

Name - _____

Start time - __ : __

End time - __ : __

Read the short story carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Once in a quiet town nestled between rolling hills, there lived an old watchmaker named Mr. Hawthorne. He was known for creating the most exquisite timepieces, each with a unique story behind it. One day, a mysterious stranger arrived at his shop. The stranger had a peculiar request: he wanted a watch that could turn back time.

Intrigued, Mr. Hawthorne accepted the challenge. For weeks, he worked tirelessly, experimenting with gears and springs until he finally crafted the enigmatic watch. When the stranger put it on, the hands of the watch indeed started to spin backward. However, as time reversed, the stranger's face turned paler, and he quickly took off the watch, realizing the consequences of meddling with time.

Questions:

1. Describe the setting of the story. How does it contribute to the atmosphere of the narrative?
2. Analyze the character of Mr. Hawthorne. What traits make him a skilled watchmaker and an important character in the story?
3. Discuss the significance of the stranger's request. What does it reveal about the stranger's character and motivations?
4. What is the central conflict of the story? How does it create tension and drive the narrative forward?

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5. Explore the theme of consequences. How is this theme portrayed in the story, especially concerning the enigmatic watch?
6. Identify one example of symbolism in the story. What does it represent, and how does it enhance the story's meaning?
7. Analyze the stranger's reaction when he realizes the power of the enigmatic watch. What does this moment reveal about his character?
8. Predict what might happen next in the story. How could the events unfold after the stranger's encounter with Mr. Hawthorne?
9. If you were to rewrite the ending of the story, how would you conclude it? Explain your choice.

