

Classic Literature for Christian Homeschoolers

Volume 2: Science Fiction Classics

Answer Key to Review Questions

By Scott Clifton

Web: www.homeschoolpartners.net

Email: scott@homeschoolpartners.net

For a FREE two-week sample of *Classic Literature for Christian Homeschoolers*, *World Literature for Christian Homeschoolers*, and a free copy of *The First Book of Homeschool Follies*, [click here](#).

Week 4, Day 2 – Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde – Story of the Door

1. Describe the character of Utterson.

He is a lawyer, rather cold-natured, a poor conversationalist, and friends with Richard Enfield, though they have little in common.

2. What sets into motion the story's plot?

Enfield and Utterson are on a walk and pass an apartment that reminds Enfield of an incident he witnessed some time before.

3. What incident does Enfield relate to Utterson? What is Utterson's response?

The house reminds Enfield of his encounter with a nasty, ugly man named Hyde, who ran over a little girl without stopping. Hyde went into that particular building and gave £100 to the girl's family, drawing a check from a highly respected man (whom Enfield doesn't name), and he suspects the ugly man of blackmailing the payer.

Utterson knows who the other man is, and Enfield feels bad for revealing the secret. The two agree not to reveal this to anyone else.

Week 4, Day 2 – Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde – Search for Mr. Hyde

1. How does Utterson know about Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde?

He is Dr. Jekyll's lawyer.

2. Explain Jekyll's will and Utterson's view of it. Why does he (Utterson) decide to visit Dr. Lanyon?

The will gives all property to Mr. Hyde if Jekyll disappears or without explanation is not seen for three months, which disturbs Utterson, because of Mr. Hyde's character. Utterson sees his college friend Dr. Lanyon for advice about the will. Lanyon says Jekyll became too "fanciful," and he doesn't take to him anymore. Lanyon knows nothing about Hyde.

3. Sum up Utterson's encounter with Mr. Hyde.

Utterson dreams about the ugly face of Hyde, wanting to see it again to get a better look to figure out what mystery is behind his friendship with Jekyll, so he hangs around Jekyll's office until he sees Hyde again. He asks Hyde to let him see Jekyll, but Hyde says Jekyll is out. Utterson asks Hyde to see his face, and Hyde obliges. Hyde asks how Utterson knew his name, and Utterson says Dr. Jekyll told him, to which Hyde says Jekyll never would have told him, and leaves Utterson.

4. Compare Dr. Jekyll's home with Mr. Hyde's apartment. What do you think this represents?

Jekyll lives in a large, lavish, beautiful house, in contrast to the one Hyde goes into, which is squalid, dark, and dirty, in a low-rent area of London. This is a visual representation of the characters of the two men.

5. What are Poole's orders from Dr. Jekyll regarding Hyde? What does Utterson think is happening?

The servant, Poole, says he and the other servants have orders from Dr. Jekyll to let Hyde come in and obey his orders. Utterson worries that Hyde is blackmailing Dr. Jekyll into letting him have his way. He worries that if Hyde finds that Jekyll's will gives him all his property, he might to kill Jekyll.

6. What about himself does Utterson reflect upon when he thinks about the character of Mr. Hyde?

He reflects upon his own sins and moral shortcomings.

Week 4, Day 3 – Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde – Dr. Jekyll Was Quite at Ease

1. What does Utterson confront Dr. Jekyll about at the party?

About Hyde, and is especially upset about Dr. Jekyll's will because of what he has seen of Mr. Hyde.

2. What does Dr. Jekyll claim about Mr. Hyde?

That he can get rid of him any time he wants to.

3. What does Dr. Jekyll ask Utterson to agree to?

Jekyll gets Utterson to promise to help Hyde any time he needs it, and Utterson agrees.

Week 4, Day 3 – Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde – The Carew Murder Case

4. What is especially malicious about the murder of Danvers Carew?

Carew is beaten to death, which is itself a cruel, vicious way to kill someone, but the fact that Carew is an old, distinguished man who posed no threat to Hyde makes it particularly cruel.

5. How does Utterson know a crucial piece of evidence?

He recognizes the broken piece of the walking stick as one that he gave Dr. Jekyll.

6. Describe the unusual condition of Hyde's apartment that Utterson and the inspector find.

It is richly and tastefully furnished, but looks as if Hyde left in a hurry, and burned many papers. The stick is found, and his bank says Hyde has several thousand pounds in deposit.

7. How does the inspector plan to catch Hyde? What difficulty does this pose?

The inspector says he will simply wait for Hyde at the bank to catch him, but all agree that this will be difficult, as no one has seen Hyde very often, although they agree his look entails deformity.

Week 4, Day 4 – Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde – Incident of the Letter

1. Describe Dr. Jekyll's condition. What does he say in response to Utterson's news of Hyde's murder of Danvers Carew?

Jekyll looks terrible—weakly and sick. Utterson asks Jekyll if he's heard about the murder of Danvers Carew, and Jekyll says Hyde will never be seen again by anyone.

2. What does Mr. Hyde say in the letter he sends to Dr. Jekyll?

In his letter, Hyde apologizes to Jekyll for not repaying Jekyll's kindness to him, and says he (Hyde) will escape and never be found.

3. Sum up what Utterson tells Dr. Jekyll about the terms of his will.

Utterson asks Jekyll if Hyde was the one who dictated the terms in Jekyll's will that if Jekyll disappears for several months, the money would go to Hyde. Jekyll squirms for a second, but says yes. Utterson tells Jekyll he is lucky, because Hyde meant to murder him.

4. What does Utterson deduce from Mr. Guest's comparison of the writing samples? What does Utterson realize is happening from this realization?

Guest compares the writing to a note by Dr. Jekyll, and tells Utterson they are the same writing, just changed a little. Utterson locks the Hyde note in his safe, sick at the thought that Jekyll is forging for a murderer.

Week 5, Day 1 – Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde – Remarkable Incident of Dr. Lanyon, Incident at the Window

1. How does Dr. Jekyll's life go after Mr. Hyde leaves town? What alerts Utterson that something is wrong?

The police can't find Hyde for months, and Jekyll is renewed, lively, full of "religion" and charity, and at parties and gatherings. Suddenly, several times, Jekyll refuses to see Utterson, even though the two had got used to seeing each other almost every day.

2. What happens when Utterson visits Dr. Lanyon? How does Dr. Jekyll respond to Utterson's letter?

Utterson visits Lanyon, who looks almost dead, and when Utterson asks him, he says "I am a doomed man," saying he has had a shock and won't recover. He refuses to talk about Dr. Jekyll when Utterson brings up his name, saying Jekyll is dead to him. He is not surprised when Utterson says Jekyll won't see him, and he refuses to tell Utterson anything he knows about Jekyll or talk about him anymore.

Utterson writes Jekyll to complain of his exclusion, and Jekyll writes back saying they can never see each other again, and that he is the "chief of sinners" and sufferers, but not to doubt his friendship.

3. Sum up the letter Utterson receives from Lanyon upon Lanyon's death.

Within the letter is another sealed letter that says it is not to be opened until Jekyll is dead or disappeared—like Hyde's letter!

4. How has Dr. Jekyll changed? What happens when Utterson tries to visit Dr. Jekyll? Describe the "incident at the window."

Utterson tries to visit Jekyll, but Poole says Jekyll keeps to himself, rarely goes out, doesn't read, and is totally altered in behavior and habits. Enfield and Utterson walk by Hyde's, and see Jekyll through a window. They speak to him, but he won't come down, and suddenly has a look of horror, shutting the window to the men.

Week 5, Day 2 – Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde – The Last Night

1. Why does Poole seek out Utterson?

Poole comes to Utterson and says Jekyll is worse, and that he (Poole) is afraid of foul play.

2. How are the streets on the walk to Dr. Jekyll's house? Why might this be significant?

The wind blows so hard on the streets that it is hard to talk. The streets are also deserted. This is another visual representation of man's isolation from his fellow man, and an ominous sign of what Utterson will find at Dr. Jekyll's home.

3. Describe the situation in the Jekyll house. What is Utterson's explanation, and why does Poole disagree?

At Jekyll's the whole group of servants is glad to see Utterson, and all afraid. Poole leads Utterson to Jekyll, warning him not to go in if invited by the doctor. Jekyll refuses to see Utterson, and Poole asks Utterson if that sounded like Jekyll. He believes Jekyll was killed eight days before, when he heard Jekyll cry out loudly. Utterson disagrees, since he doesn't believe the murderer would stay there. Poole says the man in the office has been crying for medicine constantly, sending Poole to druggists again and again, refusing to take food until no one can see him.

Utterson asks if the note he is given is in the doctor's handwriting, but Poole says it doesn't matter—that he's seen Jekyll looking differently, before running away from Poole. Utterson thinks Jekyll is suffering from some sickness that distorts his appearance and has been avoiding people for that reason. Poole says it can't be Jekyll, because the man he saw was much shorter.

Utterson asks if the man was Hyde, and Poole says it was. The two plan to break down the door, admitting that there is danger, and enlisting the help of two other servants. They hear Jekyll's footsteps instead of Hyde's, and Poole says he's heard terrible weeping inside at times.

4. What do the men find? Describe the note from Jekyll.

Utterson warns Jekyll that they are coming in, but Hyde answers, "have mercy!" and they break down the door. They find a beautiful room, but Hyde lying on the floor, in Jekyll's clothes (too big for him), dead. Looking around the room, Utterson is shocked to find a religious book with blasphemies written in it in Jekyll's own hand.

Utterson finds Jekyll's will, with himself as the beneficiary! He then finds a note from Jekyll dated the same day, so Utterson says he must still be alive, and they must find him. Jekyll's note tells Utterson to read Lanyon's account first, and then Jekyll's confession if he must.

Week 5, Day 3 – Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde – Dr. Lanyon's Narrative

1. Sum up what Dr. Jekyll requests of Dr. Lanyon in his letter to him.

Dr. Jekyll tells Dr. Lanyon to go to Jekyll's lab, break into it, bring a certain drawer to his consulting room, and give it to a man coming in Jekyll's name (Mr. Hyde).

2. What does Lanyon think about Dr. Jekyll upon receiving this letter? What does he find in Dr. Jekyll's journal?

Lanyon thinks Jekyll is crazy, but obeys. He finds chemicals, one of which is red and smells strongly. The journal, Lanyon notes, begins recently to contain the word "double."

3. What does Dr. Lanyon see happen when he delivers the drawer to Mr. Hyde? How does it affect him?

He meets Hyde, whom he finds detestable and revolting, and Hyde demands the chemicals, which he mixes before Lanyon. Hyde warns Lanyon about what he will see, calling him to keep his vow of secrecy. Hyde turns into Jekyll, and Lanyon screams and screams and is so shaken he is a broken man.

Week 5, Day 4 – Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde – Henry Jekyll's Full Statement of the Case

1. Briefly sum up Dr. Jekyll's "two-sided" personality, by his own admission.

Jekyll says he was a happy-go-lucky type who pretended to be serious, already beginning to become a fraud. He mentions the "good and ill which divide and compound man's dual nature" and discusses his frivolous nature, which contrasted with his serious medical work. He believed he had a dual nature, and that through science, these two personalities could live peaceably, the evil side doing its evil without bothering or burdening the conscience of the "good side."

2. How does the potion affect Dr. Jekyll? What does the "Hyde side" begin to do?

Jekyll takes the potion, experiences a horrible pain and agony, and feels free, although he is smaller. The totally evil "Hyde side" eventually wins over the part good, part evil Jekyll. Jekyll sees himself growing older, and wants to live it up a little, so he starts taking the potion more and more. He feels safe in that he—Dr. Jekyll—isn't doing anything wrong, but Hyde.

3. What unexpectedly happens to Dr. Jekyll two months after the murder of Danvers Carew? What decision does he face?

Two months for Danvers Carew's murder, Jekyll realizes that he has awakened unexpectedly as Hyde. This makes Jekyll think Hyde is taking over completely. He has to decide which he will be.

4. What will Dr. Jekyll lose if he never becomes Mr. Hyde again? What will he lose if he stays Mr. Hyde?

Staying as Jekyll means he will have to cast aside his indulgent, sinful appetites, but to stay as Hyde means losing his goals as a doctor and being hated by everyone. The key: Jekyll would know what he had lost, but Hyde would not, which made becoming Hyde more appealing.

5. What finally convinces Dr. Jekyll never to become Mr. Hyde again? Why does he fail to abide by this decision?

After not becoming Hyde for months, he drinks the potion, and finds that evil has built up to such a great point that he kills Danvers for basically no reason. When he reverts to Dr. Jekyll, he cries and repents of his crime, and realizes he is saved, because he cannot become Hyde any more (since the police are after him). He then locks the door and breaks the key. He feels the "Hyde side" beckoning to him and does not resist the urge to become Hyde again.

6. Explain what happens to Dr. Jekyll in the park. What is the ultimate "fate" of the doctor?

Dr. Jekyll, in a park, feels himself turn into Hyde without taking any potion. He writes to Lanyon in his own handwriting to get him to bring the potion. Jekyll becomes Hyde more and more involuntarily until he struggles to stay Jekyll at all. He finds the dual natures warring against each other, hating each other. Jekyll is unable to get the right kind of slightly impure salt for his potion, and his mixtures fail to turn him back into Jekyll any more, and he ultimately dies.

Week 8, Day 1 – *The War of the Worlds* – Book 1, Chapters 1-5

1. How does the narrator open the tale? How do his references to various scientific theories and scientists give authority and weight to the story he tells? What does he see in the telescope?

The author explains that Martians were watching Earth as men watch bugs under a microscope, and that life on Mars is possible because of several of its features (air, water, volume). The Martians are supposed to have reacted to their planet's extreme cooling by looking at Earth for a new home.

The author refers to various scientists around the time who saw supposed evidence that Mars was filled with lights and explosions, and that these were evidence that Mars was about to attack, and that the Earth should have known. By naming scientific theories and actual names, it lends an air of realism to the tale.

The narrator says he saw a “reddish flash” of a burst of gas from Mars while watching it through a friend's telescope. The process repeats for 10 nights in a row, then stops.

2. What does the narrator's description of the calm, carefree nights on Earth do for the story?

It provides a stark contrast to the jolt of the spacecraft and the bizarre appearance of the Martians, which shakes the area out of its seeming sleepiness.

3. Describe “The Thing.” How does the reaction of the nearby people differ from what would happen in today's society?

The Thing lands with a crash, almost buried in sand, and is about 30 yards in diameter. When Ogilvy and the narrator spread the news to the town, newspapers pick it up, and a small crowd gathers. The way this is described is drastically different from what would happen today: Police would block it from viewers, the government would take the investigation completely over, thousands would gather around (but not as closely), and it would be on the news 24 hours a day.

4. What happens when the top is unscrewed from the cylinder?

Sounds can be heard from the cylinder as it unscrews from within. The Martian comes out—bear-sized, with a round head, two eyes, and grey tentacles, struggling to breathe, glistening—disgusting to look at. The creature falls into the pit, and another comes out. The narrator sees the shopman, who is trying to get out of the pit, fall back in and scream.

5. What does the heat ray do? List several things that demonstrate that the people are confused and volatile about their situation.

It destroys anything in its path, melting metal, turning water into steam. The people in the town are confused and unreliable, not understanding what is going on and not reacting appropriately. They seem ignorant of the seriousness of their danger, they crowd close to the dangerous cylinder in the pit, they barely miss being killed, and they stampede away (killing several persons),

Week 8, Day 2 – *The War of the Worlds* – Book 1, Chapters 6-10

1. What is the narrator's state of mind? What reactions does he receive when he tries to warn others?

The narrator runs until he is exhausted, lying by the bridge near the gasworks. He feels isolated from others. He then tries to ask locals about any more news, but they laugh at his story of Martians, which angers him (and confirms his isolation from others!). Reaching home, the narrator warns his wife, who is worried about their coming there.

2. Why does the narrator think the Martians are not a serious threat? What factors does he admit he has not taken into account?

The narrator says they won't because they can't travel around easily. Also, he says, earth's gravity (three times that of Mars) will impede the Martians' progress, since the Martians will weigh three times what they weigh on Mars. The narrator

says, however, that he overlooked two things: the increased oxygen in the earth's atmosphere, which energizes the Martians, and the fact that the Martians have enough scientific knowledge not to be dependent upon their muscles to move themselves around.

3. Explain the meaning of this statement: ““So some respectable dodo in the Mauritius might have lorded it in his nest, and discussed the arrival of that shipful of pitiless sailors in want of animal food. ‘We will peck them to death tomorrow, my dear.’”

This statement compares the now-extinct dodo's imaginary conversation with his fellow dodos about running off sailors arriving to their island to overconfidence in himself about man's chances in easily shooing away the Martians.

4. What sounds are heard from the pit? Why? What is seen in the skies again?

Hammering sounds, as the Martians are building machinery. Another cylinder is seen falling from the sky.

5. What are the military's plans? Why does the narrator leave town suddenly?

A neighbor tells the narrator the soldiers won't kill the Martians unless necessary. The narrator discusses the Martians with military engineers, who suggest ways of killing them. Attempts are made to communicate with the Martians without success. The army attempts to destroy the second cylinder, but can't.

The narrator is startled by close-range destruction of the heat ray, and secures a dog cart to take items from his home.

6. How is the countryside away from the Martians described yet again by the narrator?

Again, the countryside away from the Martians is “peaceful and still.”

7. Describe the tripod-like object the narrator sees. Where does he go to hide?

The narrator sees the third cylinder fall to the earth close to town. He then sees a huge metallic tripod-shaped object, taller than several houses, then another, until he drives into water avoiding the second one. He finds the man who rented him the dog cart dead on the ground. The narrator goes back to his house.

Week 8, Day 3 – The War of the Worlds – Book 1, Chapters 11-13

1. What does the narrator learn from the artilleryman? Describe their journey.

The artilleryman says the Martians “wiped us out,” and he barely escaped the attack and saw the Martians killing others and destroying everything in its path.

The narrator plans to go to Leatherhead indirectly, so he won't be in danger from the third cylinder. The artilleryman goes with him, and they meet several soldiers, but very few living persons.

2. Describe the still-confused and disoriented crowds. What does the narrator do to escape the heat ray? What gives him and the others hope?

Soldiers are evacuating citizens, many of whom still don't seem to understand the danger they're in; they treat the Sunday like a party or fun excursion. The crowd of fugitives hears a battle, then sees five armored Martians coming. He dives into the water for protection (as do the others), and sees one Martian hit by gunfire and killed. The noise and confusion is deafening and overpowering.

3. What makes the situation look dire for Earth? What about the author's worldview is revealed by the conversation between the narrator and the curate?

New cylinders arrive every day from Mars, which is discouraging and makes the battle seem hopeless.

The curate encounters the narrator, has no water to give, and asks him, "What do these things mean?" He seems to have lost his reason, and the narrator has his. This might reflect a belief of the author's that religion has little to offer when danger and discouragement come—at least not as much hope as science offers mankind.

Week 9, Days 1-2 – *The War of the Worlds* – Book 1, Chapters 14-17

1. How is the story affected by including an account of events told from the perspective of the narrator's brother?

It gives the reader another viewpoint, and makes it a little clearer as to what happens during the battles. It also gives it more realism, filling in details that were not available to the narrator from his position.

2. How does the overall attitude of Londoners toward the threat of the Martians change?

There are little important details in the newspapers—even the fact that trains are disrupted isn't attributed to the Martians—and Londoners seem strangely unconcerned on the whole. The newspapers finally reveal the danger of the Martians' size and strength and firepower, people move to get out quickly, especially after the warning alarms in the middle of the night.

3. What are the black tubes carried by the Martians? How do they affect the people's reaction to differently than the heat ray?

They are poisonous gas canisters; they are in many ways deadlier than the heat ray, because they spread out and kill anyone who breathes the gas. The people must flee this gas or be certainly killed, as the gas slowly spreads out near the ground.

4. Describe the interaction between the narrator's brother and curate.

The narrator's brother has to reassure the curate that running from the Martians is impossible. He seems more reasonable and calm than the curate, who should be calmer as well.

5. What is the journey out of London like? How do the people leaving London come across, as opposed to the Martians?

London is in a panic. People pour out of the city in a mad rush, knocking others over, even killing one man, in one big push. The narrator saves a woman and her sister-in-law from thugs trying to steal her carriage; the procession is dirty, ill-dressed, confused, and animalistic. The Martians look like higher beings, with their advanced mode of transportation and weapons, compared to the people of London.

6. Sum up the narrator's brother's experiences in the boat he which hires to take him away.

The narrator's brother presses eastward, and the fifth, sixth, and seventh cylinders are seen to fall to earth. He reaches the sea with the two women, and sees many ships and vessels on the shore. Mrs. Elphinstone is growing hysterical. They pay to board a ship, which leaves as gunfire is heard. The group sees several Martians coming, as if to block their escape to sea. But Thunder Child, an iron-fortified vessel, takes down two Martians. Smoke blocks the third Martian from seeing the narrator's brother's ship, and the ship escapes. The captain points up, and the people see a flat, broad, large object fly up into the sky.

Week 9, Day 3 – *The War of the Worlds* – Book 2, Chapters 1-2

1. Sum up the predicament of the narrator and the curate. What happens when they venture out?

The narrator and the curate are still hiding in the empty house, the narrator worrying about his wife. The curate acts selfishly and irritates the narrator, so he avoids him.

The narrator leaves the house with the curate to go to Leatherhead, who at first doesn't want to come, and encounters dead bodies and destruction. They are almost spotted by a Martian, but hide in a shed. They see the Martian pick up three persons and put them into his metal carrier.

2. Explain what happens to the house they are in.

The two men enter houses and take water, a hatchet, and food. Suddenly a blinding light flashes, breaking up the house and injuring the narrator. The fifth cylinder has landed on the house, burying the two men and resulting in a Martian guard outside the door. The men lie quietly until the narrator needs food, and the two crawl to the scullery.

3. How does the narrator describe the Martians' physical appearance?

They have round heads about four feet in diameter, dark eyes, a beak, and 16 tentacles, which are unable to support themselves. They have a brain, lungs, and a heart, with no digestive organs.

4. Sum up the Martians' feeding procedure and reproduction.

They "eat" by piping the blood of victims into their own veins. The narrator remarks that this is more highly developed, since he believes humans' bodies are taken up by wasteful organs because we have to eat and turn food into energy, which often saps our strength and dims our moods. Martians are born attached to their parents like lily bulbs. Ain't evolution wonderful?

5. What about plant life and microorganisms is different on Mars?

To Martians, microorganisms that cause disease are unknown. The Martians' plant life is dominantly red instead of green, as is on our planet. They brought the "red weed" and were able to grow it on earth.

6. List some other unusual characteristics about the Martians.

The Martians seek out humans to "eat," since they closely resemble their own food source, which they brought on their ships. They do not sleep, constantly keeping in motion. Martians make no sounds except for "hooting" before feeding, which might be to expel air before eating. The narrator believes the Martians communicated telepathically. The Martians, he says, have evolved into brainy beings, even with no invention like our wheel.

Week 10, Day 1 – *The War of the Worlds* – Book 2, Chapters 3-5

1. Why is the narrator frustrated with the curate?

The narrator is frustrated with the curate, who cries, eats too much, and behaves childishly, and he even comes to blows with him.

2. What does the narrator see the Martians doing?

He watches the Martians build more machinery and manufacture many aluminum bars from clay, and he sees them kill and "eat" a man in the pit.

3. What dangers does the curate pose for the narrator (and himself as well, of course)? How does the narrator say the curate actually is a benefit to him?

The curate foolishly tries to eat and drink too much, and the narrator has to guard the food to make it last longer. The curate goes mad slowly, which, the narrator says, kept himself sane by warning him. The curate speaks loudly, scaring the narrator (who thinks it will draw the Martians).

4. How does the author build tension in the scene after the narrator hits the curate?

The curate noisily walks toward the opening, the narrator knocks him unconscious with a cleaver to quiet him, and the Martian takes the curate. The Martian puts a tentacle in the house, feeling around, even opening a door, and narrowly misses finding the narrator, who prays frantically. The author builds tension by slowly describing the Martian's deliberate actions—even touching the boot of the narrator!

5. What makes the narrator finally leave the house? What does he see outside?

The narrator finds water and drinks it, having heard no noises outside for some time. He sees red weed growing, meets a dog in the house, and finds the pit empty of Martians and machinery. Climbing out, he sees smashed houses, much cactus-shaped red weed, but no people. He is relieved to be free to move around and breathe fresh air.

Week 10, Day 2 – *The War of the Worlds* – Book 2, Chapters 6-7

1. What are the narrator's two main goals?

He determines to (a) find food, and (b) get out of the dangerous area by the pit.

2. Give some details about the red weed that the narrator sees.

Red weed is growing profusely in the area. The narrator relates how the red weed disappeared rapidly, killed by bacteria. (The reader will recall from a previous chapter that bacterial microorganisms that cause disease are unknown on Mars.)

3. What three topics does the narrator think seriously about?

He spends the night in an inn, and takes time to think rationally about his predicament. He struggles with his thoughts about the curate's death, where the Martians are, and the fate of his wife.

4. Why does the artilleryman believe the Martians can't ever be stopped? What are his grim predictions?

The artilleryman hasn't seen Martians for five days, but believes they are learning to fly. This soberes both men, who believe the Martians can't be stopped, and will end humanity, because even without flight, they defeated the "greatest power in the world" with the loss of only one of their warriors. The soldier says that the Martians will soon be rounding up and harvesting people for food. He says the Martians are simply building their machinery up to be able to do this when the time comes, which is why they haven't bothered to attack for several days.

5. Sum up the soldier's plans to survive. Why does he rail against the average person who succumbs to the Martian's attack?

The soldier resolutely says he will survive and not be turned into food. He means to be tough and ruthless to survive. He also plans to go live underground and find others of his resolution and toughness to live as a community. He wants to multiply the race and learn from science and spy on the Martians to learn from them. He says the survivors must stay out the way of the Martians to survive, so the Martians will know the humans don't mean to bother them. One day he believes the humans will learn enough to operate the fighting machines and heat rays and turn them against the Martians.

The soldier rails against typical nine-to-five workers, living what he considers are useless and complacent lives during the week, topped off by going to church because they're afraid of life after death. The soldier says they will be perfect for the Martians, and they'll even be used to their cages used to fatten them up for food; he also believes humans will be turned into pets and even trained to hunt other humans by the Martians.

6. What does the narrator ponder while playing cards with the soldier? What does he resolve to do?

The narrator and the soldier take a break and play cards, and the narrator muses on how the mind of man can play games in the midst of such danger and gravity. The narrator reflects on his game-playing and is disgusted with his excess, feeling it to be foolish when he thinks about the fate of his wife and humanity. He resolves to go to London to learn more about the Martians.

Week 10, Day 3 – *The War of the Worlds* – Book 2, Chapters 8-10

1. Describe the sights the narrator sees in London.

The narrator travels to London and sees much red weed dying from disease. He sees many dead persons covered by black dust (apparently from the poisonous gases). The stillness in London is disturbing—a stillness of waiting, of expectation.

2. What is the source and reason for the howling sounds? How does the narrator respond to what he sees?

It is a Martian. He comes upon a fallen handling-machine, and inside is part of a Martian, which has been mostly eaten by dogs. Later he sees another motionless Martian, and a third. He resolves to die at the hand of that Martian and runs to it, but sees birds gathering around it and eating a dead Martian. He realizes that the Martians have died from bacteria, like the mass of dead red weed.

The narrator looks at the destruction of London, the city he loves, and envisions its rebuilding, envisioning how much better it will look in a year. He raises his hands in the sky and thanks God. He thinks sadly that his life with his wife is over forever.

3. Explain the aftermath of the narrator's discovery and his own journey back to Leatherhead.

The news of the Martians' deaths had been telegraphed before the narrator discovered them, and the world rejoices. Food is shipped en masse to relieve hungry Englishers. The narrator has no memory of this, because he loses his senses for several days and is brought in by kindly people who find him wandering around and raving. They inform him that Leatherhead was totally destroyed, with no survivors, by a Martian. The narrator returns to his hometown to see the destruction, and many of the people are dirty and haggard. He buys a newspaper and learns that the Martians had, indeed, learned "the secret of flying."

People hover over the pit containing the sixth cylinder, and a British flag flies defiantly over it. The narrator goes to where he saw the Martian, looking at the remains of that struggle. He discovers his house empty, in a state of ruin, and still containing the writing he was working on when the first cylinder was discovered. Then he discovers his wife! She says she came back because she "knew" to, then faints in his arms.

4. What explanations are given in Chapter 10? What is the narrator concerned about? What does he say the peoples of earth have learned from the Martian attacks?

The Martians are examined, and only earth-originating bacteria are found on them. The black smoke and heat ray are unexplained. One almost complete Martian specimen is being held in the Natural History Museum.

The narrator believes that not enough attention is being given to the possibility of another Martian attack. He says that our people should consider direct attacks upon the cylinders or upon the Martians when they first emerge from them. He believes there is evidence that Mars has landed on Venus.

The narrator states that from the Martian attack that peoples on earth have learned that (a) Earth is not perfectly secure, (b) there might be dangers from other aliens, (c) it has humbled us, slowing a turn toward "decadence," (d) given man scientific knowledge, and (e) promoted unity among peoples.

5. What does the narrator predict about the sun and Venus?

The narrator believes that one day the sun will cool to a point of uselessness to our planet, and that the peoples of earth might have to inhabit Venus too.

6. Describe the contrast of emotions the narrator undergoes after his ordeal with the Martians.

He still has haunting dreams and visions of the death and destruction he saw, but is comforted by having his wife by his side when both thought the other was dead.

Week 20, Day 1 – *The Invisible Man* – Chapters 1-5

1. Describe the characters of Mrs. Hall and the stranger. What irritates her about him?

Mrs. Hall is a fairly hard worker, conscientious, and inquisitive about the lodger (as most anyone would be). The stranger is covered from head to toe, keeps to himself, pays his bills, and is prone to occasional outbursts of anger. Mrs. Hall figures he's been in an accident and been disfigured. She is irritated because he brushes her questions aside and will not open his room up to her prying.

2. What does Mrs. Hall think she sees when she enters the man's room? How does Mr. Henfrey play into this? Why does Mr. Hall tell his wife to look at the lodger's luggage?

Mrs. Hall thinks he sees the lodger with a giant mouth that covers the entire lower part of his face, but puts it to seeing shadows. Mr. Henfrey, the clock repairman, tries to engage the man in conversation, but fails, and he is irritated. He tells Mr. Hall that a strange man is staying at their hotel, and that he might be trouble. Hall goes to investigate, and tells his wife to look closely at the man's luggage as it arrives, for clues as to what he is doing in his room.

3. Describe the stranger's supplies that arrive. What do the Halls hear upstairs in his room? How does the stranger promise to make it right?

Boxes, crates, books, bottles—and the cart owner's dog bites the man, who rushes up to his room. Hall goes to check on him, sees what looks like an arm with no hand, and is roughly pushed out of the room. The man unpacks many multi-colored and differently shaped bottles, which are filled with various fluids and powders. He promises to pay for any damages he causes, which he is heard causing by various outbursts and smashed glass.

4. Why do the Halls continue to tolerate the lodger? Describe his habits.

The Halls tolerate the man for a few months because he pays well. He does not go out, works in bursts or fits, with fits of inactivity, and has outbursts of anger and frustration. The man rarely goes out, except for at twilight, and always wrapped up, even on warm evenings, and only at the least-traveled paths.

5. What do the townspeople think of the lodger? Describe Dr. Cuss's encounter with him.

He becomes the talk of the town, and everyone offers theories on his identity and reasons for living as he does. Henfrey says he is a criminal trying to escape detection, but no crime was committed immediately prior to his moving to the Halls' hotel. People don't like him because he is so irritable and secretive. The town doctor, Dr. Cuss, is intrigued by his bandages and bottles; he finds that Mrs. Hall doesn't even know the man's name. He visits the man, comes out shaken, and visits the vicar and asks him if he thinks he's crazy. He asks the man, who is sniffing from a cold, what he is researching. Cuss sees the man's arm as empty as he reaches to grab a prescription, and he asks why there is an empty sleeve. The man comes close to his face and with his empty sleeve, tweaks Cuss's nose with no visible hand.

6. Sum up the events in the vicarage and the beer cellar.

The vicarage has been robbed, and the vicar and his wife hear someone in their house fumbling, walking, and sneezing. They cannot see the robber, and they see the back door open, but no one leaving. Mr. Hall finds that his beer cellar has been broken into, and connects it to the robbery of the vicarage. He enters the stranger's room, finds it empty, and finds the stranger's only clothes in the room. Mrs. Hall joins him, and they see the stranger's clothes flying around the room, along with other objects.

Week 20, Day 2 – *The Invisible Man* – Chapters 6-10

1. How do the Halls explain the strange occurrences? What might the author be saying by their explanation?

They take the occurrences for evil spirits, and several townspeople go up to see. The stranger surprises them by opening the door first, and the group wonders what is going on.

Wells, a noted atheist, might be poking fun at persons who take scientific occurrences (such as the man's invisibility) and ascribe religious meanings to them—painting Christians and other religious persons as silly or superstitious.

2. Describe the memorable scene after Mrs. Hall demands payment from the lodger.

Mr. Hall seeks the magistrate's advice after wondering if the stranger burgled the vicarage, and more violent outbursts are heard in the stranger's room. The stranger asks Mrs. Hall for food, but she demands payment, and he offers her gold, which she all but accuses him of stealing.

The stranger yells "Stop!" violently and begins taking off his bandages, nose, and glasses, revealing emptiness. This causes pandemonium, with 40 people rushing up to the inn and wildly shouting speculations. Mr. Hall, the magistrate, and a constable arrive with a search warrant and struggle to capture the stranger. The Invisible Man, as the author now calls him, wants to know why he's being hounded, and the constable says he's under arrest for burglary. The Invisible Man undresses and disappears, chokes Jaffers (the constable), and escapes.

3. What does the experience of Gibbons indicate?

The coughing and sneezing Gibbons hears indicates the presence of the invisible man in his area.

4. Describe Mr. Marvel. What is the only part of the Invisible Man that he can see? Sum up what the Invisible Man orders him to do.

Thomas Marvel: big-faced, with a big beard, fat, and not well dressed. He speaks about boots to an unseen stranger, and can't find him when he finally turns around; he thinks he's drunk or evil spirits. The Invisible Man convinces Marvel that he is real by throwing rocks at him, then grasping his wrist. Then he sees undigested bread and cheese in the Invisible Man's system.

The Invisible Man asks Marvel's help in obtaining food and clothes, saying he sees Marvel as a social outcast like himself. Marvel agrees, feeling threatened, especially when the Invisible Man warns him not to betray him or do anything contrary to what he orders.

5. What does Mr. Marvel steal, and why?

Marvel takes some books, and Mr. Huxter chases him, but is knocked to the ground by an unseen hand. The books are for the Invisible Man.

Week 20, Day 3 – *The Invisible Man* – Chapters 11-15

1. What do Dr. Cuss and Mr. Bunting find in the Invisible Man's room? Why does Marvel open the door?

They find a diary written in code. Suddenly the door opens, and Marvel looks in, and is told to leave. (He has let the Invisible Man into the room.)

2. From whose point of view is Chapter 12 told? List several incidents that demonstrate the Invisible Man's destructive nature.

The events as Mr. Hall and Mr. Henfrey hear them are told in Chapter 12 (the same events covered in Chapter 11). Mr. Cuss comes out dressed in sheets, having had his clothes taken from him (as has the vicar). The Invisible Man strikes and knocks down many around him. Mr. Bunting has to run home naked, rather than face the Invisible Man, who is coming for him. The Invisible Man turns destructive—breaking windows, cutting telegraph wire—and vanishes from the town.

3. What kinds of characters do Mr. Marvel and the Invisible Man show themselves to be?

Selfish, self-destructive, weak, only looking out for their own interests when possible.

4. Describe the conversation between Mr. Marvel and the mariner. What is the Invisible Man using Marvel for?

Marvel sits the next morning, listening to an old sailor telling him that the newspapers say there is an invisible man nearby. Marvel gets an idea, asking the mariner whether the Invisible Man is known to have any friends, which the mariner denies. Marvel starts to tell the mariner something, but is stopped by an unseen hand, and resolutely tells the mariner that it is all a hoax. The mariner walks away, but later hears many tales of bags and rolls of money traveling by themselves (which end up in Marvel's pockets), and he realizes he has been close to the Invisible Man. The Invisible Man is simply using Marvel to help him get what he wants—money, food, and his books.

5. Describe Dr. Kemp.

Dr. Kemp is a young medical man who believes he will earn a spot in the Royal Society because of the experiments he is working on.

Week 21, Day 1 – *The Invisible Man* – Chapters 16-19

1. Why does the Invisible Man try to kill Marvel? How does Marvel escape, at least temporarily?

The Invisible Man tries to kill Marvel because Marvel tried to get away. Marvel runs into a bar, screaming that the Invisible Man is chasing him. The barman locks the doors, and the window to the bar is smashed. The Invisible Man sneaks in anyway, and grabs Marvel. The men in the bar fight back, and he releases Marvel; one man takes five shots at the Invisible Man, telling the others to help him search for his body.

2. What happens in Dr. Kemp's home? What information do we learn about the Invisible Man?

Dr. Kemp hears the shots and wonders what's going on. The doorbell rings, but no one is there when the servant answers. Kemp finishes work late, sees a spot of blood on the floor, and then sees blood on his study doorknob. The Invisible Man speaks to Kemp; he has been shot, and has bandaged his wound. Kemp tries to get away, but the IM holds him.

The IM identifies himself as Griffin, a man who went to college with Kemp, and a near-albino with a gift for chemistry.

3. Discuss Dr. Kemp's thoughts about invisibility. What does he decide to do about the Invisible Man, and why?

Kemp ponders the possibility of invisibility, thinking of "invisible" animals of the animal kingdom. He reads newspaper accounts of the strange happenings concerning the IM, realizing he is crazy and a killer. He wonders what to do, starts writing a note to Colonel Adye, and is interrupted by the sounds of the IM awakening and angrily smashing a chair upstairs.

4. Sum up Griffin's story. What do you think that the scientific jargon in this section does for the story?

He is fascinated by light as a young man, vows to devote his life to its study, and finds a geometric formula for lowering the refractive property of substances so they are not able to be seen. Griffin says that glass, powdered, is more visible than a sheet. Kemp says, "But a man's not powdered glass!" and Griffin replies it's easier to make a man more transparent because he is made of transparent, colorless tissue.

Griffin says his mentor, Oliver, tried to steal credit for Griffin's ideas, but Griffin kept his work secret. Then Griffin discovered that blood could be made colorless and retain its functions. He worked for three years on the secret of invisibility, but found himself at a standstill because he lacked money to continue. Griffin robbed his father of money that wasn't his to give, and his father shot himself.

The scientific jargon in this section gives weight to the possibility of turning invisible, and makes the story seem not-so-fantastic, giving it some credibility.

Week 21, Day 2 – *The Invisible Man* – Chapters 20-23

1. Explain why Griffin tells Dr. Kemp that they must get the books from Mr. Marvel.

The secrets are hidden in code in books Mr. Marvel hid for him.

2. How does Griffin test the invisibility drug? What advantages does he think invisibility will offer him? What does he think about being invisible once he walks around London?

Griffin explains his first success—turning a piece of fabric invisible. He turns a cat—except for its eyes—invisible as well, a process that takes several hours. The cat runs off, is heard meowing, and Griffin’s landlord complains, suspecting some illegal activity by Griffin, especially when he hears the engine vibrating. Griffin throws the landlord out, then becomes desperate, fearing his work will be interrupted and he will be discovered.

Griffin takes the “invisibility drug,” and then his landlord serves him an ejection notice. The landlord gasps when he sees Griffin, since his face is white. Griffin undergoes great pain through the process, finally becoming invisible. The landlord breaks into the apartment the next morning, tries to make sense of the situation, and suffers the loss of his building, since the IM sets fire to it to destroy the evidence of his experiments. The IM begins to think of the advantages of being invisible.

In London, while invisible, the IM gets knocked around a few times inadvertently by those who can’t see him, and escapes. A dog smells him and follows him. Children notice his footprints and almost catch him. It isn’t the fun and freeing experience he thought it would be.

3. Explain Griffin’s experience in the theatrical store. What does he tell Kemp he plans to do? How does he feel about ordinary, average people?

He goes into a theatrical store to get a disguise, and accidentally alerts the shop owner of his presence, who locks him in a room when he hears him. Griffin knocks him unconscious, ties him in a sheet, and escapes, and Kemp chides him for not following “the common conventions of humanity.” To this Griffin answers that they are “all very well for the common people.” Griffin is angry that Kemp chides him for robbing and tying up a man in his own house, so Kemp plays it cool and doesn’t further anger Griffin.

Griffin finds all he needs to make a disguise for himself—clothes, a wig, a mask, a false beard. He orders a meal at a restaurant, but remembers he can’t eat without exposing an empty space for his mouth, and leaves.

Griffin tells Kemp he plans to get his materials and reverse the invisibility. He learns the constable and others he attacked in Iping will recover. He expresses his extreme frustration at ordinary people who get in his way and bother him.

Week 21, Day 3 – *The Invisible Man* – Chapters 24-27

1. What disturbing conclusion does Griffin tell Dr. Kemp he has reached? How does Dr. Kemp counter?

Griffin says invisibility is a great advantage in approaching and leaving, and says he and Kemp must kill to complete their business. Kemp disagrees, saying Griffin should publish his results and help the world.

2. Sum up Dr. Kemp’s warning to Colonel Adye after Griffin’s escape. How does he suggest the town fight back?

Kemp warns Colonel Adye that the IM means to create a reign of terror, killing anyone in his way. Kemp says they must lock up food, bar doors, get dogs to help, hide weapons, and keep searching (since he has to eat, and food is visible).

3. Sum up the fate of Mr. Wicksteed. Why do you think the author included this incident?

He murders Mr. Wicksteed, who apparently stumbled upon the IM accidentally by seeing a rod floating in the air. The IM sees the locked houses and men searching and sets himself up for a great struggle against the world.

The author most likely included this murder to erase any of the reader's remaining sympathy for the IM.

The Week 21, Day 4 – Invisible Man – Chapter 28 and Epilogue

1. What do you think about Mr. Heelas's actions toward Dr. Kemp after he witnesses what happens to Kemp? What is Griffin's fate?

He basically locks him out! This seems...un-neighborly, to say the least. Probably a commentary on man's self-preserv-ing nature.

Kemp tries to organize the people who come to his aid and is struck savagely by the IM. He strikes back and is helped by others. Kemp yells that the IM is hurt, and the crowd sees his body slowly begin to become visible—veins and arteries, bones and sinews. He becomes fully visible, and his face is distorted with anger. Griffin is carried off to the Jolly Cricketers and dies in a bed there.

2. What do you take from the Epilogue? (That is, what does the author seem to say?)

Mr. Marvel has grown rich from the events, keeping money that can't be proved to belong to anyone in particular, and for those who come to hear the story of the IM. He claims he knows nothing about the three books that Kemp says he has, but later locks up and brings them out, trying to discover what the code in them means. Marvel says the IM meant the secrets for evil, but he would never, of course, use them for that.

This is unlikely, as Marvel has shown himself to be not much better in character than the IM. Probably the author's point is that if Marvel—or most anyone else—discovered the secret, he would be destructive, just like Griffin, with this power.