

Chapter Review

- This story is adapted from H. G. Wells's novel 'The Invisible Man'. It is about Griffin, a scientist who discovers the secret of invisibility.
- Mid-winter in London: two boys notice muddy footprints appearing on the steps of a house, but no one is seen. The prints slowly fade and disappear. This is Griffin, the invisible man.
- Griffin was a brilliant but lawless scientist. When his landlord tried to evict him, he set the house on fire, and ran away without clothes, money or food.
- He slips into a big London store to escape the cold. He sleeps there, takes a pair of shoes, an overcoat and a wide-brimmed hat. In the morning he is visible to shop assistants, so he sheds his clothes and escapes.
- He then goes to an inn in Iping, run by Mrs Hall. He wears bandages, dark glasses and a hat, and hides his face. He says he wants to be alone to do his work.
- Strange things happen at the inn. The clergyman's housekeeping money is stolen from his study, but nobody is seen. In Griffin's room, the bed-post hat leaps up and hits Mrs Hall, and a chair pushes them out of the room and locks the door.
- The villagers think the inn is haunted. Mr Jaffers, a constable, comes to arrest him, but Griffin removes the bandages and clothes and escapes.
- The story shows how misuse of scientific knowledge for selfish ends leads to loneliness and trouble.

Key Terms

Invisible – Not able to be seen.

Eccentric – Odd or unusual in behaviour.

Lawless – Not obeying laws.

Evict – To force someone to leave a house.

Haunted – Believed to be visited by ghosts.

Constable – A police officer.

Bandages – Strips of cloth to cover injuries.

Solitude – Being alone.

Diagrams / Flowcharts

Griffin's Trail

Footprints appear in London mud



Griffin burns his landlord's house



Steals clothes from a store and escapes



Stays at Mrs Hall's inn in Iping



Escapes arrest by removing his clothes

Griffin: Scientist vs Person

As a Scientist

- Brilliant
- Found formula for invisibility
- Original thinker

As a Person

- Lawless and selfish
- Cruel and vengeful
- Misuses discovery

About the Author

- H. G. Wells (1866-1946) was an English writer known as the father of science fiction. His famous works include 'The Time Machine' and 'The War of the Worlds'.

Theme / Message

- Scientific knowledge should be used for the good of all. Selfish use of power leads to isolation.
- Science fiction often predicts the future, so we should think about the ethics of science.

Science Note

- We see objects because light reflects from them. If a body does not reflect or absorb light, it becomes transparent, like glass or water.

Textbook Exercise Questions

Q.1 How did the invisible man first become visible?

Ans. When he stepped into mud, his footprints appeared on the steps of a house. Two boys followed them till they faded. Later, he became visible to shop assistants when he wore clothes taken from a store.

Q.2 Why was he wandering the streets?

Ans. After setting fire to his landlord's house, he had no clothes, money or shelter and was invisible, so he wandered London.

Q.3 Why does Mrs Hall find the scientist eccentric?

Ans. A stranger arrived in mid-winter, gave a cold response to her friendliness, said he wanted solitude and didn't want to be disturbed in his work.

Q.4 What curious episode occurs in the study?

Ans. The clergyman and his wife heard coins being taken from the desk. When they entered the study, it was empty, and the desk was open and the money was missing.

Q.5 What other extraordinary things happen at the inn?

Ans. Griffin's room was open and empty, with bandages and clothes lying around. A sniff was heard, a hat leapt up and struck Mrs Hall, and a chair pushed them out and the door locked.

Q.6 "Griffin was rather a lawless person." Comment.

Ans. He set fire to his landlord's house, stole clothes and money, threw a chair at Mrs Hall and her husband and escaped from the constable. He cared only for himself.

Q.7 How would you assess Griffin as a scientist?

Ans. He was brilliant, discovering invisibility. But he misused his discovery for selfish ends, so he was not a noble scientist.

Q.8 Would you like to become invisible? Advantages and disadvantages?

Ans. It would be exciting and could help police fight crime, but it brings loneliness and the temptation to misuse.

Q.9 Are there invisible forces around us?

Ans. Yes: magnetism, electrostatic forces, sound and heat, atoms and molecules.

Q.10 What makes glass or water transparent? Can a man become invisible?

Ans. Light passes through them without being reflected. If a body could be made not to reflect light, it would become invisible. It may be possible in science one day.

Board Exam Questions (Important)

Q.1 Write a character sketch of Griffin. (100 words)

Ans. Griffin is a brilliant scientist who finds the secret of invisibility. But he is lawless, selfish and vengeful. He burns his landlord's house, steals, and

harms others to protect his secret. He lives alone and is cold. His genius is wasted because he lacks morals.

Q.2 Why did the villagers think the inn was haunted?

Ans. The furniture moved on its own and voices and sniffs were heard but nobody could be seen, so they thought spirits were there.

Q.3 Why does Griffin get angry when people come into his room?

Ans. He wants peace for his work and hates being disturbed. His secret and his isolation make him impatient and angry.

Q.4 Value-based: What lesson does the story teach about science and power?

Ans. Science should serve humanity. Power without morals leads to misery and isolation.

