The Time Machine/War Of The Worlds Assignment-Mixed Science

Before you read The Time Machine:

1. Look up on the Internet the following paintings from the Romantic period of history, which is from the late 18th century through the first half of the 19th century (this would be from 1701-1849):
   a. Goya’s Saturn Devouring His Children
   b. Gericault’s Raft of the Medusa
   c. Delecroix’s Liberty Leading the People
   d. Turner’s The Slave Ship
   e. Bingham’s Raftsmen Playing Cards
   
2. Compare the paintings above to those from the Victorian Era, which is the second half of the 19th century (1849-1900):
   a. Manet’s Bar at the Folie-Bergere
   b. Liebel’s Three Women in a Village Church
   c. Eakins’s Jumping Figures
   d. Tissot’s The Ball on Shipboard
   e. Meissonier’s The Palace of the Tuileries
   f. Bastien-Lepage’s Joan of Arc
   g. Degas’ Ballet Rehearsal
   h. Cassatt’s The Bath
   i. van Gogh’s The Night Cafe
   
3. Explain 3 things that you notice are different between the artistic works of the Romantic period to that of the Victorian Era. This will help you understand the time period of the novel, which is set in the Victorian Era.

Chapter 1

1. Read Chapter 1.
2. Define the following words:
   a. Intermittently
   b. Adroitly
   c. Incredulous
   d. Plausible
   e. Solemnly
3. Think of a time when you had something very important to say or an interesting story to tell. Describe the event as if you are watching a soundless video of it. You are writing as if you are narrating the story that is occurring on the video.
4. What do you think will happen in Chapter 2? What clues in the story cause you to make these predictions?

Chapter 2
1. Read Chapter 2.
2. Define the following words:
   a. Subtle
   b. Lucid
   c. Jocular
   d. Articulation
   e. Fervent
3. Answer the following comprehension questions (answers can come from Chapter 1 or 2):
   a. Where, specifically, is the first chapter of this story set? Be as exact as you can.
   b. According to the Time Traveler, what is the Fourth Dimension?
   c. According to the Medical Man, how is the Fourth Dimension different from the other three?
   d. Which character is an argumentative redhead?
   e. How large was the first Time Machine?
   f. What happened to the first Time Machine?
   g. Which character, besides the Time Traveler, is late for dinner?
   h. How do the other characters know that the Time Traveler has been detained?
   i. What kind of food does the Time Traveler crave?
   j. What is one condition the Time Traveler sets before telling his story?
4. After reading the first two chapters, we get a sense of characters’ personalities and features. List the characters that have been mentioned so far. Why do you think that they do not have real names?
5. Based on how the Time Traveler looked and acted in this chapter, where do you think he has been? What specific events could account for his current condition?

Chapter 3

1. Read Chapter 3.
2. Define the following words:
   a. Imminent
   b. Petulance
3. Describe your idea of Utopia. What would this world look like? Who would be there?

Chapter 4

1. Read Chapter 4.
2. Define the following words:
   a. Loath
   b. Indolent
   c. Precocious
   d. Wane
   e. Ameliorating
   f. Tentative
3. Answer the following comprehension questions (answers can come from Chapter 3 or 4):
   a. What happens when the Time Traveler stops?
   b. Where did he land?
   c. How does the Time Traveler change the weather?
   d. What did the Time Traveler do to be sure that the little people would not tamper with the time machine or damage it?
   e. In approximately what year had the Time Traveler landed?
   f. What did the little people eat?
   g. After eating dinner, what did the Time Traveler attempt to learn?
   h. On his walk after eating, what did the Time Traveler notice about the small houses and cottages?

4. Create a poster describing the Time Traveler, including his background, interests, problems, character traits that describe him, and a drawing of him. Also include 3-5 of the most important things he has said so far and include the quote and page number on the poster.

5. Describe the experiences of returning home after being gone for a while. What would it be like to go far away and find you cannot return home? Why is returning home so important?

Chapter 5

1. Read Chapter 5.
2. Define the following words:
   a. Futile
   b. Abstract
   c. Exuberant
   d. Obscurity
   e. Nocturnal
3. Answer the following comprehension questions:
   a. Returning from his long walk, what causes the Time Traveler to panic?
   b. What does the Time Traveler think he hears when he bangs his fist on the pedestal of the Sphinx?
   c. How does the Time Traveler make a new friend?
   d. What is his new friend’s name?
   e. What lesson did the Time Traveler learn from his new friend?
   f. What does the Time Traveler call the people from the lower world?
4. What song reminds you of either a character or what a character is experiencing? Describe the song. Why does this song fit the character so well?

Chapter 6

1. Read Chapter 6.
2. In the five chapters, find a passage that you respond to emotionally. Copy a few sentences from the passage and then explain why it affected you strongly.
3. A successful comic strip has both great picture and interesting dialogue. Construct a comic strip to depict the most important events that have occurred thus far in the novel. Include an interesting title, characters, dialogue, and anything else to make a successful comic strip.

Chapter 7

1. Read Chapter 7.
2. Define the following words:
   a. Sustaining
   b. Malign
   c. Dexterous
3. Answer the following comprehension questions (answers can come from Chapter 6 or 7):
   a. What sound does the Time Traveler hear on his descent into the well?
   b. What does he do when he feels a soft hand touching him?
   c. Why is the Time Traveler unable to speak to the Morlocks using language he has learned?
   d. How does the Time Traveler learn that the Morlocks are carnivorous?
   e. What piece of equipment does the Time Traveler wish he had taken into the future?
   f. Now that he has seen the Morlocks, what does the Time Traveler decide he must make for himself? What does he decide to find?
   g. Where does the Time Traveler decide to go after he returns to Weena?
   h. Reclining under the stars, what food does the Time Traveler decide that the Morlocks must be eating?
4. Pretend that it is 100 years from today and people are going through a museum to learn about our time in history. What will they find in the museum? What do these items say about us?

Chapter 8

1. Read Chapter 8.
2. Define the following words:
   a. Vestige
   b. Somber
3. What do you think will happen to the Time Traveler and Weena after they leave the palace? What clues in the story help you make this prediction?

Chapter 9

1. Read Chapter 9.
2. Define the following words:
   a. Temperate
   b. Incredulous
   c. Incessant
   d. Prodigious
3. Answer the following comprehension questions:
a. What, according to the Time Traveler, was the original purpose of the Palace of Green Porcelain?
b. What does the Time Traveler find that causes him and Weena to dance?
c. Why is Weena nervous as they go further into the gallery?
d. At night, what does Weena want to play with that troubles the Time Traveler?
e. Why are the Morlocks able to attack the Time Traveler when he sleeps by the fire?
f. Why can’t he light another fire?
g. The Time Traveler says that as the Morlocks attack him “The darkness seemed to grow luminous.” What causes this?
h. What does the Time Traveler lose?
i. At the end of the chapter, what does he find?

4. Think of an experience you had encountering something for the first time. What were your first impressions? How did they change over time?

Chapter 10

1. Read Chapter 10.
2. How do you think the Time Traveler’s guests will react to his story? Who, if anyone, will believe his tale? What will those who do not believe the Time Traveler think has happened?

Chapter 11

1. Read Chapter 11.

Chapter 12 and Epilogue

1. Read Chapter 12 and Epilogue.
2. Define the following words:
   a. Stagnant
   b. Translucent
   c. Discord
3. Answer the following comprehension questions (answers can come from Chapter 10, 11, 12, or Epilogue):
   a. How does the Time Traveler get inside the pedestal to his Time Machine?
   b. What is the condition of the Machine? Why did the Morlocks take care of the machine?
   c. After he finds the Machine, what causes the Time Traveler’s fear?
   d. How does he fight off the Morlocks?
   e. Where does the Time Traveler go in his Machine?
   f. What kind of creature scares the Time Traveler and causes him to go further into the future?
   g. Upon returning to his laboratory, what does the Time Traveler see Mrs. Watchett do?
   h. After telling his story to his guests, how does the Time Traveler reassure himself that the story is really true?
   i. What does the Medical Man want to take with him?
j. Who returns the next day to visit the Time Traveler?

Final Activities (Each activity is worth 50 points).

*You get to pick what 2 activities you would like to complete. If you do an additional activity, you will earn 25 bonus points.*

1. Create an illustrated booklet of the most important text passages from the book, following these steps: 1) skim through the novel to select the ten most important quotations. 2) Copy each quotation on a separate sheet of unlined paper and identify the page number. 3) Illustrate each by either drawing, painting, or using magazine or computer pictures. 4) On each page write a paragraph explaining why this is one of the ten most significant quotations in the novel.

2. Imitating Well’s style, write a new last chapter to the novel. Include answers to these questions:
   Where did the Time Traveler go next? What happened to him there? This ending should be at least 5 pages long to make a chapter length.

3. If the Time Traveler had saved important mementos from his trip to the future, what would they have been? Make a scrapbook of those items. On each page state what the item is, why it is important enough for the Time Traveler to save, and include a reference to it from the novel. Include at least 10 things in the scrapbook.

4. Victorian Steampunk is a term describing scientific romances written in the modern day but set in the Victorian-Edwardian period, imitating both the style and themes of the Victorians. There are many sources of online Steampunk. These sites include: novels, movies, comics, role-playing games, research, pictures, and entertainment. Conduct an online search of the term “Victorian Steampunk” to learn about what it is. Then write your own Steampunk.

*The War of the Worlds*

Part 1: Chapter 1 (The Eve of the War)

1. Read Chapter 1.
2. Answer the following comprehension questions:
   a. From what perspective is humanity viewed?
   b. What qualities in the Martians make them dangerous to humanity?
   c. What effect does it have on the novel to have an ordinary, unnamed narrator, not technically trained and often far from the center of activity?
   d. What irony is created by the topic of the series of papers he is writing?

Chapter 2 (The Falling Star)

1. Read Chapter 2.
2. Answer the following comprehension questions:
   a. What evidence is there that Wells is trying to avoid making his narrator a perfect observer?
   b. Why do you suppose he does this?
   c. How is Ogilvy’s first reaction to the movement of the cylinder top ironic?
   d. What error do the first reports of the landing make?

Chapter 3 (On Horsell Common)
1. Read Chapter 3.
2. Answer the following comprehension question:
   a. What methods does Wells use to make these events seem realistic?

Chapter 4 (The Cylinder Unscrews)

1. Read Chapter 4.
2. Answer the following comprehension questions:
   a. What is a Gorgon, and why might Wells have chosen to compare the Martians to one?
   b. In what ways does Wells make his narrator distinctly unheroic?

Chapter 5 (The Heat-Ray)

1. Read Chapter 5.
2. Answer the following comprehension question:
   a. What is the narrator’s reaction to the attack?

Chapter 6

1. Read Chapter 6.
2. Answer the following comprehension question:
   a. What have you read about thus far that is very interesting to you? Explain.

Chapter 7 (How I Reached Home)

1. Read Chapter 7.
2. Answer the following comprehension questions:
   a. Why is it important that the narrator not be an omnicompetent swaggering hero?
   b. What seems to be the narrator’s attitudes towards working class people?
   c. What does the phrase “in those days even philosophical writers had many little luxuries” imply about the state of the world after the Martian invasion?
   d. How does Wells once again compare the Martian invasion to British colonialism?

Chapter 8 (Friday Night)

1. Read Chapter 8.
2. Answer the following comprehension question:
   a. What about this chapter stands out to you the most? Explain.

Chapter 9 (The Fighting Begins)

1. Read Chapter 9.
2. Answer the following comprehension questions:
   a. What is the significance of the pun “fishers of men—fighters of fish”?
   b. What act of realistic cowardice does the narrator commit in the last part of the chapter?
   c. What is the eventual fate of the landlord in a later chapter?

Chapter 10 (In The Storm)
1. Read Chapter 10.
2. Answer the following comprehension question:
   a. In what way does the shape of the cylinders reflect the form of their creators?

Chapter 11 (At The Window)

1. Read Chapter 11.
2. Answer the following comprehension question:
   a. What technique does Wells use to emphasize the thoroughness of the destruction?

Chapter 12 (What I Saw of the Destruction of Weybridge and Shepperton)

1. Read Chapter 12.
2. Answer the following comprehension question:
   a. What is unusual about the sound of the attack the narrator is caught in?

Chapter 13 (How I Fell in with the Curate)

1. Read Chapter 13.
2. Answer the following comprehension questions:
   a. What does the clergyman's reference to Sodom and Gomorrah mean?
   b. How is the clergyman interpreting the attack of the Martians?
   c. Why does he call the Martians "God's ministers?"

Chapter 14 (In London)

1. Read Chapter 14.
2. Answer the following comprehension questions:
   a. Can you think of reasons that Wells chose not to continue with the same first-person narrative technique for this chapter?
   b. What prevents many Londoners from immediately reacting to the Martian invasion?

Chapter 15 (What Had Happened in Surrey)

1. Read Chapter 15.
2. Answer the following comprehension questions:
   a. Analyze the paragraph beginning "No doubt the thought that was uppermost." How does it view humanity? What is foreshadowed by the sentence in parentheses?
   b. Why would a gas be a particularly frightening weapon?

Chapter 16 (The Exodus from London)

1. Read Chapter 16.
2. Answer the following comprehension questions:
   a. What evidence is there that panic is overriding civilized behavior in this flight from the Martians?
   b. How does the brother rescue a lady, and what is the consequence to himself?
c. In what ways does this scene contradict our usual expectations of a hero saving a lady in distress?

d. When the brother is giving advice to Miss Elphinstone toward the end of the chapter about escaping their pursuer, how does he avoid the stereotyped “kill or be killed” dilemma which plays so great a role in fiction?

Chapter 17 (The “Thunder Child”)

1. Read Chapter 17.
2. Answer the following comprehension question:
   a. What effect might the constant repetition of specific place names have had on Wells’ first readers?

Part 2: Chapter 1 (Under Foot)

1. Read Chapter 1.
2. Answer the following comprehension questions:
   a. What is the setting of this chapter?
   b. How does the river look?

Chapter 2 (What We Saw from the Ruined House)

1. Read Chapter 2.
2. Answer the following comprehension question:
   a. At the end of the paragraph reading “And this was the sum of the Martian organs,” Wells added this sentence to later editions: “The bare idea of this is no doubt horribly repulsive to us, but at the same time I think that we should remember how repulsive our carnivorous habits would seem to an intelligent rabbit.” How does this addition alter the emotional impact of the paragraph?
   b. What has happened to the Martians?

Chapter 3 (The Days of Imprisonment)

1. Read Chapter 3.
2. Answer the following comprehension question:
   a. What are your thoughts about the novel up to this point? Explain.

Chapter 4 (The Death of the Curate)

1. Read Chapter 4.
2. Answer the following comprehension question:
   a. Why do you think Wells refers to the “death of the curate” in indirect or passive ways?

Chapter 5 (The Stillness)

1. Read Chapter 5.
2. Answer the following comprehension questions:
   a. What effect does this chapter on you?
b. How is “the death of the curator” referred to?
c. What other invader does the narrator discover has accompanied the Martians?

Chapter 6 (The Work of Fifteen Days)
1. Read Chapter 6.
2. Answer the following comprehension question:
   a. Why is it a hopeful sign that the Red Weed dies so quickly and thoroughly?

Chapter 7 (The Man on Putney Hill)
1. Read Chapter 7.
2. Answer the following comprehension questions:
   a. Does the killing of the curate haunt the narrator? Explain.
   b. What effect does the narrator say the war with the Martians has had on human attitudes towards animals?
   c. How does this passage fit in with his comments about animals at the beginning of the novel?
   d. Why does he say “This isn’t a war”?
   e. Why does the artilleryman welcome the collapse of civilization?
   f. Can you compare him with any group in our current culture?
   g. What is his attitude toward human beings?
   h. What convinces the narrator that the artilleryman is crazy?
   i. How does his behavior contradict his words?
   j. What is the function of the artilleryman in the novel?

Chapter 8 (Dead London)
1. Read Chapter 8.
2. Answer the following comprehension questions:
   a. Why is the title of this chapter somewhat ambiguous?
   b. What stops the narrator from committing suicide?
   c. Can you compare the death of the Martians to any other similar encounter in world history?
   d. What effect do you think the defeat of the Martians do to change the rest of the novel?

Chapter 9 (Wreckage)
1. Read Chapter 9.
2. Answer the following comprehension questions:
   a. Why does the narrator know nothing of the next three days?
   b. How does the rest of the world respond to England’s plight?
   c. Why is the narrator so upset by learning that Leatherhead has been destroyed?
   d. What technological side-benefit have humans derived from the invasion?
   e. Why does he mention the burial of “the landlord of the Spotted Dog?”
   f. What is ironic about the paper he finds on his desk?
   g. How does this incident reflect changing attitudes about the future of humanity in the late 19th century?
h. What effect would it have had on the novel to develop his reunion with his wife more fully, in traditional fashion?

Chapter 10 (The Epilogue)

1. Read Chapter 10.
2. Answer the following comprehension questions:
   a. Why is it significant that no Martian bacteria were ever discovered?
   b. What do you think of Ronald Reagan’s theory that an invasion from space might unify humanity, like the novel?
   c. What long-term hope does the possibility of travel hold out for humanity, according to the narrator?

Final Activities (Each activity is worth 25 points, other than #1, which is worth 100).

*Everyone must do number 1. You get to pick what other 4 activities you would like to complete. If you do an additional activity, you will earn 25 bonus points."

1. Find two articles about aliens/UFO sightings in a newspaper, magazine, or on the internet. Print off the article from the internet or bring it in from the newspaper or magazine. On a piece of paper, give your opinion about the truthfulness (validity) of each article. Do you think aliens from outer space could land on Earth?
2. Find two articles in a newspaper, magazine, or on the internet that give opinions of space exploration and its effect on our society today. Print off the article from the internet or bring it in from the newspaper or magazine. Write a letter to an official (like NASA or Senator or Congressman) giving your opinion on space exploration. For example, should the United States be involved in space exploration?
3. Find 20 words that are new to you. Write out the definition and a drawing or a symbol to help you remember the word. Write the sentence from the book (context) that you found the word.
4. Summarize one of the chapters into a page. Write which part the chapter is from (Part 1 or 2) and which chapter it is.
5. Take the main components of a novel (setting, theme, crisis, resolution) and discuss where each of these concepts is shown in the book.
6. Make a poster that would appeal to your friends and make them interested in reading the book.
7. Write a newspaper story about the invasion by the Things. Make sure that it is at least a page long.
8. Write another chapter with a different ending to the story. Make sure that it is at least 5 pages long.
9. Draw a cartoon of one of your favorite scenes in the book. Be sure to include color.
10. Wells gets into dangerous situations in the book. Pick 3 situations and explain how he escapes harm. List the page numbers.
11. Cut out magazine pictures to make a collage reflecting the people and places in War of the Worlds.
12. Watch the movie. Describe the how the book and movie differ.
13. Find a map of England and label it with important places in the book. Mark 5 important incidences on it.
14. Come up with 10 interview questions about a main character in the story. Do a taped interview where you are the main character and someone else is asking the questions.
15. Design an award for each of the surviving characters of the book. Write a brief speech outlining why each character qualified for that particular award.

16. Make a video of a newscast from the frontline. What would be important details for the audience to know about the Things and what is happening?