



Footprints Without Feet – Revision Notes

Summary

- The story is about Griffin, a brilliant scientist who discovers a way to make himself invisible.
 - He becomes invisible by swallowing certain chemicals.
 - However, instead of using his discovery for good, he misuses it for selfish and criminal purposes.
 - At first, he roams around London invisible, but his footprints in mud and snow cause fear and suspicion.
 - He sets fire to his landlord's house out of revenge and escapes without being caught.
 - He steals clothes from stores to cover his invisibility and avoid attention.
 - Later, he takes shelter at an inn in a village (Iping), but his strange behavior makes people doubtful.
 - He misuses his invisibility again to steal money and create chaos.
 - Ultimately, he is hunted down by people because of his misuse of science.
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Theme

- Misuse of Science → Griffin uses his invention for crime, not for the welfare of society.
 - Science vs Morality → Knowledge without morality is dangerous.
 - Isolation → Griffin becomes isolated due to his actions and arrogance.
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Characters

- Griffin – A brilliant but lawless scientist, selfish, arrogant, and immoral.

- Landlord & Mrs. Hall (Innkeeper) – Represent ordinary people who become suspicious of Griffin's strange behavior.
 - Villagers/Police – Represent society that ultimately unites against Griffin.
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🌟 Message of the Story

- Knowledge should be guided by morality.
 - Science is powerful, but when misused, it can be destructive.
 - Selfishness and arrogance lead to downfall.
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🗣️ Literary Devices

- Irony → Griffin, a genius scientist, ends up as a criminal and fugitive.
 - Suspense → The invisible man's strange acts create mystery.
 - Symbolism → Invisibility symbolizes misuse of unchecked power.
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❓ Short Questions & Answers

1. Who is the author of *Footprints Without Feet*?
👉 H.G. Wells.
 2. Who was Griffin?
👉 A brilliant but lawless scientist who discovered how to become invisible.
 3. How did Griffin become invisible?
👉 By swallowing certain rare chemicals.
 4. Why did Griffin set fire to his landlord's house?
👉 Out of revenge because the landlord tried to evict him.
 5. Why were people suspicious of Griffin at the inn?
👉 Because of his secretive behavior and sudden disappearances.
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🌟 Long Q&A



Q1. How did Griffin misuse his scientific discovery?

Answer: Griffin, after discovering how to make himself invisible, used it for selfish and criminal purposes instead of benefiting humanity. He set fire to his landlord's house, stole food and clothes, and created chaos in the village of Iping. His misuse of science ultimately made him an outcast and a fugitive.

Q2. What is the central theme of the story *Footprints Without Feet*?

Answer: The story highlights the dangers of misusing science. Griffin, though a genius, lacked morality and used his discovery only for selfish gains. The central theme is that knowledge without values can destroy both the individual and society.

Value-Based Q&A

1. What value does the story teach us?
 Science should always be used responsibly, with honesty and ethics.
2. What moral lesson do we learn from Griffin's downfall?
 Intelligence without moral sense leads to disaster.