

*Guess Paper - 2015
Class - 12th
Subject - English*

*THE INVISIBLE MAN
-H.G WELLS*

CHARACTER SKETCHES:

GRIFFIN, THE INVISIBLE MAN.

The mad and foolish Griffin is the main character of The Invisible Man. A poor man, he seeks wealth and power. Although his motivation is understandable, he is a scoundrel who invites little sympathy. Gifted with a wonderful intellect, he degrades it by making it serve his baser nature. He arrives at a village inn and takes a room. Wearing dark glasses and bushy side whiskers, and having a completely bandaged head, he causes much curiosity in the village. Later, it develops that these are a disguise for his invisibility. Getting into trouble over an unpaid bill, he escapes and begins to terrify the people with his mysterious thefts. Wounded, he flees to a former acquaintance's rooms. He reveals that, to get money for his experiments in invisibility, he robbed his father of money belonging to someone else; as a result his father committed suicide. Going thoroughly mad, he sends his former friend a note announcing that he plans to kill a man each day; his friend is to be the first victim. After a grotesque struggle, the Invisible Man is held by two men and struck with a spade by another man. As he is dying, his body slowly becomes visible.

DR. KEMP, A PHYSICIAN.

Griffin knew him when both were university students. To Kemp, Griffin reveals his story. Later, he says that he plans to use Kemp's rooms as a base for his reign of terror, and he threatens Kemp's life. Kemp goes to the police, with whose aid he finally succeeds in destroying Griffin.

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He's smart and quick to action. After Griffin escapes from Kemp's trap, Kemp quickly explains to Adye how they can capture him: dogs, locked houses, and powdered glass on the roads. Kemp makes a pretty lousy hero. First, he makes a lot of bad decisions. We especially like when he sends out a note to the police, without thinking that the Invisible Man might intercept it. He's a very brave fighter.

Though Kemp is hardly heroic, he is the major opponent to Griffin. Without Kemp's help to the police, Griffin would probably have been more successful in his Reign of Terror. Because Griffin tells Kemp his whole story, Kemp knows his weaknesses and he doesn't hesitate to exploit them.

So Kemp is almost a plot-mover of sorts: he gives Griffin a reason to tell his back story

THOMAS MARVEL:

Marvel is kind of like the Invisible Man's sidekick. Except that he's terrible at it. He abandons the IM and still, he gets pretty nicely rewarded. That's kind of an odd moral. Marvel is something of a stock character when we first meet him. He's the poor, homeless, jobless wanderer – in other words, he's a tramp. He wears shabby, old-fashioned clothes, like his "obsolete hat" and he has buttons replaced by pieces of string. The narrator goes so far as to tell us that he does everything in a leisurely manner. He doesn't seem to like work or excitement. He definitely doesn't like working for the Invisible Man. He carries his stuff, including the money the Invisible Man steals in Port Stowe, but this isn't a super fun arrangement for him. So it's no surprise when he decides to jump ship.

Marvel ends up successful. Since the police can't prove whose money he has, he gets to keep everything that was stolen by the Invisible Man. Then he gets even more money for telling the story of the Invisible Man. That's how Marvel is able to rise up from being a poor tramp to being the owner of his own bar, which is named after his old boss, the Invisible Man.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

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Q1. Describe Griffin's arrival at the Coach and Horses.

Griffin came early in February, one wintry day, through a biting wind and a driving snow, the last snowfall of the year, over the down, walking as it seemed from Bramblehurst railway station, and carrying a little black portmanteau in his thickly gloved hand. He was wrapped up from head to foot, and the brim of his soft felt hat hid every inch of his face but the shiny tip of his nose; the snow had piled itself against his shoulders and chest, and added a white crest to the burden he carried. He staggered into the Coach and Horses, more dead than alive as it seemed, and flung his portmanteau down. He badly wanted room and fire for himself. He stamped and shook the snow from off himself in the bar, and followed Mrs. Hall into her guest parlor to strike his bargain. And with that much introduction, that and a ready acquiescence to terms and a couple of sovereigns flung upon the table, he took up his quarters in the inn.

Q2. What puzzled Mrs Hall about the stranger?

He held a white cloth -- it was a serviette he had brought with him -- over the lower part of his face, so that his mouth and jaws were completely hidden, and that was the reason of his muffled voice. But it was not that which startled Mrs. Hall. It was the fact that his entire forehead above his blue glasses was covered by a white bandage, and that another covered his ears, leaving not a scrap of his face exposed excepting only his pink, peaked nose. It was bright, pink, and shiny just as it had been at first. He wore a dark-brown velvet jacket with a high, black, linen-lined collar turned up about his neck. The thick black hair, escaping as it could below and between the cross bandages, projected in curious tails and horns, giving him the strangest appearance conceivable. This muffled and bandaged head was so unlike what she had anticipated that for a moment she was rigid.

Q3. What were Mrs Hall's assumptions about the appearance of Griffin?

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She thought that the poor soul's had an accident or an operation or something. She was amazed by the goggles which looked more like a diving' helmet than a human man. She also thought that his holding that handkerchief over his mouth all the time and talking through it was due to the reason that his mouth was hurt too.

Q4. How did Griffin describe himself to Mrs Hall?

He said that he was an experimental investigator. And his baggage contains apparatus and appliances. He was very naturally anxious to get on with his inquiries. His reason for coming to Iping, was -- a desire for solitude. he did not wish to be disturbed in his work. In addition to his work, an accident necessitates a certain retirement. His eyes were sometimes so weak and painful that he had to shut himself up in the dark for hours together. At such times the slightest disturbance, the entry of a stranger into the room, was a source of excruciating annoyance to him and these things should be understood.

Q5. How was Teddy Henfrey's experience with Griffin?

At four o'clock, when it was fairly dark and Mrs. Hall was screwing up her courage to go in and ask her visitor if he would take some tea, Teddy Henfrey, the clock-jobber, came into the bar. Mrs Hall took him to Griffin's room. Her visitor, she saw as she opened the door, was seated in the armchair before the fire, dozing it would seem, with his bandaged head drooping on one side. He agreed for the repair of the clock but pointed out harshly that that the room was really to be his for his own private use. When Teddy wanted to initiate a conversation, Griffin very rudely snubbed him from speaking anymore and to finish the work and go away. Teddy finished the work and went feeling excessively annoyed. "

Q6. What was strange about the luggage of Griffin ?

There were a couple of trunks indeed, such as a rational man might need, but in addition there were a box of books, -- big, fat books, of which some were just in an incomprehensible handwriting, -- and a dozen or more crates, boxes, and cases, containing objects packed in straw, as it seemed to Hall, tugging with a casual curiosity at the straw -- glass bottles.

Q7. Describe the attack of Fearenside's dog on Griffin.

Griffin, muffled in hat, coat, gloves, and wrapper, came out impatiently to meet Fearenside's cart, while Hall was having a word or so of gossip preparatory to helping being them in. No sooner had Fearenside's dog caught sight of him, however, then it began to bristle and growl savagely, and when he rushed down the steps it gave an undecided hop, and then sprang straight at his hand. People saw the dog's teeth had slipped the hand, heard a kick, saw the dog execute a flanking jump and get home on the stranger's leg, and hear the rip of his trousering. Then the finer end of Fearenside's whip reached his property, and the dog, yelping with dismay, retreated under the wheels of the waggon. It was all the business of a swift half-minute. No one spoke, every one shouted. The stranger glanced swiftly at his torn glove and at his leg, made as if he would stoop to the latter, then turned and rushed swiftly up the steps into the inn. They heard him go headlong across the passage and up the uncarpeted stairs to his bedroom.

Q8. What was the strangest sight witnessed by Mr. Hall?

Mr. Hall went straight upstairs, and the Griffin's door being ajar, he pushed it open and was entering without any ceremony, being of a naturally sympathetic turn of mind.

The blind was down and the room dim. He caught a glimpse of a most singular thing, what seemed a handless arm waving towards him, and a face of three huge indeterminate spots on white, very like the face of a pale pansy. Then he was struck violently in the chest, hurled back, and the door slammed in his face and locked. It was so rapid that it gave him no time to observe. A waving of

indecipherable shapes, a blow, and a concussion. There he stood on the dark little landing, wondering what it might be that he had seen.

Q9. What was unique about the unpacking of Griffin's luggage?

Directly the first crate was, in accordance with his directions, carried into the parlour, the stranger flung himself upon it with extraordinary eagerness, and began to unpack it, scattering the straw with an utter disregard of Mrs. Hall's carpet. And from it he began to produce bottles, -- little fat bottles containing powders, small and slender bottles containing coloured and white fluids, fluted blue bottles labelled Poison, bottles with round bodies and slender necks, large green-glass bottles, large white-glass bottles, bottles with glass stoppers and frosted labels, bottles with fine corks, bottles with bungs, bottles with wooden caps, wine bottles, salad-oil bottles, -- putting them in rows on the chiffonier, on the mantel, on the table under the window, round the floor, on the bookshelf, -- everywhere. The chemist's shop in Bramblehurst could not boast half so many. Quite a sight it was. Crate after crate yielded bottles, until all six were empty and the table high with straw; the only things that came out of these crates besides the bottles were a number of test-tubes and a carefully packed balance.

Q10. What was the opinion of people at Ipin about Griffin?

There was a view largely entertained that he was a criminal trying to escape from justice by wrapping himself up so as to conceal himself altogether from the eye of the police. This idea sprang from the brain of Mr. Teddy Henfrey. Another school of opinion followed Mr. Fearenside, and either accepted the piebald view or some modification of it; as, for instance, Silas Durgan, who was heard to assert that "if he choses to show ensel at fairs he'd make his fortune in no time," and being a bit of a theologian, compared the stranger to the man with the one talent. Yet another view explained the entire matter by regarding the stranger as a harmless lunatic.

Q11. Describe Cuss's visit to Griffin.

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Cuss, the general practitioner, was devoured by curiosity. The bandages excited his professional interest, the report of the thousand and one bottles aroused his jealous regard. Cuss rapped at the parlour door and entered. Cuss told about the meeting to Bunting. Cuss began to demand a subscription for that Nurse Fund. Griffin had stuck his hands in his pockets as Cuss came in, and he sat down lumpily in his chair. Cuss told him he'd heard he took an interest in scientific things. He agreed and kept on sniffing all the time; evidently recently caught an infernal cold. No wonder, wrapped up like that! Then Cuss asked him, point-blank, was he researching. Said he was. Griffin was annoyed more and more. There was the prescription burning and lifting chimney ward. Griffin rushed towards it just as it whisked up the chimney. Just at that point, out came his arm which was just an empty sleeve. Cuss thought, that's a deformity! Griffin came towards Cuss in three very slow steps, and stood quite close. Then very quietly he pulled his sleeve out of his pocket again, and raised his arm towards me as though he would show it to me again. He did it very, very slowly. Cuss looked at it. Something -- exactly like a finger and thumb it felt -- nipped his nose.

Q12. Describe the theft at Buntings'.

Mrs. Bunting, it seems, woke up suddenly in the stillness that comes before the dawn, with the strong impression that the door of their bedroom had opened and closed. She did not arouse her husband at first, but sat up in bed listening. She aroused the Rev. Mr. Bunting as quietly as possible. He heard quite distinctly a fumbling going on at his study desk down-stairs, and then a violent sneeze. At that he returned to his bedroom, armed himself with the most obvious weapon, the poker, and descended the staircase as noiselessly as possible. Mrs. Bunting came out on the landing. Everything was still except the faint creaking of the stairs under Mr. Bunting's tread, and the slight movements in the study. Then something snapped, the drawer was opened, and there was a rustle of papers. Then came an imprecation, and a match was struck and the study was flooded with yellow light. Mr. Bunting was now in the hall, and through the crack of the door he could see the desk and the open drawer and a candle burning on the desk. But the robber he could not see. They heard the chink of

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money, and realised that the robber had found the housekeeping reserve of gold, -- two pounds ten in half sovereigns altogether. At that sound Mr. Bunting was nerved to abrupt action. Gripping the poker firmly, he rushed into the room, closely followed by Mrs. Bunting. "Surrender!" cried Mr. Bunting, fiercely, and then stooped amazed. Apparently the room was perfectly empty. Bunting went across the room and looked behind the screen, while Mr. Bunting, by a kindred impulse, peered under the desk. Then Mrs. Bunting turned back the window-curtains, and Mr. Bunting looked up the chimney and probed it with the poker. Then Mrs. Bunting scrutinised the waste-paper basket and Mr. Bunting opened the lid of the coal-scuttle. Then they came to a stop and stood with eyes interrogating each other. There was a violent sneeze in the passage. They rushed out, and as they did so the kitchen door slammed. As he opened the kitchen door he saw through the scullery that the back door was just opening, It opened, stood open for a moment, and then closed with a slam.

Q13. Mr Hall's discovery of the disappearance of the invisible man.

Millie, the servant, was hunted out for the day, Mr. Hall and Mrs. Hall both rose and went noiselessly down into the cellar. Their business there was of a private nature, and had something to do with the specific gravity of their beer. They had hardly entered the cellar when Mrs. Hall found she had forgotten to bring down a bottle of sarsaparilla from their joint-room. As she was the expert and principal operator in this affair, Hall very properly went upstairs for it. On the landing he was surprised to see that the stranger's door was ajar. He went on into his own room and found the bottle as he had been directed. But returning with the bottle, he noticed that the bolts of the front door had been shot back, that the door was in fact simply on the latch. He rapped at the stranger's door. There was no answer. He rapped again; then pushed the door wide open and entered. The bed, the room also, was empty. And what was stranger, even to his heavy intelligence, on the bedroom chair and along the rail of the bed were scattered the garments, the only garments so far as he knew, and the bandages of their guest. His big slouch hat even was cocked jauntily over the bed-post.

Q14. Mrs Hall's encounter with the invisible man.

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Mrs Hall entered Griffin's room and after little observation, noticed that the bed-clothes gathered themselves together, leapt up suddenly into a sort of peak, and then jumped headlong over the bottom rail. It was exactly as if a hand had clutched them in the centre and flung them aside. Immediately after, the stranger's hat hopped off the bed-post, described a whirling flight in the air through the better part of a circle, and then dashed straight at Mrs. Hall's face. Then as swiftly came the sponge from the washstand; and then the chair, flinging the stranger's coat and trousers carelessly aside, and laughing drily in a voice singularly like the stranger's, turned itself up with its four legs at Mrs. Hall, seemed to take aim at her for a moment, and charged at her. She screamed and turned, and then the chair legs came gently but firmly against her back and impelled her and Hall out of the room. The door slammed violently and was locked. The chair and bed seemed to be executing a dance of triumph for a moment, and then abruptly everything was still.

Q15. Describe the dispute over the bill.

Thrice Griffin rang his bell, the third time furiously and continuously, but no one answered him. About noon he suddenly opened his parlour door and stood glaring fixedly at the three or four people in the bar. Mrs. Hall appeared after an interval, holding a little tray with an unsettled bill upon it. Griffin enquired about his breakfast. Mrs Hall insisted to pay the bill first.

At first Griffin replied aggressively that he was awaiting a remittance. Then he tried to be polite. Mrs Hall enquired hi about the money he had acquired suddenly which annoyed Griffin very much. Mrs Hall went further asking him to explain the things , everybody was very anxious to understand. The centre of his face became a black cavity. He stepped forward and handed Mrs. Hall something which she, staring at his metamorphosed face, accepted automatically. Then, when she saw what it was, she screamed loudly, dropped it, and staggered back. The nose -- it was the stranger's nose! pink and shining -- rolled on the floor. Then he removed his spectacles, and every one even in the bar gasped. He took off his hat, and with a violent gesture tore at his whiskers and bandages. The

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bandages and false hair flew across the passage into the bar, For the man who stood there shouting some incoherent explanation, was a solid gesticulating figure up to the coat-collar of him, and then -- nothingness, no visible thing at all!

Q16. How did Griffin escaped from the bar?

After disclosing his invisible identity to Mrs Hall, Griffin saw that many people has witnessed it. In its struggles to see in through the open door, the crowd formed itself into a straggling wedge, with the more adventurous apex nearest the inn. Among them was, Mr. Bobby Jaffers, the village constable. After seeing no way out, Griffin requested to surrender himself. But soon after that, abruptly the figure sat down, and before any one could realise was was being done, the slippers, socks, and trousers had been kicked off under the table. Then he sprang up again and flung off his coat. Jaffers also realised what was happening but Griffin escaped from there, injuring Jaffers badly.

Q17. Describe Marvel's first meeting with Griffin.

Mr. Thomas Marvel was sitting with his feet in a ditch by the roadside over the down towards Adderdean, about a mile and a half out of Iping. His feet, save for socks of irregular open-work, were bare, his big toes were broad, and pricked like the ears of a watchful dog. In a leisurely manner ,he was contemplating trying on a pair of boots. They were the soundest boots he had come across for a long time, but too large for him; whereas the ones he had were, in dry weather, a very comfortable fit, but too thin-soled for damp. Mr. Thomas Marvel hated roomy shoes, but then he hated damp. And seeing the shoes there among the grass and springing acrimony, it suddenly occurred to him that both pairs were exceedingly ugly to see. He was not at all startled by a voice behind him that those were anyways shoes. After a vague conversation, He turned his head over his shoulder to the right, to look at the boots of his interlocutor with a view to comparisons, he saw that there was no one out there. He felt that he was over drunk. Griffin threw flints at him to make him understand his reality. He asked Marvel to help him and threatened against betrayal.

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Q18. Describe the visit of Griffin to the parlour after he was chased .

Mr. Cuss and Mr. Bunting were in the parlour. They were seriously investigating the strange occurrences of the morning, and were, with Mr. Hall's permission, making a thorough examination of the Invisible Man's belongings. Both Cuss and Bunting tried to decipher the strange writings which appeared cyphers only. Suddenly Bunting became aware of a strange feeling at the nape of his neck. He tried to raise his head, and encountered an immovable resistance. The feeling was a curious pressure, the grip of a heavy, firm hand, and it bore his chin irresistibly to the table. It was Griffin who threatened both not to move. He looked into the face of Cuss, close to his own, and each saw a horrified reflection of his own sickly astonishment. Griffin was too much annoyed that his private memoranda was read by both. He forced two chins struck the table simultaneously, and two sets of teeth rattled. He threatened both to arrange for clothing and accommodation; and he must also have those three books, he had to leave behind when he was chased earlier.

Q19. How did Marvel help in procuring three books of Griffin?

Huxter saw that Marvel was running with books and parcel in his hands. He tried to nab him but Marvel ran obliquely across the oblong towards the yard gates, and vanished.

Simultaneously came a tumult from the parlour, and a sound of windows being closed.

Mr. Huxter was stunned. Henfrey stopped to discover this, but Hall and the two labourers from the Tap rushed at once to the corner, shouting incoherent things, and saw Mr. Marvel vanishing by the corner of the church wall. They appear to have jumped to the impossible conclusion that this was the Invisible Man suddenly become visible, and set off at once along the lane in pursuit. But Hall had hardly run a dozen yards before he gave a loud shout of astonishment and went flying headlong sideways, clutching one of the labourers and bringing him to the ground. He had been charged just as one charges a man at football. The

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second labourer came round in a circle, stared, and conceiving that Hall had tumbled over of his own accord, turned to resume the pursuit, only to be tripped by the ankle just as Huxter had been. Then, as the first labourer struggled to his feet, he was kicked sideways by a blow that might have felled an ox. Mr. Cuss appeared, and without glancing at her rushed at once down the steps toward the corner. He knew nothing of the existence of Marvel. For the Invisible Man had handed over the books and bundle in the yard.

Q20. How did Thomas Marvel save himself?

The Jolly Cricketers was just at the bottom of the hill, where the tram-lines begin. Marvel, weeping and dishevelled, his hat gone, the neck of his coat torn open, rushed in, made a convulsive turn, and attempted to shut the door. It was held half open by a strap. Mr. Marvel rushed behind the bar as the summons outside was repeated. He pleaded to be saved as Griffin wanted to kill him. As the barman entered the room he saw Marvel, curiously crumpled up and struggling against the door that led to the yard and kitchen. The door flew open while the barman hesitated, and Marvel was dragged into the kitchen. There was a scream and a clatter of pans. Marvel, head down, and lugging back obstinately, was forced to the kitchen door, and the bolts were drawn.

Then the policeman, who had been trying to pass the barman, rushed in, followed by one of the cabmen, gripped the wrist of the invisible hand that collared Marvel, was hit in the face and went reeling back. The door opened, and Marvel made a frantic effort to obtain a lodgement behind it. Mr. Marvel, released, suddenly dropped to the ground and made an attempt to crawl behind the legs of the fighting men. The struggle blundered round the edge of the door. The voice of the Invisible Man was heard for the first time, yelling out sharply, as the policeman trod on his foot. Then he cried out passionately and his fists flew round like flails. The cabman suddenly whooped and doubled up, kicked under the diaphragm. The door into the bar-parlour from the kitchen slammed and covered Mr. Marvel's retreat. The men in the kitchen found themselves clutching at and struggling with empty air.

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Q21. Dr. Kemp's meeting with Griffin.

It was two o'clock before Doctor Kemp had finished his work for the night. He rose, yawned, and went downstairs to bed. He had already removed his coat and vest, when he noticed that he was thirsty. He took a candle and went down to the dining-room in search of a syphon and whiskey. Doctor Kemp's scientific pursuits have made him a very observant man, and as he recrossed the hall, he noticed a dark spot on the linoleum near the mat at the foot of the stairs. He went on upstairs, and then it suddenly occurred to him to ask himself what the spot on the linoleum might be. Without any great surprise he found it had the stickiness and colour of drying blood. On the landing he saw something and stopped astonished. The door-handle of his own room was blood-stained. His glance, wandering inquisitively, fell on the bed. On the counterpane was a mess of blood, and the sheet had been torn. He had not noticed this before because he had walked straight to the dressing-table. On the further side the bedclothes were depressed as if someone had been recently sitting there.

Then he had an odd impression that he had heard a loud voice say, "Good Heavens! -- Kemp!" But Dr. Kemp was no believer in Voices. Suddenly, with a start, he perceived a coiled and blood-stained bandage of linen rag hanging in mid-air, between him and the wash-hand stand.

He stared at this in amazement. It was an empty bandage, a bandage properly tied but quite empty. He would have advanced to grasp it, but a touch arrested him, and a voice speaking quite close to him. He again heard the voice calling his name. The hand of the bandaged arm gripped his shoulder, and he was suddenly tripped and flung backwards upon the bed. He opened his mouth to shout, and the corner of the sheet was thrust between his teeth. The Invisible Man had him down grimly, but his arms were free and he struck and tried to kick savagely. Kemp struggled for another moment and then lay still. Then Griffin reminded Dr Kemp of himself as a younger student, almost an albino, six feet high, and broad, with a pink and white face and red eyes, -- who won the medal for chemistry. He pleaded for food and devoured everything hungrily.

Q22. Dr. Kemp's decision to inform the police.

Exhausted and wounded as the Invisible Man was, he refused to accept Kemp's word that his freedom should be respected. He examined the two windows of the bedroom, drew up the blinds, and opened the sashes, to confirm Kemp's statement that a retreat by them would be possible. Dr Kemp was sleepless and read newspapers about the havoc caused by the invisible man at Iping, about Thomas Marvel and the incident at Jolly Cricketers. Dr Kemp concluded that Griffin was not only invisible, but mad and Homicidal too. He went to a little untidy desk in the corner, and began a note. He tore this up half written, and wrote another. He read it over and considered it. Then he took an envelope and addressed it to "Colonel Adye, Port Burdock."

Q23. Griffin unfolded the beginning of his strange life before Dr Kemp.

Griffin went to Chesilstowe after leaving London. He dropped medicine and took up physics? Light fascinated him. Optical density to him was a network with solutions glimmering elusively through. He found a general principle of pigments and refraction, -- a formula, a geometrical expression involving four dimensions, to lower the refractive index of a substance, solid or liquid, to that of air -- so far as all practical purposes are concerned. He told that Visibility depends on the action of the visible bodies on light. Either a body absorbs light, or it reflects or refracts it, or does all these things. If it neither reflects nor refracts nor absorbs light, it cannot of itself be visible. He made a discovery in physiology. He told that the red colouring matter of blood could be made white - - colourless -- and remain with all the functions it has now. He told that he robbed his father for money. But as the money was not his, and his father shot himself.

Q24. How was Griffin turned invisible finally?

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Griffin's first experiment was with a bit of white wool fabric. It was the strangest thing in the world to see it in the flicker of the flashes soft and white, and then to watch it fade like a wreath of smoke and vanish.

His next subject was a lean white cat, very dirty, gave her some milk. gave her butter to get her to wash processed her, but the process failed. These were the claws & the tapetum which didn't go. After he'd given the stuff to bleach the blood and done certain other things to her, he gave the beast opium, and put her and the pillow she was sleeping on, on the apparatus. And after all the rest had faded and vanished, there remained two little ghosts of her eyes. It took three or four hours for the cat to get disappeared.

After the landlord threats and inquiries, he did not know what he would do, nor even what he had the power to do. To move to fresh apartments would have meant delay; altogether he had barely twenty pounds left in the world. To vanish was irresistible.

It was all done that evening and night. While he was still sitting under the sickly, drowsy influence of the drugs that decolourise blood, there came a repeated knocking at the door. It ceased, footsteps went away and returned, and the knocking was resumed. There was an attempt to push something under the door -- a blue paper. It was the landlord, with a notice of evacuation. He held it out to Griffin, saw something odd about his hands and lifted his eyes to his face which was like white stone. For a moment he gaped. Then he gave a sort of inarticulate cry, dropped candle and writ together, and went blundering down the dark passage to the stairs. Griffin shut the door, locked it, and went to the looking-glass. A night of racking anguish, sickness and fainting. he set his teeth, though his skin was presently afire, all his body afire. He became insensible and woke languid in the darkness. The pain had passed. He closed his transparent eyelids. His limbs became glassy, the bones and arteries faded, vanished, and the little white nerves went last. He gritted his teeth and stayed there to the end. At last only the dead tips of the fingernails remained, pallid and white, and the brown stain of some acid upon his fingers. It was only by a frantic effort of will that he dragged himself back to the apparatus and completed the process. Lastly, he slipped up again with a box of matches, fired my heap of paper and rubbish, put the chairs and bedding thereby, led the gas to the affair, by means of an india-rubber tube, and waving a farewell to the room left it for the last time."

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Q25. How was Griffin's first experience of being invisible?

In going downstairs the first time he found an unexpected difficulty because he could not see his feet. He stumbled twice, and there was an unaccustomed clumsiness in gripping the bolt. By not looking down, however, he managed to walk on the level passably well. He tried to get into the stream of people, but they were too thick for him, and in a moment his heels were being trodden upon. He took to the gutter, the roughness of which he found painful to my feet, and forthwith the shaft of a crawling hansom dug him forcibly under the shoulder blade, reminding him that he was already bruised severely. Dogs barked at him. His footmarks made people stop and wonder and then to follow him. Somehow he escaped. Once or twice accidental collisions occurred and he left people amazed, with unaccountable curses ringing in their ears. Then came something silent and quiet against his face, and across the Square fell a thin veil of slowly falling flakes of snow. He had caught a cold, and do as he would he could not avoid an occasional sneeze. And every dog that came in sight, with its pointing nose and curious sniffing, was a terror to him.

Q26. Griffin's experience in the department store.

He entered a departmental store to get food and clothing, a department where they were selling ribbons and gloves and stockings and that kind of thing -- came to a more spacious region devoted to picnic baskets and wicker furniture.

He did not feel safe there, however; people were going to and fro, and he prowled restlessly about until he came upon a huge section in an upper floor containing multitudes of bedsteads, and this he clambered, and found a resting-place at last among a huge pile of folded flock mattresses. The place was already lit up and agreeably warm, and he decided to remain where he was, keeping a cautious eye on the two or three sets of shopmen and customers who were meandering through the place, until closing time came. His idea was to procure clothing to make himself a muffled but acceptable figure, to get money, and then to recover his books and parcels where they awaited him, take a lodging

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somewhere and elaborate plans for the complete realisation of the advantages his invisibility gave him over his fellow-men. When there was silence, griffin had cold meat and coffee. He searched for blanket and them slept soundly only to be awoken by the voices around him. Lying on the ground, he felt scared out of his wits. But it did not occur to him at the moment to take off his clothes as he should have done. He crouched down behind the counter and began whipping off my clothes as fast as I could. Coat, jacket, trousers, shoes were all right, but a lambswool vest fits a man like a skin. Finally he was invisible and safe.

Q27. How did Griffin express his sufferings of his condition?

Griffin told that the full disadvantage of his condition was that he had no shelter, no covering, -- to get clothing, was to forego all his advantage, to make himself a strange and terrible thing. He was fasting; for to eat, to fill himself with unassimilated matter, would be to become grotesquely visible again."

Q28. How did Wicksteed become a victim of Griffin?

Griffin approached Drury lane. His plans were now perfectly definite. He proposed to make his way into Wicksteed's house, secrete himself upstairs, watch his opportunity, and when everything was quiet, rummage out a wig, mask, spectacles, and costume, and go into the world, perhaps a grotesque but still a credible figure. And incidentally of course he could rob the house of any available money.

After careful observation to calm down his suspicions, Wicksteed shut the door quietly, and immediately Griffin heard the key turn in the lock. Then Wicksteed's footsteps retreated. Griffin realised abruptly that he was locked in. Griffin stood perplexed. A gust of anger came upon him. But he decided to inspect the clothes before he did anything further, and his first attempt brought down a pile from an upper shelf. This brought Wicksteed back, more sinister than ever. That time he actually touched Griffin, jumped back with amazement and stood astonished in the middle of the room. By this time Griffin knew he was alone in the house,

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and so he knocked him on the head and then he gagged him with a Louis Quatorze vest and tied him up in a sheet.

Q29. What dream Griffin plan to fulfil to have a reign of terror?

Griffin wanted was a goal-keeper, a helper, and a hiding-place, an arrangement whereby I can sleep and eat and rest in peace, and unsuspected. He must have a confederate. With a confederate, with food and rest -- a thousand things are possible. According to him, his invisibility, in fact, was only good in two cases: It's useful in getting away, it's useful in approaching. It's particularly useful, therefore, in killing. He could walk round a man, whatever weapon he had, choose his point, strike as he liked. Dodge as he liked. Escape as he liked. He wanted a Reign of Terror. He must take some town and terrify and dominate it. He must issue his orders. He could do that in a thousand ways -- scraps of paper thrust under doors would suffice. And all who disobey his orders he must kill, and kill all who would defend them.

Q30. How did Griffin escape from Kemp's house?

As The Invisible Man was narrating his future plans ,he heard footsteps coming upstairs, and at once understood that Dr Kemp had betrayed him. Suddenly the dressing-gown opened, and sitting down the Unseen began to disrobe.

With a quick movement Kemp thrust the Invisible Man back, sprang aside, and slammed the door. The key was outside and ready. In another moment Griffin would have been alone in the belvedere study, a prisoner. Save for one little thing. The key had been slipped in hastily that morning. As Kemp slammed the door it fell noisily upon the carpet.

Kemp's face became white. He tried to grip the door handle with both hands. For a moment he stood lugging. Then the door gave six inches. But he got it closed again. The second time it was jerked a foot wide, and the dressing-gown came wedging itself into the opening. His throat was gripped by invisible fingers, and he left his hold on the handle to defend himself. He was forced back, tripped and

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pitched heavily into the corner of the landing. The empty dressing-gown was flung on the top of him.

Colonel Adye, the recipient of Kemp's letter, the chief of the Burdock police. He was staring aghast at the sudden appearance of Kemp, followed by the extraordinary sight of clothing tossing empty in the air. Griffin escaped.

Q31. What were the instructions given by Dr Kemp to Colonel Adye?

It was must to prevent him from eating or sleeping; day and night the country must be astir for him. Food must be locked up and secured, all food, so that he will have to break his way to it. The houses everywhere must be barred against him. Heaven send us cold nights and rain! The whole country-side must begin hunting and keep hunting. I tell you, Adye, he is a danger, a disaster; unless he is pinned and secured, it is frightful to think of the things that may happen. He asked for dogs to wind him. He said that Griffin's food showed. After eating, his food shows until it is assimilated. So that he has to hide after eating. It was must to keep on beating, -- every thicket, every quiet corner. And put all weapons, all implements that might be weapons, away. He couldn't carry such things for long. And what he could snatch up and strike men with must be hidden away. And on the roads, powdered glass should be spread.

Q32. Note of warning of death to Kemp:

The letter of warning went like this. You have been amazingly energetic and clever," this letter ran, "though what you stand to gain by it I cannot imagine. You are against me. For a whole day you have chased me; you have tried to rob me of a night's rest. But I have had food in spite of you, I have slept in spite of you, and the game is only beginning. The game is only beginning. There is nothing for it, but to start the Terror. This announces the first day of the Terror. Port Burdock is no longer under the Queen, tell your Colonel of Police, and the rest of them; it is under me -- the Terror! This is day one of year one of the new epoch, -- the Epoch of the Invisible Man. I am Invisible Man the First. To begin with the rule will be easy. The first day there will be one execution for the sake of example, -- a man named Kemp. Death starts for him to-day. He may lock himself

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away, hide himself away, get guards about him, put on armour if he likes; Death, the unseen Death, is coming. Let him take precautions; it will impress my people. Death starts from the pillar box by midday. The letter will fall in as the postman comes along, then off! The game begins. Death starts. Help him not, my people, lest Death fall upon you also. To-day Kemp is to die."

Q33. Why did Kemp have to run away from his home?

Dr Kemp had laid a trap for Griffin to catch him . but his smartness turned futile. He had a revolver with him but he handed it over to Colonel Adye. He pushed Colonel out of his hime and locked himself in. Colonel Adye was killed by Griffin. Two policemen came to Kemp's rescue. But he managed to flee somehow. He tried to seek help from his nearest neighbour , Mr Heelas, who turned down his request and slammed his doors and refused to let him enter.

Q34. How did Griffin's life come to an end?

Dr Kemp had laid a trap for Griffin in his own house but his efforts to catch him failed. He was forced to flee fom his house. He tried to seek help from his nearest neighbour , Mr Heelas, who refused to help. Then he ran round by the side gate to the front of the house, and so into the hill-road. A tram was just arriving at the hill foot. Beyond that was the police station. Then abandoning the idea of the police station he turned into a little side street, Out he shot into Hill Street again, three hundred yards from the tram-line end, and immediately he became aware of a tumultuous vociferation and running people. He glanced up the street towards the hill. Hardly a dozen yards off ran a huge navy, cursing in fragments and slashing viciously with a spade, and hard behind him came the tram conductor with his fists clenched. Up the street others followed these two, striking and shouting. He noticed clearly one man coming out of a shop-door with a stick in his hand. He told that the invisible man was behind him. But he was hit hard under the ear, and went reeling, trying to face round towards his unseen antagonist. He just managed to keep his feet, and he struck a vain

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counter in the air. Then he was hit again under the jaw, and sprawled headlong on the ground. In another moment a knee compressed his diaphragm, and a couple of eager hands gripped his throat, but the grip of one was weaker than the other; he grasped the wrists, heard a cry of pain from his assailant, and then the spade of the navy came whirling through the air above him, and struck something with a dull thud. He felt a drop of moisture on his face. The grip at his throat suddenly relaxed, and with a convulsive effort, Kemp loosed himself, grasped a limp shoulder, and rolled uppermost. He gripped the unseen elbows near the ground. Then came a mighty effort, and the Invisible Man threw off a couple of his antagonists and rose to his knees. Kemp clung to him in front like a hound to a stag, and a dozen hands gripped, clutched, and tore at the Unseen. The tram conductor suddenly got the neck and shoulders and lugged him back.

Then suddenly a wild scream of "Mercy! Mercy!" that died down swiftly to a sound like choking. Kemp felt about and checked that the invisible man was dead.

Q35. What changes came in Griffin after he had died?

Everyone saw, faint and transparent as though it was made of glass, so that veins and arteries and bones and nerves could be distinguished, the outline of a hand, a hand limp and prone. It grew clouded and opaque even as they stared. And so, slowly, beginning at his hands and feet and creeping along his limbs to the vital centres of his body, that strange change continued. It was like the slow spreading of a poison. First came the little white nerves, a hazy grey sketch of a limb, then the glassy bones and intricate arteries, then the flesh and skin, first a faint fogginess, and then growing rapidly dense and opaque. Presently they could see his crushed chest and his shoulders, and the dim outline of his drawn and battered features. His hair and beard were white, -- not grey with age, but white with the whiteness of albinism, and his eyes were like garnets. His hands were clenched, his eyes wide open, and his expression was one of anger and dismay.

Extra Questions

1. How do you feel about Griffin? Is he a criminal mad scientist who should be killed? Or is he a guy who is trying to work things out, but other people and society keep getting in his way?

2. Is the ending of this book happy and just? Are you glad when Griffin is killed and Marvel gets to keep all the stolen money? Are you glad that the invisibility formula is hidden from Kemp, who could recreate it? If you don't think this is all rainbows, what would a happy ending to this story look like?

3. How do you feel about the chapters where Griffin tells his own story to Kemp? Do they make you sympathize with Griffin? Or does he seem like more of a monster when he casually talks about attacking people and stealing from his father? Would it change how you understood the Invisible Man if we heard his story from another source?

4. Why did Kemp turn out differently than Griffin? After all, they're both scientists. Is Kemp less isolated than Griffin? Is it simply because Kemp has more money?

5. What does this story make you think about science? Is it as dangerous as Wells makes it seem?

6. What did you think of Griffin's long explanation of how he made himself invisible?

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