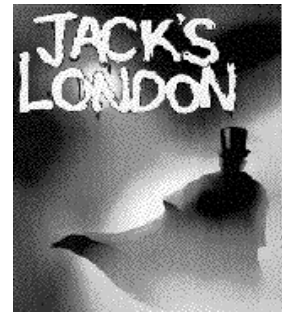


4. EVIDENCE OF JACK'S APPEARANCE



Although the identity of Jack the Ripper remains shrouded in mystery, many witnesses claimed to have seen the victims with suspicious-looking men shortly before they were murdered.

Task:

• Below is a summary of the witness reports.

1. In pairs, discuss the following two questions and then report back to the class:

- What do most of the witnesses seem to agree about?
- What are the most obvious disagreements?

2. As a class, brainstorm answers to this question:

c. What reasons can you come up with to explain the disagreements between the witnesses?

3. Use these findings to complete the worksheet on the following page.

Witness	Which scene?	Time	Appearance
Emily Walter (?)	Annie Chapman	2:00 A.M.	Foreigner aged 37, dark beard and moustache. Wearing short dark jacket, dark vest and trousers, black scarf and black felt hat.
Elizabeth Long	Annie Chapman	5:30 A.M.	Dark complexion, brown deerstalker hat, possibly a dark overcoat. Aged over 40, somewhat taller than Chapman. A foreigner of "shabby genteel."
J. Best and John Gardner	Elizabeth Stride	11:00 P.M.	5'5" tall, English, black moustache, sandy eyelashes, weak, wearing a morning suit and a hat.
William Marshall	Elizabeth Stride	11:45 P.M.	Small, black coat, dark trousers, middle aged, round cap with a small sailor-like peak. 5'6", stout, appearance of a clerk. No moustache, no gloves, with a cutaway coat.
Matthew Packer	Elizabeth Stride	12:00 - 12:30 P.M.	Aged 25-30, 5'7", long black coat buttoned up, soft felt hat, broad shoulders. Maybe a young clerk, frock coat, no gloves.
P.C. William Smith	Elizabeth Stride	12:30 A.M.	Aged 28, cleanshaven and respectable appearance, 5'7", hard dark felt deerstalker hat, dark clothes. Carrying a newspaper parcel 18 x 7 inches.
James Brown	Elizabeth Stride	12:45 A.M.	5'7", stout, long black diagonal coat which reached almost to his heels.
Israel Schwartz	Elizabeth Stride	12:45 A.M.	First man: Aged 30, 5'5", brown haired, fair complexion, small brown moustache, full face, broad shoulders, dark jacket and trousers, black cap with peak. Second man: Aged 35, 5'11", fresh complexion, light brown hair, dark overcoat, old black hard felt hat with a wide brim, clay pipe.
Joseph Lawende	Catharine Eddowes	1:30 A.M.	Aged 30, 5'7", fair complexion, brown moustache, salt-and-pepper coat, red neckerchief, grey peaked cloth cap. Sailor-like.
James Blenkinsop	Catharine Eddowes	1:30 A.M.	Well-dressed.
Mary Ann Cox	Mary Kelly	11:45 P.M.	Short, stout man, shabbily dressed. Billycock hat, blotchy face, carrot moustache, holding quart can of beer
George Hutchinson	Mary Kelly	2:00 A.M.	Aged 34-35, 5'6", pale complexion, dark hair, slight moustached curled at each end, long dark coat, collar cuffs of astrakhan, dark jacket underneath. Light waistcoat, thick gold chain with a red stone seal, dark trousers and button boots, gaiters, white buttons. White shirt, black tie fastened with a horseshoe pin. Dark hat, turned down in middle. Red kerchief. Jewish and respectable in appearance.

5. POLICE WARNING – “JACK THE RIPPER” AT LARGE!

A full length artist impression of the suspect.

Members of the public are encouraged to be on their guard against any man fitting this description.

Approximate age:

Physical appearance:

Favoured clothing:

Nationality:

Other deductions:

Questions:

1. What do most of the witnesses seem to agree on?
2. What do they disagree on?
3. Outline as many reasons as you can to explain why the witnesses disagree.
4. How accurate do you think your profile of Jack the Ripper is? Explain your answer.