

A man with dark hair and a serious expression is looking over his right shoulder towards the camera. He is wearing a dark, buttoned-up shirt. The setting is a room with dark wood paneling. On the wall behind him to the left is a small, simple wooden cross. To the right, there is a window with a metal lattice or grate. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and deep shadows, creating a somber and intense atmosphere.

THE

CONFESSION

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# Introduction

Read the questions below in class.

Try to answer all of them.

1. Have you ever told a lie to avoid trouble? What happened?

(You don't need to give details—just the situation.)

2. Do you think people should always tell the truth to the police? Why or why not?

3. What would you do if you saw something suspicious at night but weren't sure what it was?

4. Do you believe people can feel guilty even if they didn't do anything wrong? Why?

5. What kind of things do people usually confess? Do you think they always tell the full truth?

# The Confession

Read the full story below in class.

Try to understand what the story is about.

Father Michael had been hearing confessions for over twenty years.

Most were the same.

Small sins. Quiet regrets. Things people carried for a few days, then brought to him to be lifted away.

He sat in the booth, hands folded, listening to the soft hush of the church around him. Outside, a car passed. Somewhere, a door closed.

Then the confessional door opened.

A woman stepped inside.

“Bless me, Father, for I have sinned.”

Father Michael bowed his head slightly.

“Go on, my child.”

“I told a lie.”

He waited a moment before answering.

“That is not uncommon.”

A pause.

“I told the police I was at home last night.”

Father Michael’s voice remained calm.

“And that wasn’t true?”

“No.”

Her voice trembled now.

“I was walking near the quarry road. I saw a man... bending over something.”

Father Michael leaned forward slightly in the darkness.

“What do you mean, something?”

“I don’t know. I didn’t go close. But... when I got home...”

She hesitated.

“There was blood on my shoe.”

Inside the booth, Father Michael did not move.

“I washed it. I threw the shoes away. I didn’t want trouble.”

A short silence settled between them.

“Do you feel remorse?” he asked gently.

“Yes.”

“Then you must pray for forgiveness,” Father Michael said.

“And be careful not to let fear guide you again.”

“I don’t think I can tell them,” she added quickly.

“I understand,” he replied after a pause. “Go in peace.”

The woman left.

Father Michael remained still for a few seconds after the door closed.

The door opened again.

A man entered. His breathing was heavier.

“Bless me, Father, for I have sinned.”

Father Michael straightened slightly.

“Go on.”

“I lost my temper.”

“With whom?” Father Michael asked.

“A man. We argued. It got out of hand.”

The priest listened quietly.

“What happened?”

“I hit him. Hard. He fell.”

The man took a breath.

“I think he hit his head on something. A rock, maybe.”

Father Michael’s fingers pressed lightly together.

“What did you do then?”

“I panicked,” the man said. “I thought... I thought he might be dead.”

“And?”

“I dragged him off the road. Into the dirt. I didn’t want anyone to see.”

A pause.

“I left him there.”

Father Michael’s voice was steady.

“Did you check if he was alive?”

“No.”

The man’s voice dropped.

“I didn’t want to know.”

Silence filled the booth.

“Do you feel remorse?” Father Michael asked.

“Yes.”

“Then you must pray,” he said. “And learn from this. Fear can lead us to make poor decisions.”

The man let out a slow breath.

“I don’t think I can go to the police.”

Father Michael did not hesitate.

“This is something you must resolve in your own conscience,” he said quietly.

The man said nothing more.

Then he left.

The third confession came shortly after.

Another man entered.

His voice was calm. Controlled.

“Bless me, Father.”

Father Michael inclined his head.

“Go on.”

“I wished harm on someone.”

“That is a serious matter,” Father Michael said.

“He deserved it.”

“No one deserves harm.”

The man continued, his voice steady.

“He ruined things for me. Took something that was mine.”

Father Michael remained silent, listening.

“What did you do?”

“I followed him. I wanted to confront him. I wanted him to understand.”

“And?”

“I told him what I thought of him.”

Father Michael spoke carefully.

“Did you harm him?”

A pause.

“No.”

But something in the man’s tone lingered.

“I left him on the quarry road,” the man added.

Father Michael’s eyes remained closed.

“Was he alone?”

“Yes.”

The man exhaled slowly.

“I hope he suffered.”

Father Michael opened his eyes.

“Hatred will only burden you,” he said. “You must let it go.”

“I know.”

The man stood.

“Thank you, Father.”

And left.

The final confession was different.

A smaller voice.

A boy.

“Bless me, Father.”

Father Michael softened his tone.

“Go on, my child.”

“I did something bad.”

“What happened?” he asked gently.

“My dad told me not to say anything.”

Father Michael paused.

“You can speak freely here.”

The boy hesitated.

“I saw him last night. He went out. I followed him.”

Father Michael leaned forward slightly.

“Where did he go?”

“The quarry road.”

A long pause.

“What did you see?”

“He was digging.”

Father Michael’s expression did not change.

“Digging?”

“Yes. With a shovel.”

The boy shifted slightly.

“He was putting something in the ground.”

Father Michael kept his voice even.

“What did he tell you it was?”

“He said it was rubbish,” the boy replied. “And that I should

forget about it.”

A pause.

“But... it didn’t look like rubbish.”

Father Michael said nothing for a moment.

“What did it look like?” he asked quietly.

“A person.”

The boy swallowed.

“I think he saw me.”

“Did he say anything else?” Father Michael asked.

“He told me not to talk about it.”

Another pause.

“I feel bad.”

Father Michael nodded slowly.

“You have done the right thing by speaking,” he said. “Now you must let it rest.”

“Will I get in trouble?”

“No,” Father Michael said gently. “You are safe.”

The boy let out a breath.

“Thank you, Father.”

The door opened.

Then closed.

The church was empty when Father Michael stepped out of the booth.

The light had faded.

He walked slowly to his office and sat down. For a long time, he did nothing.

The silence settled around him.

Then, almost without thinking, he turned on the small television in the corner.

The news was already playing.

A photograph appeared on the screen.

A man.

Smiling. Ordinary.

The caption read:

**MISSING PERSON – LAST SEEN NEAR QUARRY ROAD**

Father Michael stared at the image.

Then the pieces began to move.

The woman.

The blood.

The first man.

The blow.

The second man.

The hatred.

The boy.

The digging.

Witnesses.

Fragments.

Close—but not quite.

His gaze drifted from the television to his desk.

There, beside a stack of prayer books, lay a small object.

A wristwatch.

Mud still caught in the clasp.

He looked at it for a long time.

Then reached out and turned it over in his hand.

The glass was cracked.

Stopped.

Frozen at 11:42.

On the television, the missing man's face remained, smiling quietly into the room.

Father Michael set the watch back down.

Folded his hands.

Closed his eyes.

# Reading Comprehension Questions

Below are all the reading comprehension questions.

Try to answer these using full and complete sentences.

You can find model answers at the end of the lesson plan.

1. Who is the main character in the story?
2. How long has he listened to people making confessions?
3. Where is he at the beginning of the story?
4. Who comes into the booth?
5. What does the woman say her sin is?
6. Who did the woman lie to?
7. Where was she really?
8. What did she see?

9. What did she later find on her shoe?
10. What did the woman do with her shoes?
11. What does Father Michael advise the woman to do?
12. Who is the next person to enter the confession booth?
13. What is this person's sin?
14. What more details does the man give about what happened?
15. How does Father Michael react?
16. What did the man do with the other man?
17. Did the man check to see if the other man was alive or dead?
18. What does Father Michael say about fear?
19. What is the man reluctant to do?
20. Who is the third person to enter the confession booth?
21. How is this man different from the first man?
22. What is this man's sin?

23. What did the man say happened to him?
24. Did he speak to the other man?
25. Where did the man leave the other man?
26. Were these two people alone?
27. What advice does Father Michael give to the man?
28. Who is the fourth person to make a confession?
29. What does the boy say he did?
30. Where did the boy go?
31. What did he see?
32. What did the boy's father say he was burying?
33. What does the boy later believe his father was burying?
34. How does Father Michael reassure the boy?
35. Who does Father Michael see when he leaves the booth?
36. Where does he go?
37. What does he do first in his office?

38. What does he do next?
39. What does he watch on TV?
40. What information is shown on the news?
41. What does Father Michael look at on his desk?
42. What is stuck on the clasp of the watch?
43. Is the glass on the watch cracked?
44. Is the watch still working?
45. What time does the watch say?
46. What does Father Michael do at the end?

# The Confession — story and reading comprehension questions

This is the story and reading comprehension questions divided into clear sections.

This might be easier for certain classes.

## Section 1

Father Michael had been hearing confessions for over twenty years. Most were the same. Small sins. Quiet regrets. Things people carried for a few days, then brought to him to be lifted away. He sat in the booth, hands folded, listening to the soft hush of the church around him. Outside, a car passed. Somewhere, a door closed. Then the confessional door opened. A woman stepped inside. “Bless me, Father, for I have sinned.”

Father Michael bowed his head slightly. "Go on, my child." "I told a lie."

### **Reading Comprehension Questions**

1. Who is the main character in the story?
2. How long has he listened to people making confessions?
3. Where is he at the beginning of the story?
4. Who comes into the booth?
5. What does the woman say her sin is?

### **Section 2**

He waited a moment before answering. "That is not uncommon." A pause. "I told the police I was at home last night." Father Michael's voice remained calm. "And that wasn't true?" "No." Her voice trembled now. "I was walking near the quarry road. I saw a man... bending over something." Father Michael leaned forward slightly in the darkness. "What do you

mean, something?” “I don’t know. I didn’t go close. But... when I got home...” She hesitated. “There was blood on my shoe.”

### **Reading Comprehension Questions**

6. Who did the woman lie to?
7. Where was she really?
8. What did she see?
9. What did she later find on her shoe?

### **Section 3**

Inside the booth, Father Michael did not move. “I washed it. I threw the shoes away. I didn’t want trouble.” A short silence settled between them. “Do you feel remorse?” he asked gently. “Yes.” “Then you must pray for forgiveness,” Father Michael said. “And be careful not to let fear guide you again.” “I don’t think I can tell them,” she added quickly. “I understand,” he replied after a pause. “Go in peace.” The woman left. Father

Michael remained still for a few seconds after the door closed.

### **Reading Comprehension Questions**

10. What did the woman do with her shoes?
11. What does Father Michael advise the woman to do?

### **Section 4**

The door opened again. A man entered. His breathing was heavier. "Bless me, Father, for I have sinned." Father Michael straightened slightly. "Go on." "I lost my temper." "With whom?" Father Michael asked. "A man. We argued. It got out of hand." The priest listened quietly. "What happened?" "I hit him. Hard. He fell." The man took a breath. "I think he hit his head on something. A rock, maybe." Father Michael's fingers pressed lightly together.

### **Reading Comprehension Questions**

12. Who is the next person to enter the confession booth?
13. What is this person's sin?
14. What more details does the man give about what happened?
15. How does Father Michael react?

## **Section 5**

“What did you do then?” “I panicked,” the man said. “I thought... I thought he might be dead.” “And?” “I dragged him off the road. Into the dirt. I didn't want anyone to see.” A pause. “I left him there.” Father Michael's voice was steady. “Did you check if he was alive?” “No.” The man's voice dropped. “I didn't want to know.” Silence filled the booth. “Do you feel remorse?” Father Michael asked.

## **Reading Comprehension Questions**

16. What did the man do with the other man?

17. Did the man check to see if the other man was alive or dead?

## **Section 6**

“Yes.” “Then you must pray,” he said. “And learn from this. Fear can lead us to make poor decisions.” The man let out a slow breath. “I don’t think I can go to the police.” Father Michael did not hesitate. “This is something you must resolve in your own conscience,” he said quietly. The man said nothing more. Then he left. The third confession came shortly after. Another man entered. His voice was calm. Controlled. “Bless me, Father.”

## **Reading Comprehension Questions**

18. What does Father Michael say about fear?
19. What is the man reluctant to do?
20. Who is the third person to enter the confession booth?

21. How is this man different from the first man?

## **Section 7**

Father Michael inclined his head. "Go on." "I wished harm on someone." "That is a serious matter," Father Michael said. "He deserved it." "No one deserves harm." The man continued, his voice steady. "He ruined things for me. Took something that was mine." Father Michael remained silent, listening. "What did you do?" "I followed him. I wanted to confront him. I wanted him to understand." "And?" "I told him what I thought of him."

## **Reading Comprehension Questions**

22. What is this man's sin?

23. What did the man say happened to him?

24. Did he speak to the other man?

## **Section 8**

Father Michael spoke carefully. "Did you harm him?" A pause. "No." But something in the man's tone lingered. "I left him on the quarry road," the man added. Father Michael's eyes remained closed. "Was he alone?" "Yes." The man exhaled slowly. "I hope he suffered." Father Michael opened his eyes. "Hatred will only burden you," he said. "You must let it go." "I know." The man stood. "Thank you, Father." And left.

### **Reading Comprehension Questions**

25. Where did the man leave the other man?
26. Were these two people alone?
27. What advice does Father Michael give to the man?

### **Section 9**

The final confession was different. A smaller voice. A boy. "Bless me, Father." Father Michael softened his tone. "Go on, my child." "I did something bad." "What happened?" he asked

gently. "My dad told me not to say anything." Father Michael paused. "You can speak freely here." The boy hesitated. "I saw him last night. He went out. I followed him." Father Michael leaned forward slightly. "Where did he go?"

### **Reading Comprehension Questions**

28. Who is the fourth person to make a confession?
29. What does the boy say he did?

### **Section 10**

"The quarry road." A long pause. "What did you see?" "He was digging." Father Michael's expression did not change. "Digging?" "Yes. With a shovel." The boy shifted slightly. "He was putting something in the ground." Father Michael kept his voice even. "What did he tell you it was?" "He said it was rubbish," the boy replied. "And that I should forget about it." A pause. "But... it didn't look like rubbish."

## Reading Comprehension Questions

30. Where did the boy go?
31. What did he see?
32. What did the boy's father say he was burying?

### Section 11

Father Michael said nothing for a moment. "What did it look like?" he asked quietly. "A person." The boy swallowed. "I think he saw me." "Did he say anything else?" Father Michael asked. "He told me not to talk about it." Another pause. "I feel bad." Father Michael nodded slowly. "You have done the right thing by speaking," he said. "Now you must let it rest." "Will I get in trouble?" "No," Father Michael said gently. "You are safe."

## Reading Comprehension Questions

33. What does the boy later believe his father was burying?

34. How does Father Michael reassure the boy?

## **Section 12**

The boy let out a breath. “Thank you, Father.” The door opened. Then closed. The church was empty when Father Michael stepped out of the booth. The light had faded. He walked slowly to his office and sat down. For a long time, he did nothing. The silence settled around him. Then, almost without thinking, he turned on the small television in the corner. The news was already playing. A photograph appeared on the screen. A man. Smiling. Ordinary.

### **Reading Comprehension Questions**

35. Who does Father Michael see when he leaves the booth?

36. Where does he go?

37. What does he do first in his office?

38. What does he do next?
39. What does he watch on TV?

### **Section 13**

The caption read: MISSING PERSON – LAST SEEN NEAR QUARRY ROAD. Father Michael stared at the image. Then the pieces began to move. The woman. The blood. The first man. The blow. The second man. The hatred. The boy. The digging. Witnesses. Fragments. Close—but not quite. His gaze drifted from the television to his desk. There, beside a stack of prayer books, lay a small object. A wristwatch.

### **Reading Comprehension Questions**

40. What information is shown on the news?
41. What does Father Michael look at on his desk?

### **Section 14**

Mud still caught in the clasp. He looked at it for a long time. Then reached out and turned it over in his hand. The glass was cracked. Stopped. Frozen at 11:42. On the television, the missing man's face remained, smiling quietly into the room. Father Michael set the watch back down. Folded his hands. Closed his eyes.

### **Reading Comprehension Questions**

42. What is stuck on the clasp of the watch?
43. Is the glass on the watch cracked?
44. Is the watch still working?
45. What time does the watch say?
46. What does Father Michael do at the end?

# Essential Vocabulary

confession	advise	rock
vicar	fear	drag
priest	truth	ground
booth	lie	dig
sin	police	shovel
regret	quarry	bury
forgiveness	road	rubbish
remorse	blood	witness
conscience	shoe	fragment
hesitate	wash	missing
tremble	throw away	watch
calm	temper	clasp
steady	argue	cracked
silence	hit	frozen
pause	fall	pray

## Vocabulary Practice Exercise

Follow the steps below to help you learn and remember new words and phrases more effectively:

1. Write each new word or phrase in your vocabulary notebook.
2. Look up the meaning of each word in your dictionary. Write a clear and simple definition next to the word.
3. Create your own sentence using the word or phrase correctly. Try to make the sentence meaningful and connected to your own life or experiences.

## **Examples**

**Confession** – *a statement in which someone admits that they have done something wrong.*

**Example sentence:** *He went to the church to make a confession about the mistake he had made.*

**Vicar** – *a priest in the Church of England who is responsible for a local church.*

**Example sentence:** *The vicar spoke kindly to the people in the village and listened to their problems.*

### **Why do this?**

Doing this regularly will help you improve all areas of your English — reading, writing, speaking, and listening. By writing definitions and making your own examples, you are actively using the language, which helps it stick in your memory.

# True or False Exercise

Read the statements and decide if they are True or False.

You can find the correct answers at the end of the lesson plan.

1. Father Michael has been hearing confessions for only a few years.
2. The woman tells the police the truth about where she was.
3. The woman saw a man near the quarry road.
4. The woman found blood on her shoe when she got home.
5. The first man says he carefully checked if the other man was alive.
6. The first man dragged the other man away from the road.
7. The second man says he did not harm anyone.
8. The second man says he left the man on the quarry road.

9. The boy says his father told him to speak about what he saw.
10. The boy saw his father digging in the ground.
11. The boy believes his father was burying rubbish.
12. Father Michael immediately goes to the police after the confessions.
13. The news report is about a missing person.
14. Father Michael finds a ring on his desk.
15. The watch on the desk is still working.
16. The watch is stopped at a specific time.
17. Father Michael throws the watch away at the end of the story.
18. The story clearly explains exactly what happened to the missing man.

# What is the Correct Synonym?

Look at the table below.

Match the words on the left with the correct synonym on the right.

A synonym is a word of similar meaning.

You can find the correct answers at the end of the lesson plan.

<b>Word</b>	<b>Synonym</b>
confession	pause
vicar	regret
remorse	shake
hesitate	recommend
tremble	admission
calm	priest
steady	quiet
silence	worry
advise	firm

fear

peaceful

# What is the Correct Antonym?

Look at the table below.

Match the words on the left with the correct antonym on the right.

An antonym is a word of opposite meaning.

You can find the correct answers at the end of the lesson plan.

<b>Word</b>	<b>Antonym</b>
confession	noise
calm	confidence
steady	lie
silence	unsteady
fear	decide
truth	nervous
remorse	dig up
hesitate	denial
bury	visible
hidden	indifference



# Words and Meanings

Look at the table of words below.

Now match each word with the correct meaning below.

You can find the correct answers at the end of the lesson plan.

<b>Word</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
conscience	
tremble	
quarry	
shovel	
bury	
witness	
fragment	
clasp	
cracked	
reluctant	

- A. a tool used for digging
- B. to put something in the ground and cover it
- C. to shake slightly, usually because of fear or cold
- D. a place where stone is dug from the ground
- E. a small broken piece of something
- F. a person who sees an event happen
- G. not willing or eager to do something
- H. a device used to fasten or close something
- I. damaged with a line or break on the surface
- J. the inner sense of right and wrong

# Gap Fill Exercise

Complete the sentences using the words in the box.

You can find the correct answers at the end of the lesson plan.

## Word Bank:

confession, trembled, conscience, buried, witness, silence, advised, reluctant, fragments, calm

1. He finally made a \_\_\_\_\_ and admitted what he had done.
2. Her hands \_\_\_\_\_ as she spoke about the event.
3. His \_\_\_\_\_ told him that something was wrong.

4. The man \_\_\_\_\_ the object in the ground late at night.
5. The police are looking for a \_\_\_\_\_ who saw what happened.
6. There was a long \_\_\_\_\_ in the room after he finished speaking.
7. The priest \_\_\_\_\_ him to think carefully about his actions.
8. She was \_\_\_\_\_ to tell the truth because she was afraid.
9. The story was told in small \_\_\_\_\_, not as a complete picture.
10. He tried to remain \_\_\_\_\_ even though he was worried inside.

# Discussion Questions

Go through all the questions below in class.

Try to answer them using your own opinions and thoughts.

There are no real true answers to these questions. Your answers may be different from other people's.

1. What is your overall impression of Father Michael?
2. Do you think he is a good priest? Why or why not?
3. Which confession did you find the most interesting? Why?
4. Which confession did you find the most suspicious? Why?
5. Do you think the woman should have told the police what she saw?
6. Why do you think the first man did not check if the other

man was alive?

7. Do you believe the second man when he says he did not harm anyone? Why or why not?
8. What role does fear play in the story?
9. Why do you think the boy decided to speak, even though his father told him not to?
10. Do you think the boy understands the seriousness of what he saw?
11. How do the different confessions connect to each other?
12. At what point did you start to realise something serious had happened?
13. Do you think all the people in the story are guilty in some way? Explain your answer.
14. What does the story suggest about truth and responsibility?
15. Do you think people sometimes avoid the truth to protect themselves?

16. What do you think happened to the missing man?
17. What is the significance of the watch at the end of the story?
18. Why do you think Father Michael keeps the watch?
19. Do you think Father Michael is involved in the crime?  
Why or why not?
20. Why do you think the story ends with “Closed his eyes”?  
What does this mean to you?

# Role Play Activity: The Detective and the Priest

## Situation

A detective is investigating the disappearance of a man last seen near the quarry road. He visits Father Michael at the church to ask questions.

Father Michael has heard several confessions that may be connected to the case. However, he cannot reveal what was said in confession.

## Roles

### Student A: The Detective

You are trying to solve the case.

- Ask about the missing man
- Ask if Father Michael has seen or heard anything

suspicious

- Try to get useful information
- Notice his behaviour and reactions
- Ask indirect questions if necessary

Your goal:

***Find out what happened to the missing man***

### **Student B: Father Michael**

You are the priest.

- You have heard several confessions that may be important
- You cannot directly reveal what people said
- You must stay calm and careful
- You may speak in general terms
- You may guide the detective without giving clear answers

Your goal:

***Protect the confessions but respond to the detective***

### **Useful Language**

**Detective:**

- Where were you last night?
- Did you see anything unusual?
- Has anyone come to you with information?
- Can you help me understand what happened?
- Are you hiding something from me?

**Father Michael:**

- I cannot speak about what people tell me in confidence.
- I understand your concern.
- You must follow your own investigation.
- People often carry heavy burdens.
- Sometimes the truth is not simple.

**Instructions**

Work in pairs.

One student is the detective. One is Father Michael.

Act out the conversation (2–3 minutes).

Try to stay in character.

After the role play, change roles and repeat.

## **Speaking Task: What Really Happened?**

### **Task**

Work in pairs or small groups. Discuss the story and decide what you think really happened to the missing man.

### **Step 1: Share Ideas**

Take turns answering:

- What do you think happened on the quarry road?
- Who was involved?
- What part did each person play?

### **Step 2: Build a Theory**

As a group, agree on one explanation.

Try to answer:

- How did the man die?
- Who was responsible?
- What happened after the incident?

### **Step 3: Present Your Idea**

Explain your theory to the class.

Use phrases like:

- We think that...
- In our opinion...
- It is possible that...
- The evidence suggests that...

### **Step 4: Compare**

- Listen to other groups.
- Do you agree with their ideas?
- Which theory is the most convincing? Why?

## Optional Extension

Add this final question:

*Do you think Father Michael is guilty, innocent, or something in between?*

Explain your answers.

# Debate Activity: Should Father Michael Tell the Police?

## Question

*Should Father Michael tell the police what he knows?*

## Step 1: Form Groups

Divide the class into two groups:

Group A: Yes, he should tell the police

Group B: No, he should not tell the police

## Step 2: Prepare Your Arguments (5–10 minutes)

Work with your group and think of reasons to support your opinion.

Consider:

- Responsibility

- Truth
- The law
- Religion
- The missing man and his family

### **Step 3: Debate**

Take turns speaking.

Group A (Yes):

- He has a duty to help solve a possible crime
- Someone may have been killed
- The truth is more important than secrecy

Group B (No):

- Confession is private and sacred
- People trust the priest
- Breaking this trust could harm others

### **Useful Language**

- I believe that...
- In my opinion...
- I agree / I disagree because...
- That may be true, but...
- Another important point is...

#### **Step 4: Class Vote**

After the debate, vote:

*Should Father Michael tell the police?*

Students can explain their final opinion.

#### **Optional Extension**

*Is Father Michael protecting people... or protecting himself?*

# Writing Task: What Happens Next?

## Task

Continue the story *The Confession*.

What do you think happens after the final line:

“Closed his eyes.”

## Instructions

Write a short continuation of the story (150–250 words).

You can choose your own idea, but think about:

- What Father Michael does next
- Whether he speaks to the police
- What happens to the missing man
- Whether the truth is discovered

## Ideas to Help You

You could write:

- A meeting between Father Michael and the police
- A new confession that reveals more information
- Father Michael remembering something important
- The discovery of the body
- A twist ending

### **Useful Language**

- Suddenly...
- A few moments later...
- He realised that...
- It became clear that...
- In the end...

### **Optional Challenge**

Try to include:

- At least 5 words from the vocabulary list

- A clear ending (or a surprising twist)

# Reading Comprehension Questions — Model Answers

1. The main character in the story is Father Michael.
2. He has listened to people making confessions for over twenty years.
3. At the beginning of the story, he is in a confession booth in a church.
4. A woman comes into the booth.
5. The woman says that her sin is telling a lie.
6. The woman lied to the police.
7. She was really walking near the quarry road.
8. She saw a man bending over something.
9. She later found blood on her shoe.
10. The woman washed her shoes and then threw them away.

11. Father Michael advises the woman to pray for forgiveness and not to let fear guide her again.
12. The next person to enter the confession booth is a man.
13. This person's sin is that he lost his temper and hit another man.
14. The man explains that he hit another man during an argument, and the man fell and may have hit his head on a rock.
15. Father Michael reacts calmly and listens carefully to the man.
16. The man dragged the other man off the road and left him in the dirt.
17. No, the man did not check to see if the other man was alive or dead.
18. Father Michael says that fear can lead people to make poor decisions.
19. The man is reluctant to go to the police.
20. The third person to enter the confession booth is

another man.

21. This man is different because he is calm and controlled.
22. This man's sin is that he wished harm on someone.
23. The man says that the other person ruined things for him and took something that was his.
24. Yes, he spoke to the other man and told him what he thought of him.
25. The man left the other man on the quarry road.
26. Yes, the two people were alone.
27. Father Michael advises the man to let go of his hatred because it will only burden him.
28. The fourth person to make a confession is a boy.
29. The boy says that he did something bad.
30. The boy went to the quarry road.
31. He saw his father digging.
32. The boy's father said that he was burying rubbish.

33. The boy later believes that his father was burying a person.
34. Father Michael reassures the boy by telling him that he is safe and has done the right thing by speaking.
35. Father Michael sees no one when he leaves the booth because the church is empty.
36. He goes to his office.
37. He sits down and does nothing for a while.
38. Next, he turns on the television.
39. He watches the news on TV.
40. The news shows information about a missing person who was last seen near the quarry road.
41. Father Michael looks at a wristwatch on his desk.
42. There is mud stuck on the clasp of the watch.
43. Yes, the glass on the watch is cracked.
44. No, the watch is not still working.
45. The watch says 11:42.

46. At the end, Father Michael folds his hands and closes his eyes.

# True or False — Answers

These are all the correct answers below.

1. False

2. False

3. True

4. True

5. False

6. True

7. True

8. True

9. False

10. True

11. False

12. False

13. True

14. False

15. False

16. True

17. False

18. False

# What is the Correct Synonym — Answers

These are all the correct answers below.

<b>Word</b>	<b>Synonym</b>
confession	admission
vicar	priest
remorse	regret
hesitate	pause
tremble	shake
calm	peaceful
steady	firm
silence	quiet
advise	recommend
fear	worry



# What is the Correct Antonym — Answers

These are all the correct answers below.

<b>Word</b>	<b>Antonym</b>
confession	denial
calm	nervous
steady	unsteady
silence	noise
fear	confidence
truth	lie
remorse	indifference
hesitate	decide
bury	dig up
hidden	visible

# Words and Meanings — Answers

These are all the correct answers below.

conscience – J

tremble – C

quarry – D

shovel – A

bury – B

witness – F

fragment – E

clasp – H

cracked – I

reluctant – G

# Gap Fill — Answers

These are all the correct answers below.

1. confession
2. trembled
3. conscience
4. buried
5. witness
6. silence
7. advised
8. reluctant
9. fragments
10. calm

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