

ASSESSMENT QUIZ

THE TIME MACHINE

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

The questions on this quiz are drawn from two sources: the novel itself, and the reading companion that came with it, its author biography, historical context, allegorical layer, and scientific payload. Some ask about what happens in the story; others ask about the ideas and the science the companion explains. Answer from both. For each multiple choice question, choose the single best answer.

01. How does the Time Traveller first prove his idea to his dinner guests?

- (A) He shows them the full machine already running
- (B) He sends a small model of the machine into time, and it vanishes
- (C) He returns from a short trip with a newspaper dated years ahead
- (D) He walks them through the mathematics on a chalkboard

02. While the Eloi idle in the sunlight, what are the Morlocks doing?

- (A) Sleeping through the daylight hours and nothing else
- (B) Farming the surface gardens the Eloi eat from
- (C) Running the machinery underground that keeps the world going
- (D) Building a new civilization in secret

03. The Eloi live entirely on a diet of:

- (A) Fruit
- (B) Fish from the river
- (C) Bread and grain
- (D) Meat the Morlocks raise for them

04. Which Eloi does the Traveller rescue from drowning and travel with?

- (A) Weena
- (B) Mina
- (C) Eloise
- (D) She is never given a name

05. What does the Traveller rely on to hold the light-fearing Morlocks back?

- (A) A rifle he brought with him
- (B) Matches and fire
- (C) The Eloi banding together in numbers
- (D) The machine's electric lamps

06. Wells builds his two future species out of which Victorian divide?

- (A) City dwellers and country dwellers
- (B) The leisured owning class and the industrial working class
- (C) The educated and the illiterate
- (D) The native born and the immigrant

07. Biologically, the Eloi are best understood as:

- (A) A new and improved form of humanity
- (B) A domesticated prey species, bred docile like livestock
- (C) A separate species that replaced humanity from outside
- (D) Machines maintained by the Morlocks

08. What allowed a single human species to split into the Eloi and the Morlocks?

- (A) A deliberate breeding experiment
- (B) A disease that reshaped human bodies
- (C) Long physical separation, above ground and below, that stopped the two from mixing
- (D) Radiation from the dying sun

09. One half of the Traveller's journey is, by real physics, impossible. Which?

- (A) Traveling forward into the future
- (B) Traveling backward to return home, which breaks cause and effect
- (C) Sitting still in the laboratory
- (D) Surviving the thin air of the far future

10. Wells got the sun's death backwards. What will the real sun do first?

- (A) Cool quietly into a dim red ember
- (B) Explode as a supernova
- (C) Swell into a red giant large enough to swallow the inner planets
- (D) Collapse straight into a black hole

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SHORT ANSWER

Answer each question in three to five sentences.

The world of the Eloi and Morlocks inverts the class relations of Wells’s own Britain. Explain the inversion, and then explain why the Traveller’s instinctive sympathy for the Eloi over the Morlocks is part of what Wells is doing, not just a detail.

The Eloi’s decline is a case of “relaxed selection,” not a Lamarckian process. Explain the difference: why is it wrong to say comfort directly weakened the Eloi, and what actually happened to them across deep time?
