

THE TIME MACHINE BY H. G. WELLS — SYNOPSIS

4ème

Work in pairs. Take turns reading the synopsis aloud. Aim for clarity and good pronunciation.

The Time Traveller is an English scientist who invents a machine that can travel through time. He invites some friends to his house and tells them about his extraordinary journey into the future.

He travels to the year 802,701. At first, the future seems peaceful and beautiful. He meets the Eloi, small and gentle people who live above ground. They eat fruit, play and have no work or responsibilities.

The Time Traveller soon discovers another group called the Morlocks. They live underground, work with machines and only come out at night. The Morlocks are dangerous because they hunt and eat the Eloi.

When the Morlocks steal his time machine, the Time Traveller must enter their underground world to recover it. He finally escapes and travels even further into the future, where he sees the Earth becoming dark, cold and almost lifeless.

He returns home and tells his friends what he has seen. The next day, he leaves again in his time machine and never returns.

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The Time Traveller is a Victorian scientist who believes that time is a fourth dimension. He builds a machine that allows him to travel backwards and forwards through time.

During a dinner with his friends, he describes a journey to the year 802,701. There, he discovers a beautiful but mysterious world. Humanity has developed into two very different species.

The Eloi live above ground. They are attractive, peaceful and childlike, but they are physically weak and have lost much of humanity's knowledge. The Morlocks live below ground, where they operate machines. They are strong, violent and afraid of light.

The Time Traveller first believes that the Eloi live in a perfect society. He later understands that the Morlocks provide for them but also hunt them for food. He becomes close to an Eloi named Weena and tries to protect her.

The Morlocks hide his time machine inside a large building. During his attempt to escape, Weena disappears and is probably killed. The Time Traveller eventually recovers his machine and travels millions of years further into the future. He sees a dying Earth with almost no life remaining.

After returning to Victorian England, he tells his story. Although most of his friends do not believe him, he has two strange flowers from the future as evidence. He later travels through time again and is never seen again.

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Seconde

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H. G. Wells's novel begins with the Time Traveller explaining to a group of educated Victorian men that time should be considered a fourth dimension. To prove his theory, he creates a machine capable of travelling through time.

He later returns from a journey exhausted, injured and covered in dirt. He tells his guests that he travelled to the year 802,701, where he encountered the Eloi. At first, their world appeared to be an ideal society without work, poverty or conflict. However, the Eloi were physically and intellectually weak, and they seemed incapable of curiosity or serious thought.

The Time Traveller then discovered the Morlocks, pale creatures who lived underground and maintained the machines that supported life above ground. He gradually realised that the Eloi and Morlocks were the distant descendants of the Victorian social classes. The Eloi had developed from the wealthy people who lived comfortably above ground, while the Morlocks had developed from workers forced to labour below ground.

Over time, the relationship between the two groups had become reversed. The Morlocks now controlled the Eloi and treated them as a source of food.

The Time Traveller befriends an Eloi named Weena. When the Morlocks steal his machine, he enters their underground world and later fights them using fire. Weena is lost during their escape. He recovers the machine and travels even further forward, witnessing the gradual death of the Earth and the disappearance of humanity.

When he returns to his own time, his guests remain sceptical. Only the narrator considers that his story may be true. The Time Traveller leaves on another journey and never comes back.

THE TIME MACHINE BY H. G. WELLS — SYNOPSIS

Première

Work in pairs. Take turns reading the synopsis aloud. Aim for clarity and good pronunciation.

Published in 1895, H. G. Wells's *The Time Machine* follows a Victorian scientist who invents a machine capable of moving through time. The story is presented mainly through the Time Traveller's account of his journey, as told to a group of sceptical dinner guests.

He travels to the year 802,701 and initially believes that humanity has created a peaceful and perfect civilisation. The Eloi live a life of beauty, comfort and leisure above ground. However, they have become weak, passive and intellectually limited. They neither work nor understand the systems that maintain their society.

The Time Traveller soon discovers the Morlocks, who live in underground tunnels and operate ancient machinery. He interprets the two species as the result of an extreme division between social classes. The Eloi appear to be descended from the wealthy ruling class, while the Morlocks are descended from industrial workers who were forced to live and work below ground.

The apparent social hierarchy has changed completely. The Morlocks now control the world's machinery and hunt the Eloi for food. Wells therefore presents the future not as a story of continuous progress, but as the result of inequality, exploitation and human complacency.

The Time Traveller forms an emotional attachment to an Eloi named Weena. After the Morlocks steal his machine, he attempts to rescue it and escape.

During a violent confrontation involving fire, Weena is lost. He eventually recovers the machine and travels much further into the future.

There, he witnesses the final stages of the Earth's existence. The sun has become red, the planet is cold and almost all life has disappeared. This vision challenges the Victorian belief that science and civilisation must always advance.

The Time Traveller eventually returns home, bringing two unusual flowers as possible proof of his journey. He leaves again the following day, taking a camera and other equipment with him. He never returns, and his final destination remains unknown.