

1. What does the third level refer to?

Ans- Jack Finney refers the third level on the Grand Central railway station that takes passengers to Galesburg, Illinois. For Charley the third level on the station was a medium of escape. There is so much insecurity, fear, war, and worries in the modern world. Charley just wants to escape from such harsh realities. He wanders into the fanciful world of 1894. It provided him a base where he could interweave fantasy and reality.

2. Would Charley ever go back to the ticket counter on the third level to buy tickets to Galesburg for himself and his wife?

Ans- Charley drew three hundred dollars from the bank. He bought old style currency to buy two tickets to Galesburg but he would never go back to the ticket-counter on the third level to buy tickets to Galesburg for himself and his wife because third level was his imagination.

3. Do you think that the third level was a medium of escape for Charley? why ?

Ans- Yes, I think that the third level was a medium of escape for Charley. Life in the modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worries and stress. Man has to confront them all the time. The harsh realities of life make living quite unpleasant and even unbearable. So he wants to escape into a wishful world. Charley talks to his psychiatrist friend about the third level at the Grand Central station. His friend calls it 'a waking - dream wish fulfilment. Charley possesses an escapist tendency. Even his stamp collecting is a 'temporary refuge from reality'.

4. What do you infer from Sam's letter to Charley?

Ans- The way Charley came across Sam's letter was surrounded in mystery. Among his oldest first day covers, he found an envelope. It was not addressed to him. It was mailed to the address of his grandfather. It was written on July 18, 1894. The postmark shows the picture of President Garfield. Generally, the first day covers have blank papers in them, but this one contained a letter. The letter was addressed to Charley. In the letter Sam had informed Charley that he was living on the third level. He had also told Charley and his wife to keep looking for the third level. Clearly, the letter was the product of Charley's imagination.

5. What was Charley's hobby? Where did he find Sam's letter?

Ans- Charley's hobby was stamp collecting. It is nothing but a 'temporary refuge from reality'. His grandfather did not need any such thing. Things were pretty nice and peaceful in his days. Perhaps the narrator is under pressure to escape from the harsh world of realities. Sam's letter to Charley only deepens the mystery. The letter was written from Galesburg, Illinois. The postmark showed that it was written on July, 1894. Strange enough it bore the address of Charley's

grandfather Charley lived in New York. He found it among first covers. A first day cover has only a blank paper in it but the letter contained a note written by Sam to Charley. In brief, the letter is another of Charley's escapist fantasies. It is another 'waking dream wish fulfilment'.

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Q 1. What was Sam invited for according to the letter?

- (a) for a party
- (b) for a tea party
- (c) for a bachelor's party
- (d) for a lemonade party

Q 2. Whose signatures were there on the letter?

- (a) Charley's teacher
- (b) Charley's friend
- (c) Sam
- (d) None

Q 3. What convinced Charley that he had reached the Third Level Grand Central Station and not the second level?

- (a) A different world of gas lights and brass spittoons
- (b) beards and mustaches of 1894
- (c) newspaper with a date June 11, 1894
- (d) All of these

Q 4. What did Charley find in his stamp collection?

- (a) old addresses
- (b) hair styles
- (c) old letters
- (d) First day cover

Q 5. What was the strangest thing at The Third Level?

- (a) Beards
- (b) Mustaches
- (c) dresses
- (d) The corridor that led him into the past.

Q 6. What specific difference did Charley notice at the Third Level of Central Station?

- (a) Everything was weird
- (b) Everything was old styled and smaller in size
- (c) everything was too big
- (d) everything was shining

Q 7. What is First Day Cover?

- (a) A new stamp gets the Postmark and date
- (b) A gift
- (c) A gift wrapper
- (d) A gift wrapped in a beautiful wrapper

Q 8. Why does Charley want to visit Galesburg?

- (a) to escape from the troublesome world
- (b) to enjoy
- (c) to see the beautiful landscape
- (d) to meet his old friends

Q 9. What did Charley see at the Third Level?

- (a) flickering gas lights and people with funny mustaches
- (b) brass spittoons
- (c) men wearing a tan gabardine suit and a straw
- (d) All these

Q 10. How did Charley reach the Third Level?

- (a) In his fantasy he takes a subway or a corridor faster than a bus
- (b) in a superfast train
- (c) in jetways
- (d) in an escalator

Q 11. Why was the narrator seeing this Third Level?

- (a) as a wish to visit Galesberg
- (b) wanted to meet his friends
- (c) wanted to take a break from office
- (d) As a result of stress and anxiety in his mind

Q 12. Does the Third Level really exist at Grand Station?

- (a) Yes
- (b) yes, there were 3 levels
- (c) No, there were only two levels at the station
- (d) None

Q 13. Who was Sam in The Third Level?

- (a) a doctor (b) a friend
- (c) a psychiatrist and a friend of Charley
- (d) None

Q 14. In what way do we try to overcome the insecurities of the present harsh times

- (a) by engaging ourselves in practical activities
- (b) by talking to friends and family
- (c) reading good books
- (d) All these

Q 15. What is Sam's letter to Charles represent?

- (a) A blend
- (b) an acceptance to visit
- (c) a proof of his fantasy
- (d) a blend of reality with fantasy

Q 16. What is 'Waking dream wish fulfillment' according to the psychiatrist in the lesson?

- (a) Charles finding of a Third level at Grand Central Station and realization of his wish to visit Galesberg Illinois
- (b) Charles escapism
- (c) Charles escapism from realities
- (d) None

Q 17. How does the story begin?

- (a) in a jovial manner
- (b) in an aggressive manner
- (c) on a happy note
- (d) in a serious manner

Q 18. What is the meaning of 'Waking dream wish fulfillment'?

- (a) a pleasant wish that makes one forget the past
- (b) a pleasant wish that takes one to the future
- (c) A pleasant wish which inspires to work
- (d) a pleasant wish that makes one forget the present

Q 19. Who is the author of 'The Third Level'.

- (a) George Orwell (b) Agatha Christie
- (c) James Joyce (d) Jack Finney

ANSWER KEY

1- d, 2- c, 3- d, 4- d, 5- d, 6- b, 7- a, 8- a, 9- a, 10-a, 11-d, 12-c, 13-c, 14-d, 15-d, 16-a, 17-d, 18-a, 19- d