny little games. I saved some of the proper red stuff in a ginger beer bottle over the last job to write with but it went thick like glue and I cant use it. Red ink is fit enough. I hope ha ha. The next job I do I shall clip the lady's ears off and send to the

The "Dear Boss" letter (second page).

police officers just for jolly wouldnt  
you. Keep this letter back till I  
do a bit more work. then give  
it out straight. My knife's so nice  
and sharp I want to get to work  
right away if I get a chance.  
Good luck.  
yours truly  
Jack the Ripper  
Dont mind me giving the trade name

want good enough  
to post this before  
I got all the red  
ink off my hands  
curse it  
No hute yet. They  
say I'm a doctor  
now- ha ha