

CBSE

GRADE: 10

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

TITLE: FOOTPRINTS WITHOUT FEET

### **Introduction of the book:**

"Footprints Without Feet" is a collection of short stories written by H. G. Wells. First published in 1893, the book features a series of intriguing and thought-provoking tales that explore various themes, including science, adventure, and the consequences of human actions. These stories showcase Wells' ability to blend scientific ideas with engaging narratives, making them both entertaining and intellectually stimulating.

[This story is about a mad scientist who did a drug experiment on himself and got invisible.]

### Characters:

1. Griffin: A brilliant scientist who discovers the formula for invisibility and becomes invisible himself.
2. Dr. Kemp: A former colleague of Griffin's who becomes involved in his plans for world domination.
3. Marvel: A tramp who becomes Griffin's servant and helps him carry out his plans.
4. Jaffers: A police officer who is tasked with capturing Griffin.

### **Introduction of the writer:**

H. G. Wells was a renowned English author best known for his science fiction novels. Born in 1866 in Bromley, Kent, Wells became one of the pioneers of the science fiction genre and is often referred to as the "Father of Science Fiction." His works, which include classics like "The Time Machine," "The Invisible Man," and "War of the Worlds," continue to captivate readers with their imaginative concepts and social commentary.

### **Overview:**

"Footprints Without Feet" is a collection of short stories written by H.G. Wells. The chapter revolves around the story of a brilliant scientist named Griffin, who discovers the formula for invisibility and becomes invisible himself. The story explores the consequences of Griffin's newfound power and his

plans for world domination. It highlights the dangers of unchecked scientific progress and the importance of ethical considerations in scientific research.

### Flow of the Story:

-The story begins with Griffin's discovery of the formula for invisibility and his transformation into an invisible man.

-He becomes increasingly isolated and paranoid, and his plans for world domination begin to take shape.

-He recruits Marvel, a tramp, to be his servant and carry out his plans.( ref.- Dr. Kemp, a former colleague of Griffin's, becomes involved in his plans and tries to stop him.)

-The story culminates in a dramatic confrontation between Griffin and the police, led by Jaffers.

-Griffin is eventually killed, and his body becomes visible once again.

-Griffin set fire in his landlord's house in the fit of anger.

-He committed theft in a departmental store of London.

-He stole money and other things as well from a theatrical store too.

-He reached village Iping, at Mrs. Hall's inn.

-He remained suspicious and invisible there to all the villagers and the owners.

-Problems increased day by day.

-He committed robbery at the clergyman's house too.

-He hadn't been caught but came under suspicions by the villagers and the owner of the inn. Mr. and Mrs. Hall investigated his room on a purpose to find out the evidences against him.

-But that went in vain. He got invisible and attacked on the Hall couple.

-They thought that they were attacked by some spirit or a ghost.

-They called police and asked to investigate Griffin for his suspicious activities , and reason to come to village.

-At last Griffin had to run away from Iping as well.

-No one knew where he had gone and what happened to him then after.

### Conclusion:

"Footprints without Feet" by H.G. Wells is a cautionary tale about the dangers of unchecked scientific progress. The story explores the consequences of Griffin's discovery of the formula for invisibility and his plans for world domination. It highlights the importance of ethical considerations in scientific research and the need for responsible scientific progress. The story serves as a reminder of the potential consequences of scientific discoveries and the importance of considering their impact on society.

His problem was that he hadn't developed the drug to return the effects of the previous dose. He had been without home, money, support or any family. His life had become more miserable when he got invisible, as he had to remain naked. It was sheer cold in London. Homeless Griffin had nowhere to go.

### Literary devices used:

As "Footprints Without Feet" is a collection of short stories by H. G. Wells, it does not specifically employ literary devices commonly found in other prose, such as imagery, metaphor, dialogue, or repetition. However, Wells's storytelling techniques and narrative style contribute to the overall impact and enjoyment of the stories.