

EPISODE 3: Mr. S and Leakin Park

Question

Answer

1. Write at least three details that Sarah gives us about Leakin Park.

2. Considering that the narrator could have mentioned other details about this setting (like the nature center, chapel, and herb garden that are in the park), why did she choose the details you noted above? What impact do they have on you as the listener?

3. Based on what you know about Woodlawn High School, how does the setting of Leakin Park compare to the original setting of this story? Remembering that Adnan had apparently never even heard of the nearby park, what is the impact of contrast that Sarah presents?

4. Write at least three details that you get from Sarah's description of Mr. S.

5. Considering that Sarah could have emphasized other details about this character (he's married, for example, and works at a school), why did she choose to share the details about Mr. S that she did? What impact do they have on you as a listener?

6. Mr. S voluntarily goes to the police when he finds a dead body, and yet the detectives are very suspicious of his story. List at least three things that hurt Mr. S's credibility. Do you ultimately believe him?

7. If possible, look at the evidence map at Leakin Park. Combined with the narrative, what clues do you think are the most significant? What does Sarah's story about Mr. S's story tell us about the case, if anything?

8. Comparing the map to Sarah's story, are there some clues or observations that you think she might be over-emphasizing? Are there any that she's underselling?

9. Consider the possibility that Serial is not just a story about Adnan, but it's also a story about Sarah's search for truth. Even if none of these clues ultimately help solve the case, what does this episode show us about Sarah's researching skills as an investigative reporter

