



*I only quote
this as a
trivial
example of
observation
and
inference.*

The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes

Adventure XXI -- The Adventure of the Reigate Squire (Puzzle)

1. "I am afraid that my explanation may disillusion you, but it has always been my habit to hide none of my methods, either from my friend Watson or from anyone who might take an intelligent interest in them."
2. "It is of the highest importance in the art of detection to be able to recognize, out of a number of facts, which are incidental and which vital. Otherwise your energy and attention must be dissipated instead of being concentrated."
3. "Now, I make a point of never having any prejudices, and of following docilely wherever fact may lead me."
4. "Oh, it is as well to test everything."
5. "This writing is of extraordinary interest. These are much deeper waters than I had thought."
6. "You may not be aware that the deduction of a man's age from his writing is one which has been brought to considerable accuracy by experts. In normal cases one can place a man in his true decade with tolerable confidence."

