

The Snake and The Mirror

Short Answer Questions

1. Who is the author of "The Snake and the Mirror"?
2. Describe the setting of the story. Where and when does it take place?
3. What kind of a doctor is the protagonist, and what are his living conditions?
4. Why did the doctor decide to move into the rented room?
5. What happened when the doctor was sitting in his chair and looking into the mirror?
6. How did the doctor react when he first saw the snake?
7. What did the doctor think about his appearance and his plans while sitting in front of the mirror?
8. Describe the doctor's thoughts and feelings when the snake slithered onto his shoulder.
9. How did the doctor manage to escape from the snake?
10. What did the doctor do immediately after the snake fell off his shoulder?

Long Answer Questions

1. Discuss the significance of the mirror in the story. How does it reflect the doctor's personality and his thoughts?
2. Describe the doctor's initial thoughts and feelings as he observed himself in the mirror. How do these change when the snake appears?
3. Analyze the doctor's reaction to the snake and how it reflects his character.
4. Explain the role of irony in "The Snake and the Mirror." Provide examples from the story.
5. How does the story "The Snake and the Mirror" highlight the theme of fear and human response to danger?
6. Discuss the transformation in the doctor's attitude from the beginning to the end of the story.
7. Describe the setting of the doctor's room and how it contributes to the overall mood and tension of the story.
8. What role does humor play in the story "The Snake and the Mirror"? How does the author use humor to engage the reader?
9. Explain the doctor's reflections on marriage and his future while sitting in front of the mirror. How do these thoughts contrast with the events that unfold?
10. Discuss the ending of the story. What does the doctor's reaction to the snake reveal about his character?

Analytical and Higher Order Thinking Questions

1. Critically analyze the theme of self-absorption in "The Snake and the Mirror." How is this theme developed through the protagonist's character?
2. Examine the use of suspense and tension in the story. How does the author build and maintain suspense?
3. Discuss the symbolism of the mirror in the story. How does it reflect the doctor's inner self and his vanity?

4. Analyze the doctor's character development throughout the story. How does his encounter with the snake change him?
5. Evaluate the role of setting in creating the atmosphere of the story. How does the setting influence the events and the doctor's reactions?
6. Discuss the interplay of fear and rational thought in "The Snake and the Mirror." How does the doctor balance these two aspects?
7. Examine the narrative style of the story. How does the first-person perspective enhance the reader's understanding of the protagonist's thoughts and feelings?
8. How does the author use contrast to highlight different aspects of the doctor's character before and after the snake incident?
9. Discuss the role of minor characters, such as the homeopath's landlord and his wife, in the story. How do they contribute to the narrative?
10. Analyze the moral or message of "The Snake and the Mirror." What can readers learn from the doctor's experience?

Discussion and Essay Topics

1. Debate the effectiveness of humor in conveying serious themes in "The Snake and the Mirror."
2. Discuss how "The Snake and the Mirror" explores the theme of vanity and self-realization.
3. Write an essay on the importance of quick thinking and presence of mind in emergency situations, using examples from the story.
4. Reflect on the doctor's character and how his encounter with the snake serves as a turning point in his life.
5. Analyze the psychological aspects of fear as depicted in "The Snake and the Mirror." How does the story portray the doctor's mental state during the crisis?