

illustrated  
READERS

HERBERT GEORGE WELLS



# The time machine

retold by Virginia Evans – Jenny Dooley



Express Publishing



# H G Wells

Herbert George Wells was born in Bromley, Kent on 21<sup>st</sup> September 1866.

His father was a shopkeeper.

When he was seven years old, he broke his leg and he had to stay in bed for a long time. While he was recovering, he loved to read. It was then he decided that he wanted to be a writer.

Wells left school when he was fourteen. He had many jobs to earn money for his family because they were quite poor. Wells then won a scholarship to the Royal College of Science in London to study Biology in 1883. While he was there, he started to think about how poor people lived. He thought that the rich had too much

money and that all people should be equal.

Wells left college in 1887 and became a science teacher. In 1895, he married Amy Catherine Robbins, and they had two sons. He started to write full time in 1893 and published many science-fiction stories such as *The Time Machine*, (1895) *The War of the Worlds*, (1898) and *The Invisible Man* (1897). These are still very popular today.

Wells died in London, on 13<sup>th</sup> August 1946. His last words were, "I'm alright". Today, people remember Wells as one of the best science-fiction writers of all time, and as a man who had great ideas about how to make our world a better place.

Read H G Wells' biography, then answer the questions.

- 1 Where was H G Wells born?  
.....
- 2 What made him think of becoming a writer?  
.....
- 3 What did he study at the Royal College?  
.....
- 4 How did Wells view the rich and the poor?  
.....
- 5 What type of stories is he famous for writing?  
.....
- 6 What do you think his last words mean?  
.....
- 7 What was his first job?  
.....
- 8 Which science-fiction stories did he write?  
.....
- 9 When and where did he die?  
.....
- 10 How do we remember him?  
.....



# *The Time Machine*



*The Time Machine* was the first story ever to use a machine for travel into the future and, amazingly, H G Wells wrote it over a hundred years ago. There are still many films and stories about time travel as it is a very exciting idea.

Wells believed that we should look after our planet and the people who live on it. *The Time Machine* is a science-fiction story about the future, and how easily we can destroy our world if we are not careful. It's an exciting adventure story through time.

The story is narrated by the Time Traveller's friend and we never learn his name. The Time Traveller discovers that the future can be a beautiful, yet frightening, place. He finds happiness, then sadness and fear and in the end the reader must use their own imagination.

*Combined energy gives the exact amount of power needed for the machine to make a time warp that exceeds the speed of light.*

# 1. THE TIME MACHINE

The Time Traveller (as I have come to call him since these events) invited me and some of his other friends for dinner at his house ...



1 That was a wonderful dinner.

I'm glad you enjoyed it. And now, I have something I want to show you all.

2 What do you think about the idea of time travel?

Time travel, eh? Tell us more.

3 I believe that it's possible to travel in any direction through time.

Oh really? How?

4 This is a model of a Time Machine. The first lever sends the machine back in time. The second lever sends the machine forward, into the future.

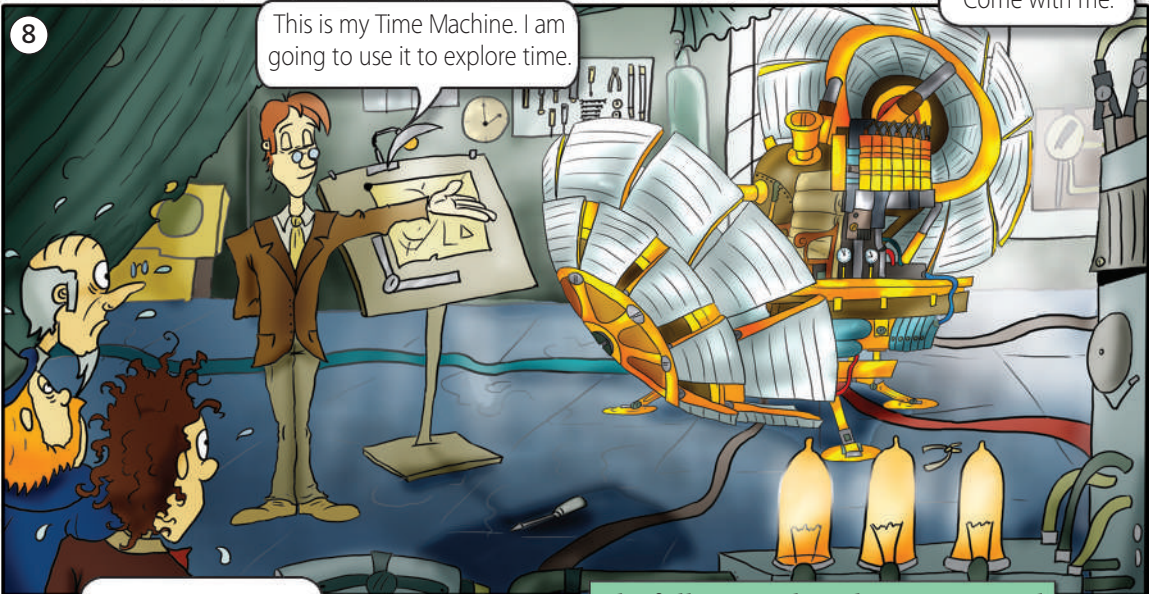
5 It's a beautiful machine, my friend, but time travel is impossible!

Push the lever, and we'll see ...



6 Where did it go?

It is still in this room, but it's in a different time. It's in the future now.



# 7.

## THE GREEN PALACE

### activities



#### *Before Reading*

1 Look at the pictures. Which picture(s) show(s):

- |                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 1 a plane?          | 4 sticks?        |
| 2 a box of matches? | 5 a forest fire? |
| 3 a motorbike?      |                  |



#### *While Reading*

2 Read or listen to the episode and match the sentences to words or phrases that mean the same.

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 What's wrong?        | 4 Leave me alone!    |
| 2 We should leave now! | 5 Unfortunate Weena. |
| 3 Stay calm.           |                      |

3 Read the episode again and put the events in the correct order.

- ... The Time Traveller builds a fire.
- ... Weena hears Morlocks in the museum.
- ... The Time Traveller wakes up.
- ... The Time Traveller and Weena go into the museum.
- ... The Time Traveller runs away from the Morlocks.
- ... The Time Traveller and Weena go to sleep.
- ... The Time Traveller and Weena leave the museum.
- ... The Time Traveller finds the things he needs.
- ... The Time Traveller realises that Weena is not there.



#### *After Reading*

- 4 Read and listen, then take roles and act out the episode.
- 5 Look at the pictures and narrate the episode to your partner.
- 6 Discuss the following questions:
- 1 What do you think happened to Weena?
  - 2 How do you think the Time Traveller feels at the end of this episode?
  - 3 What do you think will happen in the next episode?



### Before Reading

- 1 Look at the pictures. How do you think the Time Traveller feels:
 

1 in picture 5? Why?	3 in picture 7? Why?
2 in picture 6? Why?	4 in picture 11? Why?



### While Reading

- 2 Read or listen to the episode and mark the sentences as **T** (true) or **F** (false).
 

1 The Time Traveller finds a torch in his pocket.	.....
2 The Time Traveller finds the Time Machine outside the statue.	.....
3 The Morlocks try to attack the Time Traveller.	.....
4 The Time Traveller strikes a match.	.....
5 The Time Traveller starts the Time Machine.	.....

- 3 Read the episode again and correct the words in bold.

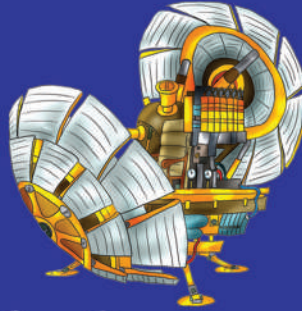
The Time Traveller started to walk back to the 1) **museum** to find the Time Machine. When he got there, the doors in the bottom of the statue were 2) **closed**. He ran inside the statue and found the Time Machine. Suddenly, the 3) **windows** closed with a loud bang, and everything was 4) **light**. The Morlocks started to attack the Time Traveller, but he jumped 5) **out of** the Time Machine and pulled the lever. He was travelling through time again ...



### After Reading

- 4 Read and listen, then take roles and act out the episode.
- 5 Take turns around the class to narrate the episode using the pictures.
- 6 Discuss the questions:
  - 1 How do you think the Time Traveller feels at the end of this episode?
  - 2 Do you think the Time Traveller is safe now?
  - 3 What do you think will happen in the next episode?

# The time machine



Far in the future, The Time Traveller finds the human race has changed. Here, the Eloi are simple people who are attacked by the evil Morlocks from their underground world. When he fails to help the Eloi, he travels even further into the future and sees a lifeless planet. He then makes one final journey ...

#### Components:

- Reader
- Audio CD



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