

# MYSTERY ELEMENTS WRITING GUIDE

The following questions will help you fill in your **MYSTERY GRAPHIC ORGANIZER**.

## Characters

- Who will the characters be? Who are the suspects? Who is trying to solve the mystery?
- What do the characters look like?
- What do the characters do? What are their motives?
- Who has an alibi? Who doesn't?

## Setting

- Where will the mystery take place?

## Plot

- What is the problem, crime, or puzzle of the mystery? Where will it be introduced?
- What evidence will the investigator discover?
- How is the mystery solved?

## Clues

- What are the clues to help the sleuth and reader solve the mystery?
- For each event, is there a clue?
- Do the clues help the reader predict the solution?

## Distractions

- What things will lead the investigator off the path?

## Structure

- Do we learn about the mystery in the introduction? What characters do we meet here?
- What happens in the middle of the story? What clues are shared with the reader and the investigator?
- Does the conclusion reveal the answer to the mystery?