**Excerpt from The Time Machine by H.G. Wells**

In this excerpt, the Time Traveler describes the experience of traveling through time using the machine he has built. In this machine, he watches time pass very swiftly all around him. He starts out sitting in his machine in the laboratory in his home.

1) “I am afraid I cannot convey the peculiar sensations of time traveling. They are excessively unpleasant. There is a feeling exactly like that one has upon a switch back—of a helpless headlong motion! I felt the same horrible anticipation, too, of an imminent smash. As I put on pace, night followed day like the flapping of a black wing. The dim suggestion of the laboratory seemed presently to fall away from me, and I saw the sun hopping swiftly across the sky, leaping it every minute, and every minute marking a day. I supposed the laboratory had been destroyed and I had come into the open air. I had a dim impression of scaffolding, but I was already going too fast to be conscious of any moving things. The slowest snail that ever crawled dashed by too fast for me. The twinkling succession of darkness and light was excessively painful to the eye.”

2) ‘The unpleasant sensations of the start were less poignant now. They merged at last into a kind of hysterical exhilaration. I remarked indeed a clumsy swaying of the machine, for which I was unable to account. But my mind was too confused to attend to it, so with a kind of madness growing upon me, I flung myself into futurity. At first I scarce thought of stopping, scarce thought of anything but these new sensations. But presently a fresh series of impressions grew up in my mind—a certain curiosity and therewith a certain dread—until at last they took complete possession of me. What strange developments of humanity, what wonderful advances upon our rudimentary civilization, I thought, might not appear when I came to look nearly into the dim elusive world that raced and fluctuated before my eyes! I saw great and splendid architecture rising about me, more massive than any buildings of our own time, and yet, as it seemed, built of glimmer and mist. I saw a richer green flow up the hill-side, and remain there, without any wintry intermission. Even through the veil of my confusion the earth seemed very fair. And so my mind came round to the business of stopping.

3) ‘The peculiar risk lay in the possibility of my finding some substance in the space which I, or the machine, occupied. So long as I traveled at a high velocity through time, this scarcely mattered; I was, so to speak, attenuated—was slipping like a vapour through the interstices of intervening substances! But to come to a stop involved the jamming of myself, molecule by molecule, into whatever lay in my way; meant bringing my atoms into such intimate contact with those of the obstacle that a profound chemical reaction—possibly a far-reaching explosion—would result, and blow myself and my apparatus out of all possible dimensions—into the Unknown. This possibility had occurred to me again and again while I was making the machine; but then I had cheerfully accepted it as an unavoidable risk—one of the risks a man has got to take! Now the risk was inevitable, I no longer saw it in the same cheerful light. The fact is that, insensibly, the absolute strangeness of everything, the sickly jarring and swaying of the machine, above all, the feeling of prolonged falling, had absolutely upset my nerve. I told myself that I could never stop, and with a gust of petulance I resolved to stop forthwith. Like an impatient fool, ”

*What is the meaning of the word****elusive****as the narrator uses it in paragraph 2?*

1. *Big B. Ominous C. Unclear D. Dark*

*Which****two****details from the story helps you understand the meaning of the word****elusive****as the narrator uses it in paragraph 2?*

*A. No longer saw*

*B. Might not appear*

*C. Rudimentary civilization*

*D. Glimmer and mist*

*E. Veil of my confusion*

**From The Story of Doctor Dolittle, by Hugh Lofting**

 PUDDLEBY

ONCE upon a time, there was a doctor; and his name was Dolittle--John Dolittle, M.D. “M.D.” means that he was a proper doctor and knew a whole lot.

1) He lived in a little town called, Puddleby-on-the-Marsh. All the folks, young and old, knew him well by sight. And whenever he walked down the street in his high hat everyone would say, “There goes the Doctor!--He’s a clever man.” And the dogs and the children would all run up and follow behind him; and even the crows that lived in the church-tower would caw and nod their heads.

2) The house he lived in, on the edge of the town, was quite small; but his garden was very large and had a wide lawn and stone seats and weeping-willows hanging over. His sister, Sarah Dolittle, was housekeeper for him; but the Doctor looked after the garden himself.

3) He was very fond of animals and kept many kinds of pets. Besides the gold-fish in the pond at the bottom of his garden, he had rabbits in the pantry, white mice in his piano, a squirrel in the linen closet and a hedgehog in the cellar. He had a cow with a calf too, and an old lame Horse – twenty-five years of age--and chickens, and pigeons, and two lambs, and many other animals. But his favorite pets were Dab-Dab the duck, Jip the dog, Gub-Gub the baby pig, Polynesia the parrot, and the owl, Too-Too.

4) His sister used to grumble about all these animals and said they made the house untidy. And one day when an old lady with rheumatism came to see the Doctor, she sat on the hedgehog who was sleeping on the sofa and never came to see him anymore, but drove every Saturday all the way to Oxenthorpe, another town ten miles off, to see a different doctor.

Then his sister, Sarah Dolittle, came to him and said,

5) “John, how can you expect sick people to come and see you when you keep all these animals in the house? It’s a fine doctor would have his parlor full of hedge hogs and mice! That’s the fourth personage these animals have driven away. If you go on like this, none of the best people will have you for a doctor.” “But I like the animals better than the ‘best people’,” said the Doctor. “You are ridiculous,” said his sister, and walked out of the room.

What is the meaning of the **grumble** as the narrator uses it in paragraph 4? a. Asking a question b. Making an observation c. Complain/Protest D. Disappointment

Which phrase from the passage best helps you understand the meaning of the word **grumble** as the narrator uses it in paragraph 4?

1. That’s the fourth personage these animals have driven away.
2. But I like the animals better than the ‘best people’,” said the Doctor.
3. There goes John Dolittle, M.D.! There was a time when he was the best known doctor in the West Country”
4. And whenever he walked down the street in his high hat everyone would say, “There goes the Doctor!--He’s a clever man.”

**From Trial by Combat**

Shirley Jackson

When Emily Johnson came home one evening to her furnished room and found three of her best handkerchiefs missing from the dresser drawer, she was sure who had taken them and what to do. She had lived in the furnished room for about six weeks and for the past two weeks she had been missing small things occasionally. There had been several handkerchiefs gone, and an initial pin which Emily rarely wore and which had come from the five-and-ten. And once she had missed a small bottle of perfume and one of a set of china dogs. Emily had known for some time who was taking the things, but it was only tonight that she had decided what to do. She had hesitated about complaining to the landlady because her losses were **trivial** and because she had felt certain that sooner or later she would know how to deal with the situation herself. It had seemed logical to her from the beginning that the one person in the rooming-house who was home all day was the most likely suspect, and then, one Sunday morning, coming downstairs from the roof, where she had been sitting in the sun, Emily had seen someone come out of her room and go down the stairs, and had recognized the visitor. Tonight, she felt, she knew just what to do. She took off her coat and hat, put her packages down, and, while a can of tamales was heating on her electric plate, she went over what she intended to say.

After her dinner, she closed and locked her door and went downstairs. She tapped softly on the door of the room directly below her own, and when she thought she heard someone say, “Come in,” she said, “Mrs. Allen?,” then opened the door carefully and stepped inside.

The room, Emily noticed immediately, was almost like her own—the same narrow bed with the tan cover, the same maple dresser and armchair; the closet was on the opposite side of the room, but the window was in the same relative position. Mrs. Allen was sitting in the armchair. She was about sixty. More than twice as old as I am, Emily thought, while she stood in the doorway, and a lady still. She hesitated for a few seconds, looking at Mrs. Allen’s clean white hair and her neat, dark blue house coat, before speaking. “Mrs. Allen,” she said, “I’m Emily Johnson.”

In paragraph 1, what does the**trivial** mean?

1. Reasonable b. Frustrating c. Personal d. insignificant

**Part B**

What evidence from paragraph 1 **best** supports the answer to Part A?

 A.  "...Three of her best handkerchiefs..."

 B.  "...Small things occasionally..."

 C.  "...Hesitated about complaining..."

 D.  "...She would know how to deal with the situation..."

Why did Emily decided to approach Mrs. Allen?

A.  She hoped Mrs. Allen could identify the thief.

B.   She suspected Mrs. Allen of taking her things.

C.She needed Mrs. Allen's help to speak to the landlady.

 D.   She was concerned Mrs. Allen's belongings were also missing

**Part B**

Select one sentence in paragraph 1 that best supports the answer to part A.

1. When Emily Johnson came home one evening to her furnished room and found three of her best handkerchiefs missing from the dresser drawer, she was sure who had taken them and what to do She had lived in the furnished room for about six weeks and for the past two weeks she had been missing small things occasionally.
2. There had been several handkerchiefs gone, and an initial pin which Emily rarely wore and which had come from the five-and-ten.
3. And once she had missed a small bottle of perfume and one of a set of china dogs.
4. Emily had known for some time who was taking the things, but it was only tonight that she had decided what to do.
5. She had hesitated about complaining to the landlady because her losses were trivial and because she had felt certain that sooner or later she would know how to deal with the situation herself
6. It had seemed logical to her from the beginning that the one person in the rooming-house who was home all day was the most likely suspect, and then, one Sunday morning, coming downstairs from the roof, where she had been sitting in the sun, Emily had seen someone come out of her room and go down the stairs, and had recognized the visitor
7. Tonight. she felt, she knew just what to do
8. She took off her coat and hat, put her packages down, and, while a can of tamales was heating on her electric plate, she went over what she intended to say.