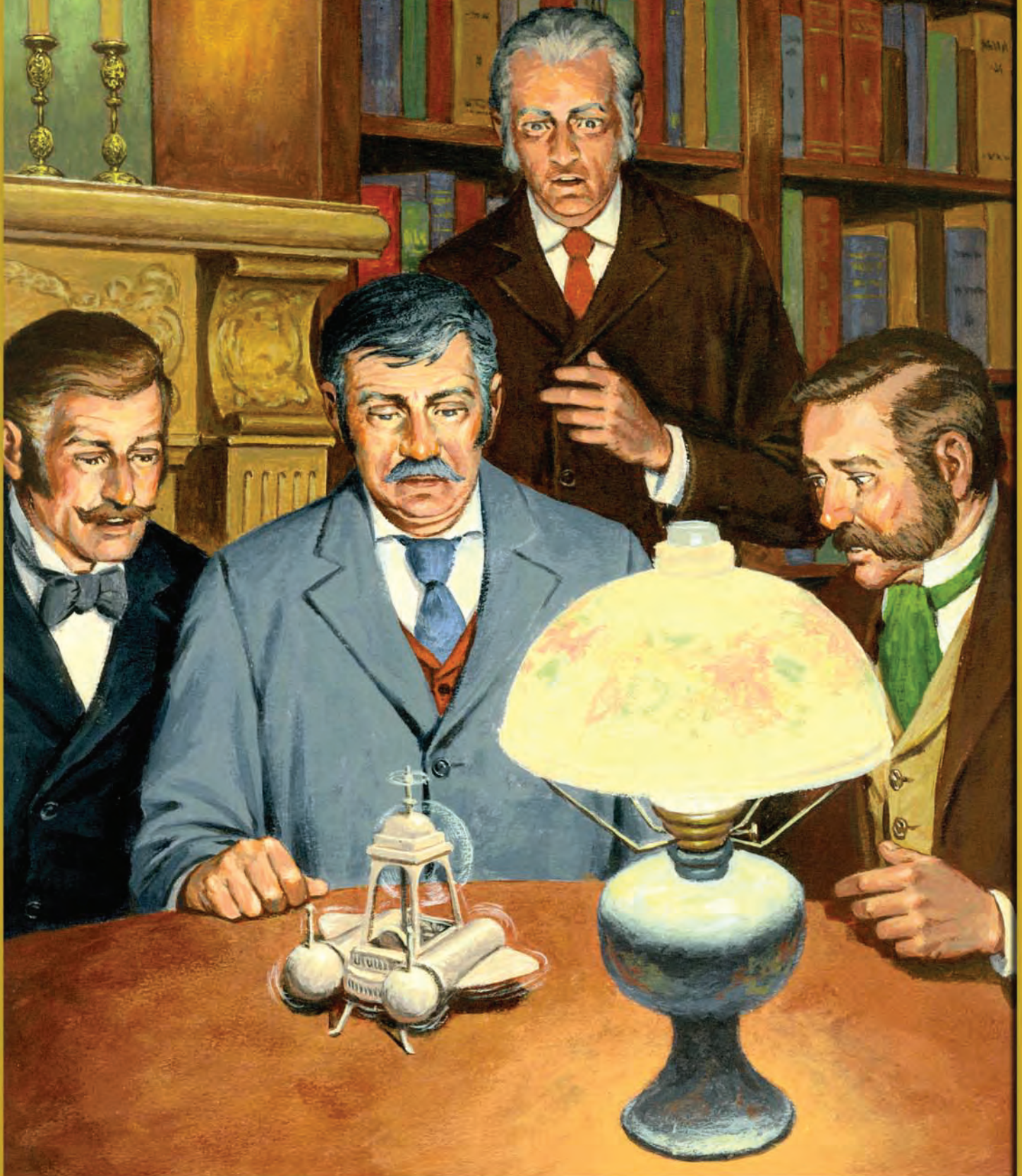


EDCON PUBLISHING

H. G. Wells'

Level 4

The Time Machine



"Bring the Classics to Life"

THE TIME MACHINE

LEVEL 4

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About the Author

Herbert George Wells was born on September 21, 1866 in Kent, England. His father, Joseph, owned a china and glass shop. He was also a professional bowler and coach for the Kent County Cricket Club. Joseph had an accident in 1877, which ended his professional career. The accident caused financial hardship for the family, and it was this tragedy that helped the Wells' marriage to fail. These difficulties forced young Herbert to leave school and make his own way in the world. He held many apprenticeships, but he believed in self-education. In his spare time he studied physiology, chemistry and mathematics. In 1884, Herbert successfully obtained a scholarship to the Normal School of Science where he trained as a science teacher. It was here that he became editor of the school's journal where his first serious attempts at writing were published. In 1895, Wells opted for a full-time writing career and his first important short stories were published. His next work, *The Time Machine* received 'rave' reviews and thereafter, his popularity grew as a writer of science fiction. Some of his other works include *The Island of Dr. Moreau*, *War of the Worlds*, and *The First Men in the Moon*. H.G. Wells died in 1946. He left behind many works filled with wonder and fascination.

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The Time Machine
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22	Travelling in Time	Our friend had taken the Time Machine into some future time. He found himself on a green lawn next to a big white statue. Lovely little people surrounded him. They gave him a necklace of flowers.	12
23	In The Future	The little people led the Time Traveller to a huge house in which they ate and slept. He dined on strange fruits and explored green fields. When he returned to the green lawn on which he had landed, he got a terrible surprise.	18
24	A New Discovery	The Time Traveller was upset. He entered the huge house and began to awake the little people who slept there. The next morning he followed tracks in the grass to the base of the statue. He looked at deep wells that contained no water. It was all very strange.	24
25	Weena	The Time Traveller began to wonder. He saw that the little people did not work, yet they had fine robes. There were no birds or insects. The Time Traveller made a friend called Weena. And he thought he saw a strange creature.	30
26	The Morlocks	The Time Traveller entered one of the wells he had been studying and climbed down. He heard a noise that sounded like a machine. At the bottom of the well he met the Morlocks.	36
27	The Green Palace	Glad to return to the world above, the Time Traveller knew why the little people did not go out at night. He, too, feared the Morlocks. Weena and the Time Traveller headed for the Green Palace. Here they found old treasures and Morlocks.	42
28	In The Dark	The Time Traveller and Weena tried to make their way back through the woods. They were met by Morlocks. The Time Traveller used fire to scare them away, but soon the fire went out. He had fallen asleep.	48
29	A Trap	The Time Traveller fought with the Morlocks. A fire roared through the forest. Later that afternoon, the Time Traveller found the door at the base of the statue, open. He entered.	54
30	The Return Trip	The Time Traveller headed into the future. He wanted to see how the world would end. But he became frightened and returned to his own home. The Time Traveller heard the sound of our voices and he joined us for dinner. There he told his story. I returned to his house the next morning just as he left on his Time Machine.	60
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WORDS USED

Story 21

Story 22

Story 23

Story 24

Story 25

KEY WORDS

cable

cheerful

article

acrobat

according

contain

expert

awkward

anxious

beak

instrument

fuss

effect

area

damage

somersault

legend

fortunate

carpenter

imagination

strap

scout

popular

giggle

skunk

tug

tough

result

type

squawk

NECESSARY WORDS

inventor

ruins

torn

WORDS USED

Story 26

Story 27

Story 28

Story 29

Story 30

KEY WORDS

direct
grind
museum
possession
transfer
wharf

canvas
detective
hoarse
janitor
proof
statement

actually
introduce
preserve
remind
strain
trudge

bandage
cripple
disgust
landlord
scowl
shove

flutter
protection
scoop
stallion
wail
wilderness

NECESSARY WORDS

weapon

purpose

laboratory

A NEW MACHINE

PREPARATION

Key Words

cable	(kā ' bl)	strong, thick rope or wires twisted together <i>We tied the boat to the dock with a strong <u>cable</u>.</i> wires under the ground or the ocean used for sending electricity or messages.
contain	(kən tān ')	to hold <i>Peter's pockets <u>contain</u> all kinds of treasures.</i>
instrument	(in ' strə mənt)	a tool for careful measuring <i>This <u>instrument</u> measures how hard the wind is blowing.</i> a machine on which music is played <i>The piano is my favorite <u>instrument</u>.</i>
somersault	(sum ' əɹ sɔlt)	a tumbling of the body with the feet going over the head. <i>Once I did a <u>somersault</u> and landed in a puddle.</i>
strap	(strap)	to fasten with a narrow strip of leather or cloth <i><u>Strap</u> yourself tightly into the seat before the ride begins.</i> a narrow strip of leather or cloth used for holding or wrapping <i>The baby wears a <u>strap</u> so she can't fall out of her chair.</i>
tug	(tug)	to pull <i>It hurts when you <u>tug</u> on my hair.</i> a hard pull <i>I gave the rope a <u>tug</u> and it quickly came loose.</i> a small boat that pulls another <i>The <u>tug</u> helped the large boat out of the harbor.</i>

A NEW MACHINE

Necessary Words

inventor (in ven ' tər) a person who is the first maker of something
Eli Whitney was the inventor of the cotton gin.

People

The Narrator is a friend of the inventor, who is telling the story.

The Time Traveller is the inventor of the Time Machine.

A NEW MACHINE



Our friend, the inventor, brought out a model of his Time Machine and placed it on the table. The other guests and I watched as the amazing test began.

Preview:

1. Read the name of the story.
2. Look at the picture.
3. Read the sentences under the picture.
4. Read the first three paragraphs of the story.
5. Then answer the following question.

You learned from your preview that

- ☐ a. the inventor was telling a crazy joke.
- ☐ b. none of the guests would laugh at the inventor.
- ☐ c. the inventor believed he could travel through time.
- ☐ d. many people had tried to travel into the past.

Turn to the Comprehension Check on page 10 for the right answer.

Now read the story.

Read to find out if what the inventor says is true.

A NEW MACHINE

"I've invented a machine that I think will travel through time," our friend told us. At first no one said anything. Our friend liked to make jokes, but tonight he looked very serious. It was also true that he was an inventor. Even the chairs we were sitting in were not ordinary chairs, but his own special design.

Then one of the other guests laughed. "Travel through time?" he chuckled. "That's not possible."

"That's what everyone thinks," our friend replied, nodding. "Perhaps that's why no one has ever bothered to try."

There was more laughter.

"If you don't believe me," our friend said, "I guess I'll have to show you."

He left the room but soon he was back again. "Where is the Time Machine?" we asked. I had expected to see some sort of car or rocket, and I guess the others did too.

"Here," our friend answered. Looking closely, we saw that his hands did contain a small metal object. He explained that it was just a model of the machine he had talked about, but it would really work.

"All I have to do," he told us, "is push this bar forward to make the machine travel into the future. This other one will bring it back again." A cable joined each of these bars to an instrument which he said would measure days and years as the machine passed through them. If this was a joke, he had certainly worked hard on it. There was even a tiny seat with a safety strap.

He let us look at the model as long as we wished. Then he told us to watch carefully. Setting the tiny machine on the table, he asked one of our friends to push the bar he had shown us before. The Time Traveller took the guest's hand. The inventor did not have time to coax and tug at the surprised man.

At last the guest touched his finger to the shiny bar. For one second, the machine trembled as if it were about to do a somersault. And then, right before our eyes, right beneath his shaking hand, the Time Machine disappeared!

There were cries of surprise, and one guest even looked under the table. But the machine was gone, completely gone. "Do you really expect us to believe that it has traveled into the future?" someone asked.

Our friend smiled. "Of course," he said. "That is just what has happened." After a minute, he spoke again. "Now I have something else to show you."

We went with him down the hall to his workroom, wondering what new surprise it would contain. He opened the door, and there stood another Time Machine. It was like the first one, but many times larger. The seat was big enough for a man to sit on. The metal bars, the cable, and the instrument for measuring time were all the same as those on the model.

"Are you really serious?" one of the guests asked. "Or is this a trick, like that ghost you made last year?"

"On this machine," our friend said quietly, "I will

explore time. I was never more serious in my life."

There was a long silence. One of the other guests caught my eye and gave me a wink to show he still thought it was a joke. I wasn't at all sure what I thought.

The next week we went to our friend's house again for dinner. There we found a note from him saying that he'd gone out. If he wasn't back by dinner time, we should go ahead and eat without him.

We did go ahead with our meal. As a joke, I said maybe our friend had climbed on his machine, fastened the strap, and gone for a trip through time. One of the guests was new this week, so we had to explain about the Time Machine. Just as we were telling how the model had seemed about to make a somersault, there was a sound at the door.

In came our friend with his clothes all dirty and torn. He had cuts on his face and walked with a limp. On his feet he wore only a pair of torn and bloody socks. At first he didn't seem able to speak. He had to tug at my sleeve and point to a glass of water to show that he wanted some. Then he seemed to feel a little better and even smiled.

"What's wrong?" we all asked. "Where have you been?"

He said he was very hungry and would explain everything after he'd eaten.

"Have you been time travelling?" I cried. "Please tell us."

"Yes," he answered, and began to eat.

A NEW MACHINE

COMPREHENSION CHECK

Choose the best answer.

Preview Answer:

- c. The inventor believed he could travel through time.

1. The guests in the story were the inventor's
 - ☐ a. students.
 - ☐ b. friends.
 - ☐ c. family.
 - ☐ d. neighbors.
2. The new machine was made of
 - ☐ a. metal.
 - ☐ b. plaster.
 - ☐ c. wood.
 - ☐ d. stone.
3. When the bar was pushed forward, the model
 - ☐ a. turned over.
 - ☐ b. rattled.
 - ☐ c. disappeared.
 - ☐ d. measured time.
4. After the machine was tested, the guests felt
 - ☐ a. happy.
 - ☐ b. surprised.
 - ☐ c. tired.
 - ☐ d. bored.
5. First, the inventor brought out his model. Then, the model was tested. Next,
 - ☐ a. the inventor travelled through time.
 - ☐ b. the guests went home without saying a word.
 - ☐ c. the model returned to the room looking battered.
 - ☐ d. the men went to the workroom.
6. In the inventor's workroom the guests saw
 - ☐ a. another small model of a different Time Machine.
 - ☐ b. movies of the inventor's journey through time.
 - ☐ c. a life-size Time Machine that looked like the model.
 - ☐ d. an empty space where the real Time Machine had been.
7. The inventor was
 - ☐ a. just joking with the men about travelling through time.
 - ☐ b. returning from a trip to the past.
 - ☐ c. not sure about time travel.
 - ☐ d. a man who dedicated many hours to the idea of time travel.
8. This event takes place
 - ☐ a. in the morning.
 - ☐ b. in the afternoon.
 - ☐ c. in the evening.
 - ☐ d. late at night.
9. Another name for this story could be
 - ☐ a. "Good Friends."
 - ☐ b. "How to Make Models."
 - ☐ c. "Seeing Is Believing."
 - ☐ d. "The Invention."
10. This story is mainly about
 - ☐ a. inventors as serious people.
 - ☐ b. a machine that can travel through time.
 - ☐ c. inventing machines that can be dangerous.
 - ☐ d. people who don't believe inventors.

Check your answers with the key on page 6

A NEW MACHINE

VOCABULARY CHECK

cable	contain	instrument	somersault	strap	tug
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I. Sentences to Finish

Fill in the blank in each sentence with the correct key word from the box above.

- Those red boxes _____ the old magazines that my father has been saving.
- It is important, for safety reasons, to _____ yourself in your seat when you go for a drive in the car.
- The sailor had to _____ very hard to tighten the rope that held the boat to the dock.
- The car that was being towed was connected to the truck by a heavy _____.
- The _____ showed a high reading of dangerous gas in the area.
- The circus clown did a _____ off the moving car.

II. Making Sense of Sentences

Put a check next to YES if the sentence makes sense.

Put a check next to NO if the sentence does not make sense.

- | | | |
|--|-----------|----------|
| 1. An <u>instrument</u> is a tool that gives careful measurements. | _____ YES | _____ NO |
| 2. To <u>tug</u> at something is to pull on it. | _____ YES | _____ NO |
| 3. A <u>somersault</u> is something one uses on a fishing trip. | _____ YES | _____ NO |
| 4. Paul had to <u>strap</u> on the metal hat to protect his head. | _____ YES | _____ NO |
| 5. A box with a hole in it will <u>contain</u> lots of grain. | _____ YES | _____ NO |
| 6. A heavy <u>cable</u> might be used to keep an old tree straight and steady. | _____ YES | _____ NO |

Check your answers with the key on page 69.

Bring the Classics to Life

Titles in this Series

Reading Level 1.0 – 2.0

White Fang
Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm
Little Women
Swiss Family Robinson
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
Rip Van Winkle
Heidi
Uncle Tom's Cabin
The Jungle Book
A Christmas Carol

Reading Level 2.0 – 3.0

Black Beauty
Tom Sawyer
The Call of the Wild
Treasure Island
The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood
The Prince and the Pauper
The Man Without a Country
The Hunchback of Notre Dame
Silas Marner
Around the World in 80 Days

Reading Level 3.0 – 4.0

Robinson Crusoe
The Red Badge of Courage
Kidnapped
The Invisible Man
The Man in the Iron Mask
The War of the Worlds
Sea Wolf
Oliver Twist

A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court
Frankenstein

Reading Level 4.0 – 5.0

Captains Courageous
Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde
The Time Machine
Gulliver's Travels
20,000 Leagues Under the Sea
The Pathfinder
From the Earth To the Moon
David Copperfield
The Pioneers
The Picture of Dorian Gray

Reading Level 5.0 – 6.0

Metropolis
The Hound of the Baskervilles
Kim
The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes
A Journey to the Center of the Earth
Ivanhoe
Last of the Mohicans
Moby Dick
The Count of Monte Cristo
A Tale of Two Cities

