



The Invisible Man

by H.G. Wells

Teacher's Guide

Written By Mary Ellen Snodgrass

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Synopsis

1. The Strange Man's Arrival

At Bramblehurst railway station in Iping, Sussex, a curious visitor arrives on February ninth. He orders a room and a fire at the Coach and Horses. Jenny Hall, the proprietor, is intrigued by the unnamed man's hat, velvet coat, bandages, and blue spectacles, which obscure his identity. During his meal, he conceals the lower part of his face with a napkin. His short temper discourages any discussion. Mrs. Hall concludes that he has suffered an accident or operation. Infrequent glimpses beyond his coverings reveal only black holes. He remains alone in the room pacing and talking to himself until 4:00 P.M.

2. Mr. Teddy Henfrey's First Impressions

Teddy Henfrey intrudes on the parlor to repair the clock. The stranger insists that he prefers being left undisturbed. He is eager for the arrival of his luggage, which includes boxes of straw-wrapped glass bottles. He orders tea and explains that he is an experimental investigator. He insists on solitude to do his work. He claims to have weak eyes. The stranger's shielded eyes unsettle Henfrey, who deliberately dawdles. On the way out of town, Henfrey warns George Hall of the strange visitor, who boards by the week. Hall is suspicious. At 9:30 P.M., the stranger retires.

3. The Thousand and One Bottles

The next day, Fearenside's cart delivers the stranger's two trunks along with crates, cases, and a box of books. The driver's dog rips the stranger's glove. George Hall follows the stranger to his room and sees a handless arm. The stranger forces Hall out the door. Mr. Huxter thinks the dog bite should be cauterized. The stranger eagerly unpacks bottles of chemicals. Mrs. Hall brings his dinner and notices hollow eye sockets in his face. He pays a shilling for the mess of straw on the carpet.

Fearenside claims that the stranger is a half-breed—a blend of black, white, and pink patches.

4. Mr. Cuss Interviews the Stranger

For two and a half months, the stranger paces his room, studies his notebooks, breaks laboratory glass, and berates himself when experiments lead nowhere. Hall wants Mrs. Hall to oust the stranger. Henfrey insists that the man is a criminal. Mr. Gould surmises that the man is an anarchist who makes explosives. Villagers are suspicious of him. Mr. Cuss, a physician, intrudes and enquires about the research. He observes the stranger's armless sleeve. The stranger uses his invisible hand to pinch Cuss's nose.

5. The Burglary at the Vicarage

Late in April on Whit-Monday, the stranger slips away unseen and, at 4:00 A.M., robs Mr. Bunting, the vicar, of two pounds, ten shillings. Bunting approaches with an upraised poker. Violent sneezes give away the thief's presence in the hall, but he escapes.

6. The Furniture That Went Mad

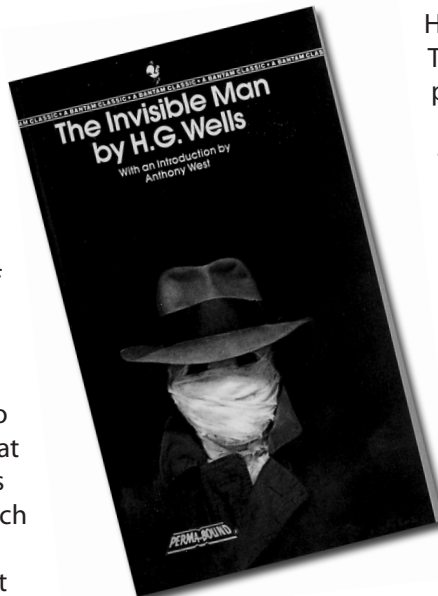
Before daylight, George Hall sees the stranger's room open and his garments and bandages scattered about. The stranger eases past the Halls and into his room at the inn. He terrorizes

them by tossing a sponge, coat, pants, and chair.

Mrs. Hall suspects spirits inhabit her furniture. While Sandy Wadgers, the blacksmith, investigates, the stranger, dressed in his usual attire, comes downstairs and, at 5:30 A.M., shuts himself in the parlor.

7. The Unveiling of the Stranger

At noon, Wadgers consults with Shuckleforth the magistrate about connections between the burglary at the vicarage and the stranger's odd behavior. Mrs. Hall, suspicious that the stranger may be a criminal in hiding, fails to serve his meals and demands that he pay his bill, which is five days overdue. He silences her questions by removing his wraps, handing her a fake pink nose, and disappearing before her eyes. Bar customers flee out the door as the invisible man eats bread and cheese. In the ensuing melee, Constable Jaffers is knocked on his back.



8. In Transit

Gibbins, an amateur biologist, hears coughing and sneezing, but doesn't see the invisible man, who swears.

9. Mr. Thomas Marvel

Fleeing from Iping, the invisible man encounters Thomas Marvel, a tramp studying two pairs of boots. At the approach of a disembodied voice, Marvel fears that alcohol or insanity has overcome his wits. While surveying the invisible man, Marvel notes that the bread and cheese in his stomach is undigested. The invisible man claims to have power and forces Marvel to locate food, shelter, and clothing.

10. Mr. Marvel's Visit to Iping

While the village celebrates Whit-Monday, Huxter witnesses Marvel stealing a bundle of clothes and three books from the inn. Huxter chases Marvel, but trips and falls.

11. In the Coach and Horses

At the inn, Mr. Cuss locates the invisible man's diary, which is written in code. While he discusses the book with the vicar, the invisible man charges them with prying and assaults them. He threatens to kill the two intruders and demands clothing and three books.

12. The Invisible Man Loses His Temper

Henfrey and Hall hear the uproar in the inn. Huxter alerts villagers to a theft. As they chase Marvel, Cuss alerts Mrs. Hall to the theft of his trousers and the vicar's clothes. The invisible man screams with rage and breaks windows, cuts the telegraph wire to Adderdean, and vanishes.

13. Mr. Marvel Discusses His Resignation

At dusk on the road to Bramblehurst, the invisible man threatens to kill Marvel if he disobeys. The invisible man fears that the newspapers will incite searchers.

14. At Port Stowe

The next morning at 10:00 A. M., a mariner reports to Marvel a newspaper story about an invisible man. Before Marvel can divulge information, he suffers pain and claims to have a toothache. He claims that the news article is a hoax. The invisible man brandishes cash from a string of thefts.

15. The Man Who Was Running

Near nightfall, Dr. Kemp observes Marvel hurrying by. Villagers cry out that the invisible man is approaching.

16. In the Jolly Cricketers

To escape the invisible man, Marvel runs down hill and hides behind the bar at the Jolly Cricketers. A window smashes amid a bar fight and gunfire.

17. Doctor Kemp's Visitor

At a nearby house, Dr. Kemp observes the uproar at the Jolly Cricketers down the hill. At 2:00 A. M., he notes a drop of blood on the linoleum and on the door to his room. He sees bloodstains on his bedspread and a torn sheet and realizes that the invisible man is sitting on the bed. The intruder identifies himself as Griffin, a fellow student at University College in London six years before, when he studied chemistry. After three sleepless days, Griffin is exhausted. He begs for food, drink, clothing, and aid for his wounded wrist. Kemp observes the inhaling of smoke from Griffin's cigar.

18. The Invisible Man Sleeps

Kemp promises to watch over Griffin while he sleeps. Meanwhile, Kemp reads the *St. James Gazette*. Disturbed by news articles about Griffin's crimes, Kemp fears his old classmate is insane. As the invisible man is awakening, Kemp seals a note to Colonel Adye, a Port Burdock police officer.

19. Certain First Principles

When Griffin awakens, Kemp reports on newspaper articles. At breakfast, Griffin narrates the story of the experiments in pigments and refraction at Chesilstowe that led to his invisibility. Working under Professor Oliver six years earlier, Griffin discovered how to bleach human blood. After three years' work, in December, he robbed his father, who shot himself.

20. At the House in Great Portland Street

Griffin roomed in London and tried to forget the suicide. Lonely and depressed, he experimented first on wool then on a white cat. The cat vanished all but the eyes and claws. In January, he becomes despondent and broods over his father's shabby funeral. He begins bleaching himself and suffers pain and faintness. He eludes an irate landlord, who charges Griffin with vivisection. Griffin sets fire to the rooming house.

21. In Oxford Street

After causing a crash, Griffin escapes naked down Oxford Street and takes a cab past Tottenham Court Road. Shivering with cold, he flees people who spy muddy footprints. A cold causes him to sneeze. Behind him, he sees people running toward the rooming house fire.

22. In the Emporium

With snow approaching, Griffin hides in Omnium’s department store and sleeps on a pile of mattresses. An hour after closing, he locates a scholarly outfit and feeds himself. Before dawn, he dreams of being buried. The next morning, he is discovered. In a rush from clerks and a police officer, Griffin removes his clothes and stays hidden until 11:00 A. M.

23. In Drury Lane

Hindering Griffin is the need for warmth and food, which is not invisible in his body. Contributing to his endangerment is inclement weather, which forms an outline of his body. In the slums, he flees to a dingy costume shop near Drury Lane, ties up and robs the owner, and disguises himself in street attire. In the Strand, he dines in a private room. He retrieves his books and checkbook from the mail. He confesses to Kemp that attacking the constable was the result of rage.

24. The Plan That Failed

Planning to take a steamer to France and a train to Spain, he aims to arrive in Algiers. Marvel foils his plan by stealing the notebooks and Griffin’s money. Griffin admits that he needs Kemp as an accomplice in a string of killings. Kemp refuses to comply. He concludes that Griffin is insane and dangerous. Griffin eludes him and Colonel Adye, the chief of the Burdock police.

25. The Hunting of the Invisible Man

Kemp describes Griffin’s madness and his need of food and shelter. Adye gets bloodhounds and launches a mass manhunt. Kemp proposes dropping powdered glass on the roads.

26. The Wicksteed Murder

On the way to Hintondean, Griffin breaks a child’s ankle. At noon, Griffin vanishes as the manhunt continues. He murders Mr. Wicksteed with an iron rod and hurls his corpse into a gravel pit.

27. The Siege of Kemp’s House

On the second day of the manhunt, Griffin leaves a penciled note warning Kemp of a Reign of Terror and threatening Kemp’s death. Kemp arms himself with a pistol and decides to be the bait to lure Griffin into a trap. Griffin returns to Kemp’s home to avenge himself on his betrayer. Broken glass alerts Kemp and Adye to the stalker. Griffin shoots Adye and smashes his way through the house with an axe. A policeman strikes Griffin with a poker.

28. The Hunter Hunted

Next door, Mr. Heelas hears the struggle. Dr. Kemp leads his maidservant toward his neighbor. On a dash down the road, Kemp orders villagers to form a line. A laborer strikes Griffin in the chest with a shovel. Kemp realizes that Griffin is severely hurt. Griffin’s body rematerializes into the form of a 30-year-old albino.

The Epilogue

Marvel becomes a celebrity. He keeps his books at an inn near Port Stowe and dreams of decoding Griffin’s formula.

Timeline of Events

six years before the story begins	Griffin discovers how to bleach human blood.
December, three years later in January	He robs his father, who shoots himself. Griffin sets fire to a London rooming house and flees naked down Oxford Street.
that afternoon	He hides in Omnium’s department store.
an hour after closing the next morning 11:00 A. M.	He feeds himself. He is discovered. At a costume shop near Drury Lane, he ties up and robs the owner and disguises himself.
February 9 4:00 P. M.	Griffin arrives in Iping, Sussex, and takes a room at the Coach and Horses. Teddy Henfrey intrudes on the parlor; Griffin orders tea.
9:30 P. M.	Griffin retires.
next day at dinner	Fearenside delivers Griffin’s luggage. Mrs. Hall notices hollow eye sockets in his face.
until April Whit-Monday, 4:00 A. M.	The stranger works at experiments. Griffin robs Vicar Bunting.
before daylight 5:30 A. M. noon	Griffin terrorizes George and Jenny Hall. Griffin shuts himself in the parlor. Jenny Hall demands that Griffin pay his bill.
that afternoon	Griffin forces Thomas Marvel to locate food, shelter, and clothing.
later	Griffin threatens to kill Bunting and Cuss and goes on a rampage.
10:00 A. M.	Griffin brandishes cash from a string of thefts.

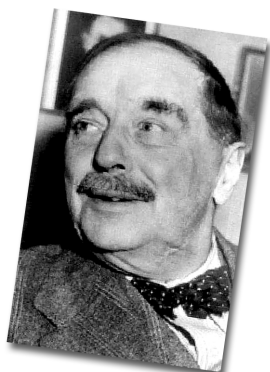
The Invisible Man H.G. Wells

near nightfall 2:00 A. M.	Dr. Kemp observes Marvel hurrying by. Kemp sees bloodstains from Griffin, who demands help.
before dawn	Kemp reads news articles about Griffin's crimes and sends a note to a Port Burdock police officer.
at breakfast	Griffin narrates the story of his invisibility and asks Kemp to be an accomplice in a string of killings.
later at noon	Griffin eludes Kemp and Colonel Adye. Griffin vanishes as a manhunt continues and murders Mr. Wicksteed with an iron rod.
second day	Griffin leaves a penciled note threatening Kemp's death.
later	Griffin shoots Adye and smashes his way through the house with an axe. A laborer strikes Griffin in the chest with a shovel.
shortly afterward	Griffin's body rematerializes. Marvel dreams of decoding Griffin's formula.

Author Sketch

Satirist and social reformer, Herbert George Wells was a major force in establishing the science fiction wing of classic literature, through which he warned the world to remain skeptical of technology's brash promises. Until his death in 1946, he remained an active part of British politics and social criticism. A native of Bromley, Kent, he was born in 1866 to a housewares vendor and a bookkeeper at Uppark Estate. After his father's business declined, Bertie Wells educated himself through reading in the Uppark library and, at age fourteen, was apprenticed at Hyde's Drapery in Portsmouth, then to a chemist and a second draper. He taught science at Midhurst Grammar School until age eighteen, when he won a scholarship to the Normal School of Science in South Kensington. The opportunity placed him in the class of one of the great minds of the era, biologist Thomas Henry Huxley.

During Wells' college training at London University, he established the *Science Schools Journal*, for which he serialized stories. From one three-part short story, "The Cosmic Argonauts," he developed *The Time Machine*, his most famous novella. He refined the plot through submissions for *The New Review*. In 1891, he began teaching



at a correspondence college and married his cousin, Isabel Mary Wells. He issued a promising article, "The Rediscovery of the Unique," in *Fortnightly Review* and published papers on education. The completion of *The Time Machine* in 1895 was the beginning of his fiction career. During this extraordinary shift, he gave up teaching, divorced his wife, and married a former student, Amy Catherine "Jane" Robbins.

At age 34, Wells developed a circle of literary friends at Spade House, his coastal residence in Folkestone, Kent. Among his supporters were Joseph Conrad, Mary Ann Evans, Henry James, Rudyard Kipling, and George Bernard Shaw, five of the literary lions of the era. Wells enjoyed supervising his sons and sitting in his garden to write novels while looking out on Sandgate Bay. He shifted from science fiction to autobiographical novels and philosophy, spurred in part by his interest in the Fabian Society, a socialist organization based on the principles of Karl Marx.

As a member of the Research Committee for the League of Nations, in 1917, Wells pressed for world peace. He lived in Regent's Park, London, during World War I, a pessimistic era in his work. After alienating himself by supporting Lenin, in 1924, Wells settled in France for twelve years. He spent the last sixteen years of his life at a London residence on Marylebone Road. In *The Holy Terror* (1939), he warned of the advance of Nazism and fascism and defied the Blitz by refusing to leave his house to take shelter. He continued to publish until age 78, pushing the number of titles to his credit beyond six hundred.

Critic's Corner

As the British Empire exited the Victorian Era and entered the technological era, H. G. Wells earned respect for educating himself and for keeping abreast of a massive alteration in philosophy and economy. Influenced by the writings of Jules Verne, he advanced prophetic and dystopian literature from light fantasy into social criticism. Before World War I, he coined the phrase "the war that will end war," the title of a work he published in 1914. His greatest concern was the elitism that sharply separated English peers from commoners and offered the wealthy and privileged educational preferment. His work expressed hope for the working class, whom he described with warmth and good humor.

Because of his pictorial accuracy, Wells' sci-fi novels have flourished on film. In 1934, *The Invisible Man* starred Claude

Rains as the bandaged title figure; two years later, Raymond Massey, Ralph Richardson, and Cedric Hardwicke appeared in the dystopic classic *Things to Come*. Gene Barry starred in *The War of the Worlds* (1950), a sensational cult film at the beginning of the sci-fi fad. In 1960, Rod Taylor headed an all-star cast for *The Time Machine*, featuring Yvette Mimieux, Alan Young, and Sebastian Cabot. The last filming of *The Island of Dr. Moreau* (1996) featured Marlon Brando and Val Kilmer and replaced a 1932 version, *Island of Lost Souls*, starring Charles Laughton and Bela Lugosi, and a 1977 remake, in which Burt Lancaster and Michael York played the main parts. In 2000, Kevin Bacon starred in *Hollow Man*, a sci-fi thriller that recycles elements of *The Invisible Man*.

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- Kemp, Peter. *H. G. Wells and the Culminating Ape*. London: Palgrave, 1996.
- Sirabian, Robert. "The Conception of Science in Wells' *The Invisible Man*," *Papers on Language & Literature* 37, no. 4 (fall 2001): 382-403.
- Smith, David C., ed. *The Correspondence of H. G. Wells*. London: Pickering and Chatto, 1998.
- Wagar, W. Warren. *H. G. Wells Traversing Time*. Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press, 2004.

Selected Other Works by the Author

- The Time Machine* (1895)
- The Island of Dr. Moreau* (1896)
- The Invisible Man* (1897)
- The War of the Worlds* (1898)
- The Sleeper Wakes* (1899)
- Love and Mr. Lewisham* (1900)
- The First Men in the Moon* (1901)
- Anticipations* (1902)
- Mankind in the Making* (1903)
- The Food of the Gods* (1904)
- A Modern Utopia* (1905)
- Kipps* (1905)
- The War in the Air* (1908)
- Tono-Bungay* (1909)
- The History of Mr. Polly* (1910)
- Boon* (1910)
- The New Machiavelli* (1911)
- The Last War* (1914)
- Mr. Britling Sees It Through* (1916)
- Outline of History* (1920)
- The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution* (1928)
- The Science of Life* (1931)
- The Work, Wealth, and Happiness* (1932)
- The Shape of Things to Come* (1933)
- Experiment in Autobiography* (1934)
- The Croquet Player* (1938)
- Apropos of Dolores* (1938)
- The Holy Terror* (1939)
- Mind at the End of Its Tether* (1945)

Literary Terms and Applications

For a better understanding of H. G. Wells' narrative style, present the following terms and applications to the novel:

Framework: a setting that encases a story, which may be told in flashback. Beginning with Griffin's encounter with Kemp, the author has an opportunity to explain how Griffin achieved invisibility and why his situation turns into a nightmare of hunger, cold, pain, and concealment. Wells caps the story with an epilogue about Thomas Marvel, a tramp who has no idea how to decipher Griffin's three volumes of coded notes. The framework leaves open the possibility that someone may acquire the books, duplicate the formulation, and repeat Griffin's adventure in invisibility.

Imagery: a word picture that allows the reader to visualize meaning. For the reader to absorb the shapeshifting of Griffin's body into an invisible entity, Wells reverses the process in the last chapter. Describing the re-materialization of Griffin, the text pictures the loss of invisibility as the spread of poison. Gradually, the reversal of the experiment illuminates nerves, limbs, bones, arteries, flesh, and skin. Heightening the terror of pain and unfathomable change is a previous discussion of the white cat, which raises inarticulate yowls in response to shifts in its form.

Cross-Curricular Sources

For more information about H. G. Wells, the H. G. Wells Society, science fiction, shapeshifting, scientific ethics, Sussex, and other subjects and issues deriving from the novel, consult these sources:

Audiocassette

Tales of Terror and Mystery, Blackstone Audiobooks
The Time Machine, Tantor
War of the Worlds, Listening Library

CD-ROM

Poe's Tales of Terror, Teacher's Discovery

e-Book

The Time Machine, H. G. Wells

Internet

Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion
<http://www.aaas.org/spp/dser/>.
H. G. Wells
<http://www.theangelmidhurst.co.uk/hgwells.htm>
The H. G. Wells Society
<http://www.personal.rdg.ac.uk/~lhsjamse/wells/wells.htm>.

Legend

"La Llorona," by Joe Hayes

Novella

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, by Robert Louis Stevenson

Plays

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, by Robert Louis Stevenson
R. U. R., by Karel Capek

Poem

The Rime of the Ancient Mariner, by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Reference Books

Encyclopedia of Gothic Literature, Facts on File
The Penguin Encyclopedia of Horror and the Supernatural, Penguin
Principles of Biomedical Ethics, Oxford Press

Short Stories

"The Bottle Imp" and "Markheim," by Robert Louis Stevenson
"The Rats in the Wall," by H. P. Lovecraft
"What Dreams May Come," by Gertrude Atherton

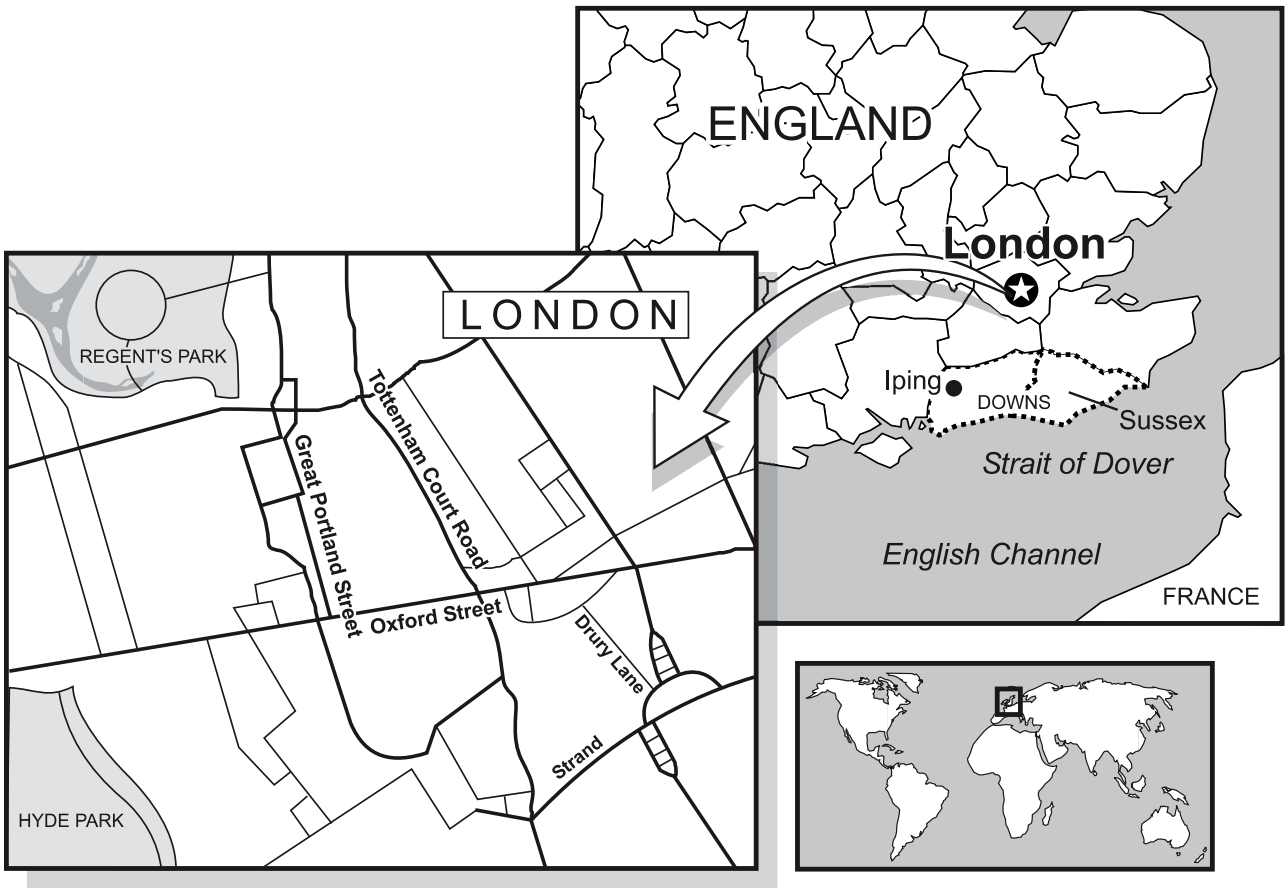
Videos/DVDs

Dr. Strangelove
The Hollow Man
Something Wicked This Way Comes
The Terminal Man
20,000 Leagues Under the Sea

The Importance of Setting

The milieu of H. G. Wells' *The Invisible Man* moves from Iping, Sussex, to London, through the countryside, and back again to the village. To enhance horror, the text ridicules the illogic and self-protection of ignorant Sussex peasants at the sight of a sleeve without an arm and a face without eyes. From the Coach and Horses, the inn where Griffin hides to do his experiments, Wells thrusts him into the rural community to capitalize on invisibility while robbing the vicarage. The humor of the Buntings' fight with the unseen thief expands from a comic chase to Griffin's more heinous crimes. The neighborhood uproar involves a variety of village figures—a doctor, baker, barkeep, carter, clock repairman, and constable. The involvement of static characterization indicates Wells' intent to express chaos as it envelops a rural community.

At Kemp's house near the Jolly Cricketers, Griffin is able to relax in a non-threatening environment. For the first time steadied by warmth, food, and safety, he can sleep in a bed and sit in the belvedere, a retreat on the roof. He reminisces over studies in chemistry at University College in London and over three years of experimentation at Chesilstone while living on meager funds and completing his study of optics in a rooming house. The rapid pace of Griffin's flight from a burning rooming house involves a cab ride down Oxford Street past Tottenham Court Road. The frantic race concludes with his sequestration at Omnium's department store, which illustrates the varied needs of an invisible man. With food and rest, he is prepared for the next stage of the



odyssey, which requires the robbery of a novelty shop near Drury Lane that provides a wig and clothes, all elements of his self-isolation.

In the final events, Griffin moves rapidly from Kemp's house and away from the police chief's manhunt, which covers a twenty-mile radius. Rage overtakes the fugitive as he again searches for food, warmth, and rest, the basics of human security. Incapable of containing his frustration, he makes a fatal error in returning to Kemp's residence to seek vengeance. In the house where Griffin initially felt safe, he suffers lethal blows from a poker swung by an officer. Ironically, Griffin dies in the roadway, a vagabond like Thomas Marvel, who follows a similar path of lawlessness by living on Griffin's stolen money and studying the books that contain the coded formula for invisibility.

Themes and Motifs

A study of the central issues and situations in *The Invisible Man* should include these aspects:

Themes

- genius
- solitude
- experimentation
- speculation
- cruelty
- immorality
- murder
- flight
- isolation
- madness

Motifs

- coping with social upheaval
- escaping from an ominous setting
- comprehending the demands of a mad scientist
- gaining control
- retreating from danger
- choosing solitude over human companionship

General Objectives

1. To understand the impact of physiological and instinctual change on a human being
2. To account for unethical experimentation
3. To interpret social and community reaction to an unseen threat
4. To contrast the study of science with bizarre applications of knowledge
5. To discuss the sources of frustration and outrage
6. To list examples of suspicion, cruelty, duplicity, and menace
7. To analyze the effects of social isolation
8. To characterize attitudes of outsiders to mystery
9. To describe Gothic elements of setting, atmosphere, and tone
10. To analyze the rescue for a rural community

Specific Objectives

1. To explain how and why Griffin arrives in Iping, Sussex
2. To analyze the symbolism of invisibility
3. To account for a framework narrative and epilogue
4. To contrast the reactions of Jenny Hall, Colonel Adye, and Mr. Heelas
5. To justify the use of ground glass to capture a madman
6. To predict how Thomas Marvel will use coded formulae
7. To account for Griffin's need of an accomplice
8. To discuss the implications of arson, theft, murder, and assault on a child
9. To summarize the roles of George Hall, Fearenside, Cuss, Sandy Wadgers, Huxter, and Professor Oliver
10. To characterize the importance of mid-nineteenth-century science, religion, and philosophy to Wells' writings

Media Versions of Well's Work

Annotated

The Invisible Man, McFarland, 1998

Audiocassette (abridged)

The Invisible Man, read by Leonard Nimoy, Simon & Schuster, 1998

Audiocassette (unabridged)

The Invisible Man, Chivers Audio Books, 1997

Illustrated Version

The Invisible Man, AGS, 1994

Simplified Version

The Invisible Man, Addison-Wesley, 1993

Meaning Study

Below are significant words, phrases, or sentences from the novella. Explain each in context. Chapter and page numbers pinpoint each entry so that you can re-read the passage in which it appears.

1. "He ought to have it cauterised at once," said Mr. Huxter; "especially if it's at all inflamed." (Chapter 3, p. 13)
(The only protection from rabies in this period was a rapid cautery of the wound to halt the virus from spreading through the bloodstream.)
2. There was a song popular at that time called the "Bogey Man"; Miss Statchell sang it at the school-room concert (in aid of the church lamps), and thereafter whenever one or two of the villagers gathered together and the stranger appeared, a bar or so of the tune, more or less sharp or flat, was whistled in the midst of them. (Chapter 4, p. 19)
(Ignorant villagers explain the mystery of the invisible man through superstition about a bogey man or goblin, an imaginary embodiment of evil. Wells wrings dark humor out of the performance by picturing the Miss Statchell's singing of a song about a demon during a fund-raiser to buy church lights.)
3. All through April and May he coveted an opportunity of talking to the stranger, and at last, towards Whitsuntide, he could stand it no longer, but hit upon the subscription-list for a village nurse as an excuse. (Chapter 4, p. 19)
(Wells finds humor in Mr. Cuss' need of a ruse by which to question the stranger. Ironically, the questioning takes place near Pentecost, the seventh Sunday after Easter, a celebration of the enlightenment of Christ's twelve disciples. Cuss visits the stranger on the pretext of collecting funds to hire a village nurse, a charity diametrically opposite of Griffin's evil experiments.)
4. It was the finest of all possible Whit-Mondays, and down the village street stood a row of nearly a dozen booths, a shooting gallery, and on the grass by the forge were three yellow and chocolate waggons and some picturesque strangers of both sexes putting up a cocoanut shy. (Chapter 7, p. 29)
(One of the attractions at the village fair is a game of skill at throwing balls at rows of coconuts. Those players who knock over coconuts keep them as prizes.)
5. Doctor Kemp was a tall and slender young man, with flaxen hair and a moustache almost white, and the work he was upon would earn him, he

hoped, the fellowship of the Royal Society, so highly did he think of it. (Chapter 15, p. 62)
(Kemp, unlike Griffin, follows the standard success ladder to membership in the Royal Society. The organization of scholars received chartering from Charles II in 1660. It supported science through reading and discussions of dissertations. Inquiries such as the papers outlining Captain James Cook's exploration of the Pacific islands received notoriety through publication in the society's journal, Philosophical Transactions.)

6. "Griffin," answered the voice,—“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.” (Chapter 17, p. 71)
(Griffin describes himself as brilliant, but genetically lacking in pigmentation. His skin, hair, and eyes are abnormally light in color and he suffers from exposure to light.)
7. "...Too good not to print—cum grand!" (Chapter 18, p. 77)
(While reading the St. James Gazette to learn about the invisible man, Kemp gives a partial quotation of the Latin phrase cum grano salis, literally "with a grain of salt," indicating the need for caution or skepticism.)
8. "Tapetum." (Chapter 20, p. 86)
(Kemp recognizes Griffin's reference to the dark, iridescent membrane that covers a cat's eye.)
9. "The old man, so far as I could understand his *patois*, agreed with the old lady that I was a vivisectionist." (Chapter 20, p. 92)
(The Polish-Jewish landlord mutters in a mix of Yiddish and English that he agrees with the old lady in thinking Griffin a cruel experimenter on living animals.)
10. He went up to the belvedere, carefully shutting every door after him. (Chapter 27, p. 123)
(Much of the action takes place in Kemp's belvedere, a roofed gallery or summerhouse on the roof. Ironically, the purpose of a rooftop getaway was the spectacular view of events below. Symbolically, Griffin lacks a true vision of his intent and of the outcomes of his crimes.)

Comprehension Study

Answer the following questions in your own words. There is not always a right answer. Your judgment is important and you should be ready to defend your answers with quotations from the novella.

Motivation

1. Why does Griffin incite curiosity at the Coach and Horses?
*(During his ten-week stay in Iping, Sussex, south of London, Griffin pretends to suffer an infirmity that requires muffling. He lives like a recluse to conceal his invisibility. Locked in the privacy of his room, the unnamed stranger does not converse, dine with others, or attend church. He does not welcome unannounced intrusions or questions. Instead, he works feverishly each day at a scientific task involving glass bottles that smell of chemicals.
Some days Griffin arises early; others he sleeps late. During his waking hours, he paces, smokes, sleeps in an armchair by the fire, and frets and swears for hours. Wells comments, "His temper continued very uncertain; for the most part his manner was that of a man suffering under almost unendurable provocation, and once or twice things were snapped, torn, crushed, or broken in spasmodic gusts of violence." To innkeeper Jenny Hall's complaints, he promises to pay for damage and for straw scattered on the carpet.
Goaded by the need for anonymity, Griffin leaves his room only at twilight and is always muffled, regardless of weather. When he returns to work, he is absorbed in "pouring little drops out of the bottles into test-tubes." He leaves material lying about and fails to tend the fire. At one point, he raves, "I can't go on Three hundred thousand, four hundred thousand! The huge multitude! Cheated! All my life it may take me! Patience! Patience indeed! Fool and liar!")*

Action

2. How does Griffin process a cat?
*(At Griffin's room at a London boarding house, Wells pictures the processing of invisibility on wool, then on a white cat. Having fed and comforted the starving animal, Griffin places her on a pillow on his bed and gives her butter so she will groom herself. To keep her quiet, he administers opium. He initiates the treatment but fails to transform her claws and the iridescent tapetum that overlays her eyes.
When an old woman from downstairs interrupts the process and searches for the cat, she suspects Griffin of torturing the animal in his experiments. After she departs, the processing continues "three or four hours. The bones and sinews and the fat were the last to go, and the tips of the coloured hairs." At 2:00 A. M., the cat awakens Griffin with its yowling. Except for the depths of her eyes, she is invisible. He is unable to catch her. He shoos her out an open window and never sees her again.)*

Character Development

3. How does Griffin behave at Omnium's?
(Winter weather stymies Griffin as he approaches Omnium's department store in a snowstorm. After closing time, he recedes into the empty building to attend to his needs. From a pile of

mattresses, he waits until the cleaning crew finishes. An hour later, they lock up, leaving him to wander about. The snow has wracked him with cold. He locates matches and a candle, lamb-swool pants and vests, socks, comforter, trousers, velvet jacket, overcoat, and hat.

Warm at last, Griffin goes upstairs to the refreshment center and locates cold meat. After heating the coffee urn, he enjoys a meal, which he must conceal until his body assimilates the nutrients. He finds chocolate, candied fruit, white burgundy, and fake noses, which facilitate his disguise. He ends his day by sleeping in down quilts.

Griffin grows careless in his luxury. Before he can escape the following morning, staff discover him hiding behind a counter. He eludes his pursuers, removes his clothes, and returns invisibly to the refreshment area for a drink of milk by the fire. He attempts to send a parcel of clothes from the warehouse, but is unable to decipher the company's system. Disappointed in his hope for a warm wardrobe, he leaves Omnium's department store just as frustrated as he arrived—a naked invisible man trudging through winter cold.)

Language Analysis

4. How does Griffin communicate with Dr. Kemp?
(Following a night of evading a Sussex manhunt, Griffin sends a penciled note on greasy paper to his prey, a former schoolmate at University College in London. The message announces the "Epoch of the Invisible Man." Raving about "Invisible Man the First" and vowing revenge for Dr. Kemp's betrayal, Griffin brags that he has slept and eaten, despite Colonel Adye's attempt to keep him on the run.)

The note reveals a downward spiral of Griffin's sanity. Driven to babbling, he promises "Death, the unseen Death, is coming." He warns Kemp to take precautions as soon as the letter falls into the mailbox. He demands that others withhold aid from Kemp. The message ends ominously, "To-day Kemp is to die." The note suggests that power and vainglory have supplanted Griffin's interests in science.)

Details

5. How does Kemp notice the presence of the intruder?
(Griffin, losing blood from a gunshot wound to the wrist, leaves blood drops on the linoleum floor near the mat at the bottom of the stairs of Dr. Kemp's house. The stickiness of the blood indicates that some time has passed since he traversed the area. Kemp examines the stain and discovers more blood on the door handle to his room. On his bedspread is a "mess of blood, and the sheet had been torn," a suggestion that Griffin shapes a makeshift bandage from the strips. A depression on the far side proves the presence of the invisible man.)

Griffin delights in encountering a friend. He recognizes Kemp from school in London some eight years before and calls his name. Stricken by the eeriness of a disembodied voice and the sight of gory, coiled bandages "hanging in mid-air," Kemp gapes in the direction of the sound. Finally, Griffin touches Kemp and introduces himself as the invisible man and a fellow student who won a chemistry prize.)

Interpretation

6. What shifts in behavior suggest that Griffin is mentally unstable?
(After leaving University College, Griffin becomes a loner. He is protective of his privacy and fearful that someone will steal his work. As he becomes more absorbed in the study of refraction, he withdraws from human involvement with Professor Oliver, the Polish Jewish landlord, neighbors, a girl he knew ten years earlier, and his own father. Griffin becomes so crazed that he robs his father. At first, Griffin feels little remorse about his father's paltry funeral. However, bad dreams belie the turmoil that torments his subconscious.
When Griffin realizes that he must leave his London rooming house, rather than earn money for rent, he hurries the experiment to its conclusion. The landlord's harrying enrages Griffin. He removes his clothes, escapes out the window, and returns to his room to set fire to the scientific equipment. With no concern for the lodgers who may be trapped in the blaze, he sets out into the January cold and walks the streets of London in the nude.)

Conflict

7. How does Griffin upset the community of Iping, Sussex?
(After the invisible man arrives by train to Bramblehurst, Jenny Hall is the first to encounter Griffin's foul temper and standoffishness. She offers sympathy when she sees his bandages. Fearful that he has suffered an accident or operation, she prattles on about her nephew's scythe accident and need of surgery. Teddy Henfrey, the clock-jobber, jumps to a different conclusion after the stranger accuses him of "simply humbugging" the job of repairing the hour hand. Henfrey says to himself as he trudges through the village, "If the police was wanting you you couldn't be more wrapped and bandaged.")

Griffin's infrequent contact with other villagers results in more bizarre conjecture. Fearenside, whose dog tears the stranger's pants, believes that the man is black. He concludes illogically, "He's a kind of half-breed, and the colour's come off patchy instead of mixing." Other voices claim that Griffin is a criminal, an "Anarchist in disguise," or a bogey. Silas Durgan asserts that the stranger could make his fortune by exhibiting himself at fairs as a freak. Cuss, after a brief glimpse of the stranger's empty sleeve, assumes that he is an amputee: "Got a cork arm, I suppose, and has taken it off.")

Contrast

8. What attitudes separate Kemp and Griffin?
(Formerly fellow medical students at University College, Kemp and Griffin exhibit contrasting attitudes toward morality and scientific ethics. As Griffin tells his dismal tale of eight years of scientific experimentation and ensuing difficulties, Kemp makes few remarks. He refrains at first from judging his former classmate. Like a good host, Kemp provides refreshment, food, clothing, and his own bed to Griffin, who must rest to recover from a gunshot wound to the wrist.

Even though Kemp appears charitable and sympathetic, Griffin doubts his sincerity. With a rap on the table, the intruder mutters, "Fool that I am! . . . I've put the idea [of betrayal] into your head." Kemp, keeping an open mind, studies the newspapers in the early morning hours. He learns about a rash of crimes that follows in the wake of the invisible man. After a sleepless night, Kemp fears that Griffin may prove homicidal. Quickly, he pens a note to Colonel Adye, a police officer in Port Burdock.

During Griffin's lengthy recitation of events that lead up to his arrival at Kemp's house, the host asks sensible questions and continues to hold his tongue until the story is all told. When Griffin confesses to robbing his own father, Kemp perceives fatigue in the teller's voice and offers a chair. As the narrative unwinds, Kemp reveals humanity. Unlike his visitor, Kemp shows concern for the white cat, remonstrates against the use of strychnine as a tonic, and quails at the thought of setting fire to an occupied dwelling. Kemp is more vocal about Griffin's robbery of the hunchback and his abandonment of the old man in a sack bound with stout knots.

Unlike his compassionate friend, Griffin asks briefly about the condition of his victims, especially Constable Jaffers. More often, Griffin excuses his criminal behavior as a natural outgrowth of rage. Kemp replies drily, "No doubt it's exasperating." To Griffin, the mistake he is guilty of is trying to carry out his plan alone. When he proposes to "establish a Reign of Terror," Kemp turns his attention from Griffin's insane babbling to the doorway in anticipation of the arrival of police. Unable to conceal his disapproval of Griffin's monstrous behavior, Kemp states, "I don't agree to this, Griffin." After Griffin's escape, Kemp summarizes, "He is mad . . . inhuman. He is pure selfishness. He thinks of nothing but his own advantage, his own safety."

The depth of humanity in Kemp recurs in the final paragraphs. As he holds off the officers from Griffin's mortally wounded body, he displays concern for the bones of the chest, crushed by the blow of a shovel. Cradling the inert body, Kemp asserts, "He's not shamming . . . and I'll hold him." He feels for a heartbeat and locates the injured side. To the last, Kemp pities Griffin, whom the crowd gawks at in horror as the invisible body slowly rematerializes.)

Author Purpose

9. Why did H. G. Wells choose science fiction as his metier?
*(Because H. G. Wells breached the parameters of pure science, he turned from science teaching in public grammar schools to speculative writing as a means of freeing the imagination to explore the what ifs of the future. During his period of science fiction writing, he challenged readers to think outside their safe environment to the possibilities that technology promised for later generations. By branching out beyond the confines of time and space, he wrote *The Time Machine* and *The Shape of Things to Come*, which speculate on the kind of world that awaits in the distant future. By looking beyond Earth, he wrote *War of the Worlds*, a consideration of alien life and hostilities toward humanity. With *The Island of Dr. Moreau*, he introduced his thoughts on a perennial professional concern, that scientists will become so fascinated with their powers that they will violate the natural order.*

*In *The Invisible Man*, Wells points out weakness in the human psyche by demonstrating how the power of invisibility corrupts Griffin. As research gives way to experimentation, Griffin realizes how he can harness his scientific breakthrough for personal gain. From eavesdropping, he advances to theft, arson, and murder. To Thomas Marvel, Griffin expresses his capabilities in godlike terms. "Pull yourself together . . . for you have to do the job I've chosen for you." Griffin adds, "I've chosen you . . . You are the only man except some of those fools down there, who knows there is such a thing as an invisible man. You have to be my helper. Help me—and I will do great things for you. An invisible man is a man of power."*

As delusions of grandeur seize control of Griffin's rational faculties, he writes a threatening note to Kemp. The message explains, "Port Burdock is no longer under the Queen . . . it is under me—the Terror!" Like a crazed hunter he states, "The game begins. Death starts. Help him not, my people, lest death fall upon you also." Even after Griffin's death, Wells describes the corpse as though it cringes from innate evil: "His hands were clenched, his eyes wide open, and his expression was one of anger and dismay.")

Theme

10. What does Wells suggest about the corrupting power of knowledge?
(The author instructs the reader of the Faustian nature of Griffin, the mad scientist. A standard figure in Gothic and sci-fi novels and films, Griffin embodies H. G. Wells' concept of the corrupting power of knowledge, particularly when it exalts one human being above others. As Wells evolves his main character, he emphasizes the selfishness and paranoia that grip the man as his command of refraction grows. By the time that he has outstripped Professor Oliver in scientific discovery, Griffin is

morally bankrupt. When penury threatens, he does not hesitate to rob his own father.

As Wells demonstrates, Griffin destroys himself. Through the abuse of power, he cuts himself off from community, religion, and love of fellow humans. Marvel and Kemp, whom Griffin tries to manipulate as accomplices in evil, reject the lures of power and easy money. Griffin, his inner core of conscience eroded by the heady control of invisibility, risks an act of vengeance and plunges on to his ultimate destruction.)

How Language Works

Wells characterizes Griffin through speeches that reveal his attitudes and behaviors. For example:

1. Ironically, Griffin introduces himself in the text with a remark about kindness: "A fire in the name of human charity! A room and a fire!"
2. Upon Jenny Hall's challenge to the source of Griffin's money, he exclaims, "I'll show you. By Heaven! I'll show you."
3. Upon encountering Kemp, Griffin describes himself in the past as "a younger student, almost an albino, six feet high, and broad, with a pink and white face and red eyes."
4. Of his father's suicide and public degradation, Griffin admits, "I did not lift a finger to save his character."
5. The realization that he can't escape doom causes Griffin to admit, "Ambition—what is the good of pride of place when you cannot appear there?"
6. As Griffin sinks in a heap of struggling, kicking men, he screams, "Mercy! Mercy!"

Across the Curriculum

Composition

1. Compose a theme describing scientific discoveries of our own times that could tempt a scientist to abandon morality for power, money, or professional advancement. Explain why innovations like cloning and stem cell research require protection and regulation.

2. Write an episode in which the nearly-invisible white cat terrifies the occupants of a shop or dwelling by meowing or blinking its eyes. Compare your story to episodes involving the grinning Cheshire cat in Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*.

Art

1. Make an illustrated list of apparatus in Griffin's description of experiments, such as the balance scale, gas jets, test tubes, rubber hose, stoppered bottles, and a dynamo. Draw contrasting pictures of modern equivalents of these items.

Science

1. Using a human anatomy chart, explain how albinism occurs. Note the weaknesses of albinos, particularly delicate skin and eyes.
2. Demonstrate the principles of refraction and reflection. Discuss important inventions that rely on these laws, such as the bifocal lens, telescope, laser, microscope, spectroscopy, and infrared light.

Journalism

1. Summarize how the speed and accuracy of British newspaper reporting assists in the capture of Griffin.
2. Compose a news article about director Orson Welles' adaptation of H. G. Wells' sci-fi thriller *The War of the Worlds* for *Mercury Theatre on the Air*, CBS Radio, on October 30, 1938. Give details of public panic.

Psychology and Health

1. Explain with a timeline and character webs the mental and physical pressures that impinge on Griffin as he ponders his invisibility. Why must he be hungry and naked? Why does he withdraw into solitude and curse his failed experiments? Why does he retreat into homicidal insanity?
2. Lead a debate concerning the best methods of soothing a lonely, terrified, and violent scientist, for example, by listening to his story, refraining from accusing him of theft and murder, and making no move to harm or control him.
3. Compose a lecture on emotional trauma as found in villagers as they try to explain unusual happenings. List methods by which country folk can calm themselves and work out a plan to capture Griffin,

for example, by Kemp's suggestions of spreading powdered glass and by joining hands across the road.

Religion and Ethics

1. Compose a rebuttal of Griffin's plan to initiate a study of human invisibility. Cite scriptural and scientific texts that reject unethical experimentation.
2. Contrast arguments for and against vivisection. Discuss how computerized drawings lessen the need of mutilating live animals for the sake of science.

Business and Economics

1. Describe current markets for bio-engineering, for example, mechanical replacement for body parts and the culturing of biota that devour micro-slime, cancers, and water pollutants.
2. In a theme, explain why a large department store is the best place for Griffin to hide during the snowstorm. Outline the growth of emporia in London.

Geography

1. Use topographical maps to describe the terrain over which dogs and men search for Griffin.
2. Draw a map of London and sketch in neighborhoods and streets over which Griffin flees.

Social Studies

1. Compose an extended definition of social isolation. Explain why the term describes a one-of-a-kind human experiment. Comment on aspects of failed ethics and immorality that doom Griffin's study of optics, refraction, and invisibility.
2. Lead a panel discussion of the effects of fear, hunger, cold, rioting, social disorder, brutality, thievery, murder, and destruction of property on English peasants. Explain why Griffin is unable to flee to Spain or Algiers.

Language and Literature

1. List phrases that require translation or explanation, especially seafaring terms. Include glairy, indecorous, gait, conjuror, opaque, wont, sporadically, induce, furtive, irradiated, impregnably, babel, rout, sexton, incongruity, hobbledehoy, union-jack, remittance, cum grand, sarsaparilla, scrutinised,

gesticulation, bludgeon, averse, anarchist, abstraction, spasmodic, bogies, expedient, ostentatious, Whit-Monday, crepitation, cursorily, chiffonier, interrogative, cauterised, portmanteaux, dilettante, humbugging, swathed, vestige, serviette, inscrutable, concise, staccato, antagonist, cypher, hypothesis, epoch, contra mundum, apathetic, impunity, circuitous, belvedere, suffice, tapetum, vivisection, albino, scullery, rustic, pharynx, nares, nape, nauplii, tornaria, and fabrication.

2. Compile a timeline of major science fiction novels and films dating from Jules Verne to sci-fi classics written by Isaac Asimov, Margaret Atwood, Ray Bradbury, Arthur Clarke, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Robert Heinlein, Ursula LeGuin, and Marge Piercy.
3. List sensory impressions from the novel that give immediacy and force to characterization. Name graphic details such as writing a note, hiding the tramp behind the bar, locating Adye's body, hearing a mewling cat trapped in a drain, smelling chlorine and chloroform, looking for clues to Wicksteed's murder, demanding pay for room and board, touching a sticky blood drop, dreaming of being buried, drinking coffee at Omnium's, hearing footsteps, removing the fake nose, burning a rooming house, and leaving a threatening note for Kemp.
4. Chart the growth of Gothic literature during the 19th century with examples of mystery, confinement, stalking, escapism, pariahs, flights from danger, grotesque figures, hyperbole, supernatural powers, vague forms of menace, uttered and written threats, violence, cruel deaths, assault on women and children, mad scientists, shapeshifting, and dark or unusual settings.

Drama

1. Contrast the dramatic scenarios of H. G. Wells' novella to H. P. Lovecraft's "The Rats in the Wall," Mary Noailles Murfree's "The Harnt That Walks Chilhowee," Rudyard Kipling's "The Mark of the Beast," Janet Frame's "You Are Now Entering the Human Heart," Joe Hayes' "La Llorona," Shirley Jackson's "The Lottery," Washington Irving's "The Spectre Bridegroom," Isak Dinesen's "The Monkey," Hans Christian Andersen's "The Red Shoes," Octavia Butler's *Kindred*, Samuel Taylor Coleridge's *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*, Karel Capek's *R. U. R.*, Angela Carter's "The Werewolf," Stephen Crane's

"The Monster," Gertrude Atherton's *What Dreams May Come*, W. W. Jacobs' "The Monkey's Paw," or Robert Louis Stevenson's *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, "The Bottle Imp," and "Markheim." Which works would adapt best to film? stage? storytelling? action comic book? animation?

2. Create a storyboard account of the plot of *The Invisible Man* after Griffin encounters his former schoolmate from University College. Explain why Griffin must have an accomplice he can trust. Why does Kemp's betrayal enrage Griffin? Why does Kemp insist on humane treatment for Griffin's body?
3. Pantomime symbolic or significant episodes, for instance, fleeing naked through the streets at Whitsuntide, placing powdered glass in the road, watching a father's burial, and climbing to the belvedere to survey the area without being seen.

Law

1. Organize a discussion of laws that Griffin breaks, from destruction of property to assault on a child, arson, burglary, stalking, communicating threats, and murder. Propose a suitable sentence for him that would end his experiment and make society safe from his rages and twisted thinking about his powers.
2. Brainstorm legal methods for law enforcement officers to trap an invisible person. Suggest nonviolent means, such as spray paint or a laser security system.
3. Compose a series of questions for the police chief to ask Kemp, Marvel, and Griffin about duplicity, brutality, theft, abetting crime, housebreaking, and brawling.

Cinema

1. View films depicting mad scientist themes, such as *Frankenstein*, *Andromeda Strain*, *Beethoven*, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, *Godzilla*, *The Terminal Man*, *Dr. Strangelove*, *A Beautiful Mind*, *Coma*, and *The Island of Dr. Moreau*. Compare the movies' settings, themes, and dialogue to those of *The Invisible Man*. Comment on the interplay of people with strangers, police, curiosity seekers, and victims. Determine whether police have reason to launch a manhunt for Griffin with bloodhounds and searchers.

Related Reading

Hans Christian Andersen, "The Red Shoes"
Gertrude Atherton, *What Dreams May Come*
Octavia Butler, *Kindred*
Karel Capek, *R. U. R.*
Angela Carter, "The Werewolf"
Samuel Taylor Coleridge, *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*
Stephen Crane, "The Monster"
Isak Dinesen, "The Monkey"
Janet Frame, "You Are Now Entering the Human Heart"
Joe Hayes, "La Llorona"
Washington Irving, "The Spectre Bridegroom"
W. W. Jacobs, "The Monkey's Paw"
Rudyard Kipling, "The Mark of the Beast"
H. P. Lovecraft, "The Rats in the Wall"
Mary Noailles Murfree, "The Harnt That Walks Chilhowee"
Robert Louis Stevenson, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* and "Markheim"

Alternate Assessment

1. List examples of foolishness, cruelty, duplicity, immorality, selfishness, ambition, or superstition in the story, for example, beliefs in bogeys, setting a rooming house on fire, breaking a child's ankle, pretending to be badly disfigured, hoping to take the train to Spain, removing a glove, planning more murders, refusing to allow a neighbor in the house, serving a guest no meals, experimenting on a cat, fighting off a dog attack, and hiding a corpse in a gravel pit.
2. Compile a list of actions that demonstrate Griffin's loss of self-control, particularly his rage against Kemp, committing arson, yelling at Jenny Hall, terrifying a maid, murdering a steward, failure to mourn his father's suicide, and writing a threatening note.
3. Compose a scene in which Kemp and Professor Oliver discuss how Griffin changed from a serious chemistry student into an unethical experimenter and glory seeker. Comment on Griffin's remorse and bad dream about his father's suicide and cheap funeral.
4. Make a complete character list and explain the character flaws of each, including George Hall's laziness, Cuss' curiosity, Heelas' unneighborliness, Bunting's ineptitude, Jenny Hall's surliness, Griffin's self-glorification, and Marvel's dishonesty.

Vocabulary

Complete each of the following sentences with an appropriate pair of words from the list below. Place your response in the blank at left.

averse/abstraction	babel/rout
bogies/expedient	conjuror/opaque
crepitation/cursorily	cypher/hypothesis
down/peewit	epoch/apathetic
gesticulation/bludgeon	impunity/belvedere
incongruity/remittance	inscrutable/staccato
interrogative/portmanteaux	irresistible/finality
leveret/forthwith	mottled/apprehensive
parliamentary/asserted	pharynx/nares
principle/pigments	prostrate/tumult
ransack/larder	scullery/tornaria
suffice/vivisection	swathed/vestige
trucklebed/see the	wont/furtive

- _____ 1. I found a general _____ of _____ and refraction,—a formula, a geometrical expression involving four dimensions.
- _____ 2. “Tend to him in a minute!” he cried to Henfrey as he passed the _____ Huxter, and coming round the corner to join the _____, was promptly knocked off his feet into an indecorous sprawl.
- _____ 3. “That, I think, is all,” said the stranger, with that quietly _____ air of _____ he could assume at will.
- _____ 4. They heard Marvel squeal like a caught _____, and _____ they were clambering over the bar to his rescue.
- _____ 5. His _____ face was _____, and he moved with a sort of reluctant alacrity.
- _____ 6. He turned out his drawers for the articles, and then went downstairs to _____ his _____.
- _____ 7. She was a little doubtful and tried to peer past me into the room; strange enough to her no doubt,—bare walls, uncurtained windows, _____, with the gas engine vibrating, and the _____ of the radiant points, and that faint ghastly stinging of chloroform in the air.
- _____ 8. The Anglo-Saxon genius for _____ government _____ itself; there was a great deal of talk and no decisive action.
- _____ 9. The _____ was desolate, east and west, north and south; the road, with its shallow ditches and white bordering stakes, ran smoother and empty north and south, and, save for that _____, the blue sky was empty too.
- _____ 10. It was strange to see him smoking; his mouth, and throat, _____ and _____ became visible as a sort of whirling smoke cast.

Comprehension Test A

Part I: Character Identification (20 points)

Identify the character described below:

- _____ 1. works as Lord Burdick's steward
- _____ 2. receives a pinch on the nose
- _____ 3. keeps volumes in a box locked in a cupboard
- _____ 4. identifies a meal of cheese and bread
- _____ 5. makes a discovery in physiology
- _____ 6. steals scientific ideas
- _____ 7. fears Griffin has been in an accident or undergone surgery
- _____ 8. mends a hand pointing to six
- _____ 9. refuses to let a neighbor into the house
- _____ 10. dies on the ground below the belvedere

Part II: True/False (30 points)

Mark the following statements either T for true or F if any part is false.

- _____ 1. Children follow Griffin's footprints in the mud.
- _____ 2. Griffin discovers a method of making a white cat disappear completely.
- _____ 3. Griffin's father possesses his son's stolen money.
- _____ 4. From the costume shop near Drury Lane, Griffin obtains a wig.
- _____ 5. Griffin writes the three books of notes in code.
- _____ 6. Vicar Bunting surprises Griffin on the window ledge and slams the window shut.
- _____ 7. Kemp hears the poker smash Griffin's wrist.
- _____ 8. Heelas sends Teddy Henfrey to spy on Griffin.
- _____ 9. Griffin promises to pay for straw on the carpet and damage to his rented room.
- _____ 10. Dirty ditch water damages the notebooks.
- _____ 11. An elderly woman suspects Griffin of arson.
- _____ 12. A penciled note states, "You are against me."
- _____ 13. A girl on the way to school is the last person to see Wicksteed before Griffin murders him.
- _____ 14. Griffin escapes an attack by Fearenside's dog.
- _____ 15. Kemp accepts Griffin's claim to be an "experimental investigator."

Comprehension Test A (Page 2)

Part III: Matching (20 points)

Fill in each blank below with the letter of the speaker of each quotation below:

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| A. Colonel Adye | F. Dr. Kemp |
| B. Cuss | G. Marvel |
| C. Griffin | H. Jenny Hall |
| D. George Hall | I. Professor Oliver |
| E. Cosntable Joffers | J. Teddy Henfrey |

- _____ 1. I'd kill you now if it wasn't the waste of a bullet.
- _____ 2. But still ... in England—to-day. And the man was in his own house, and you were—well, robbing.
- _____ 3. There ain't no Invisible Man whatsoever—Blimey.
- _____ 4. He's put the spirits into the furniture.
- _____ 5. He wuz bit ... I better go and see to en.
- _____ 6. To have worked for years, to have planned and plotted, and then to get some fumbling purblind idiot messing across your course!
- _____ 7. It's unsportsmanlike. I don't know. But I'll have powdered glass got ready.
- _____ 8. When they found they couldn't prove whose money was which, I'm blessed, ... if they didn't try to make me out a blooming treasure trove!
- _____ 9. No doubt you are a bit difficult to see in this light, but I got a warrant and it's all correct.
- _____ 10. He's took your rooms and he ain't even given a name, Hall.

Part IV: Essay Questions (30 points)

Choose two and answer in complete sentences.

1. Explain incidents in which Griffin accidentally reveals his presence.
2. Describe how Dr. Kemp escapes Griffin.
3. Discuss how Marvel makes himself useful.
4. Explain Griffin's rationale for making himself invisible.
5. Account for Griffin's rages.

Comprehension Test B

Part I: Matching (20 points)

Match the following actions with places from the list. Place the letter of your response in the blank provided at left.

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| _____ 1. the unpacking of glass wrapped in straw | A. Chelistowe |
| _____ 2. money travels through the air | B. Coach and Horses |
| _____ 3. a study of pigments and refraction replaces the study of medicine | C. near Drury Lane |
| _____ 4. a white cat almost disappears | D. Iping |
| _____ 5. an intruder sleeps in down quilts | E. Jolly Cricketers |
| _____ 6. a locked room of old clothes | F. Kemp's house |
| _____ 7. a destination that Griffin considers | G. London rooming house |
| _____ 8. an old friend serves as bait | H. Omnium's |
| _____ 9. a blue ejection notice arrives | I. Spain |
| _____ 10. telegraph wires are cut | J. St. Michael's Lane |

Part II: Short Answer (20 points)

Supply a word or phrase to answer each question below:

- _____ 1. What draws attention away from Griffin when little boys follow his footprints?
- _____ 2. What does Marvel take from Griffin beside the notebooks?
- _____ 3. To whom does Marvel lie about a toothache?
- _____ 4. What forms a parallelogram about the area?
- _____ 5. Who lies near a splintered walking-stick?
- _____ 6. Who reads, "Hex, little two up in the air, cross and a fiddle-de-dee"?
- _____ 7. How does Griffin secure the hunchback?
- _____ 8. Whom does Griffin intend to kill before his own death?
- _____ 9. Who brings an arrest warrant?
- _____ 10. Who sends Jenny Hall matches to light a pipe?
- _____ 11. How does Griffin reveal his location when he returns to the inn at 5:30 A. M.?
- _____ 12. On what day is Iping decked in bunting?
- _____ 13. What depends on the action of visible bodies in light?
- _____ 14. Whose funeral is cheap?
- _____ 15. Where does the cleaning crew lock doors?
- _____ 16. Whom does Griffin choose to aid the Reign of Terror?
- _____ 17. What does Kemp suggest to help Adye during the manhunt?
- _____ 18. Who goes into hysterics from the ripping of a note?
- _____ 19. What does Kemp tell Burdock residents to do to trap Griffin?
- _____ 20. What color is Griffin's hair in the final chapter?

Comprehension Test B (Page 2)

Part III: True/False (20 points)

- ___ 1. Kemp suggests broken glass to stop Griffin.
- ___ 2. Marvel steals Griffin's checkbook.
- ___ 3. Griffin's father aids in his capture.
- ___ 4. Cuss' nose is pinched by Griffin.
- ___ 5. Griffin was concerned Professor Oliver would steal his ideas.
- ___ 6. Griffin offers to pay Jenny Hall for damage his room.
- ___ 7. Griffin offers to pay his landlord for damage after the fire.
- ___ 8. Griffin's meals become invisible after he swallows them.
- ___ 9. Colonel Adye kills Griffin.
- ___ 10. Kemp repairs the clock for Jenny Hall.

Part IV: Essay Questions (40 points)

Choose two and answer in complete sentences.

1. Discuss the significance of powdered glass, a sneeze, and inclement weather.
2. Describe Griffin's behavior before and during his encounter with Kemp.
3. Account for Griffin's advantage over his assailants.
4. Discuss the materialization of the corpse.
5. Contrast Kemp, Professor Oliver, and Griffin as scientists.

Answer Key

Vocabulary

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. principle/pigments | 6. ransack/larder |
| 2. prostrate/tumult | 7. trucklebed/seethe |
| 3. irresistible/finality | 8. parliamentary/asserted |
| 4. leveret/forthwith | 9. down/peewit |
| 5. mottled/apprehensive | 10. pharynx/nares |

COMPREHENSION TEST A

Part I: Character Identification (20 points)

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Wicksteed | 6. Professor Oliver |
| 2. Cuss | 7. Jenny Hall |
| 3. Thomas Marvel | 8. Teddy Henfrey |
| 4. Thomas Marvel | 9. Heelas |
| 5. Griffin | 10. Colonel Adye |

Part II: True/False (30 points)

- | | | |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. T | 6. F | 11. F |
| 2. F | 7. F | 12. T |
| 3. F | 8. F | 13. T |
| 4. T | 9. T | 14. F |
| 5. T | 10. T | 15. F |

Part III: Matching (20 points)

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. C | 6. C |
| 2. F | 7. A |
| 3. G | 8. G |
| 4. H | 9. E |
| 5. D | 10. J |

Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Answers will vary.

COMPREHENSION TEST B

Part I: Matching (20 points)

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. B | 6. C |
| 2. J | 7. I |
| 3. A | 8. F |
| 4. G | 9. G |
| 5. H | 10. D |

Part II: Short Answer (20 points)

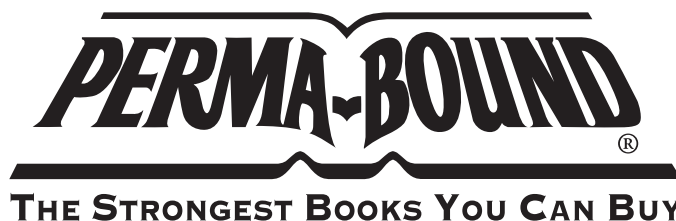
- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Salvation Army band | 11. sneezes |
| 2. checkbook | 12. Whit-Monday |
| 3. mariner | 13. visibility |
| 4. railroads | 14. Griffin's father |
| 5. Wicksteed | 15. Omnium's |
| 6. Marvel | 16. Kemp |
| 7. tied up | 17. dogs |
| 8. Kemp | 18. Kemp's maid |
| 9. Constable Jaffers | 19. form a line |
| 10. Griffin | 20. white |

Part III: True/False (20 points)

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. T | 6. T |
| 2. T | 7. F |
| 3. F | 8. F |
| 4. T | 9. F |
| 5. T | 10. F |

Part IV: Essay (40 points)

Answers will vary.



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