

Footprints without Feet

Previous Year Questions

Q.1. Scientists contribute to make the world a better place. Griffin is an antithesis to this statement. Justify.

Q.2. Imagine that Griffin's conscience pricks him and he decides to write a diary entry, about misusing science and endangering society, in the context of his own experience.

Write this diary entry, as Griffin, in about 120 words.

Q.3. Griffin's brilliance as a man of science fades before his darker traits. Give reasons from the text to support your answer.

Q.4. A character arc is the transformation or development of a character throughout a story and refers to the changes a character undergoes as a result of his/her experiences, challenges and interactions with other characters.

In light of the above information, trace the character arc of Griffin in H.G. Wells' 'Footprints without Feet'.

Q.5. What happened when Mr. and Mrs. Hall entered the stranger's room?

Q.6. Why does Griffin in "Footprints without Feet" flee from the store in London?

Q.7. Mrs. Hall almost fell down the stairs in hysterics. She was convinced that the room was haunted by spirits and that the stranger had somehow caused these to enter into her furniture.

(i) Mrs. Hall tripped because _____

(a) the floor was oily.

(b) she was standing on a chair.

(e) she was in a state of panic.

(d) the door was slammed.

(ii) Mrs. Hall suspected everything in the room was put under a spell of witchcraft by _____ .

(iii) Fill in the blank with one word only:

Mrs. Hall was afraid that spirits had entered _____ .

(iv) According to the extract, the feeling of Mrs. Hall can be best described as

- (1) stunned
- (2) happy
- (3) awestruck
- (4) nervous
- (5) outraged
- (6) agitated

Select the correct option:

- (a) (2) and (4)
- (b) (3) and (6)
- (c) (5) and (6)
- (d) (1) and (6)
- (v) 'Spirits' in the above lines means the same as
 - (a) ghosts
 - (b) conscience
 - (c) ego
 - (d) attitude

Q.8. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

His landlord disliked him and tried to eject him. In revenge, Griffin set fire to the house. To get away without being seen he had to remove his clothes. Thus it was that he became a homeless wanderer, without clothes, without money and quite invisible -- until he happened to step in some mud, and left footprints as he walked !

- (i) Griffin's landlord tried to eject him because
 - (a) he was a lawless person.
 - (b) he had set his house on fire.
 - (c) he didn't like him.

(d) he was a drug addict.

(ii) Fill in the blank with one word only.

Griffin deliberately removed his clothes because he wanted to become _____ .

(iii) Select the option that correctly captures the application of the word 'fire' as used in this extract.

(a) Griffin said that he would fire the manager.

(b) The soldiers opened fire at the enemy.

(c) His remarks provoked heavy fire from the political opponents.

(d) The Amar Palace was completely destroyed by the fire.

(iv) Griffin's presence was felt when

(a) he jumped into the water with a splash.

(b) he wore clothes.

(c) he left muddy footprints.

(d) he stepped in mud.

(v) Which of the following is not true with reference to the given extract?

(a) Griffin had become penniless.

(b) Griffin promised to behave himself.

(c) Griffin revealed himself by his muddy footprints.

(d) No one could see Griffin when he took off his clothes.

Q.9. The two boys started in surprise at the fresh muddy imprints of a pair of bare feet. What was a barefooted man doing on the steps of a house in the middle of London? And where was the man ?

As they gazed, a remarkable sight met their eyes. A fresh footmark appeared from nowhere !

Further footprints followed, one after another, descending the steps and progressing down the street. The boys followed, fascinated, until the muddy impressions became fainter and fainter and at last disappeared altogether.

(i) The boys were surprised to see a barefooted man in London because _____ .

- (a) everybody in London moved around in shoes.
- (b) it was very cold in London to move around barefoot.
- (c) the muddy footprints were fresh.
- (d) only a homeless person would walk barefoot.

(ii) Select the option that correctly captures the usage of the word 'started' in the above extract.

- (a) When I reached the theatre the movie had already started.
- (b) The fire started from the kitchen.
- (c) On hearing the bell ring, the sleeping Raman started and jumped out of bed.
- (d) Taking a deep breath, Ravi started down the stairs.

(iii) The boys reaction can best be described as

- (a) captivated, bored
- (b) repulsed, absorbed
- (c) curious, unhappy
- (d) captivated, interested

(iv) Complete the analogy by selecting the suitable word from the text:

Disappeared : Vanished :: Extraordinary : _____

(v) According to the extract the boys were _____ when they saw the foot-mark.

1. terrified
2. nervous
3. delighted
4. curious
5. puzzled

Select the correct option:

- (a) 1,2,4
- (b) Only 1
- (c) 4 and 5
- (d) 2 and 3