

1. At the beginning of the story, Phineas a. is 13 years old.
 2. Phineas' father tells him that instead of cash, people can pay with b. barrels of apples.
 3. Why would Phineas Senior have thought a fire in the iron stove was an extravagance? d. It is not yet winter, and he doesn't like to use up the good wood unless it's necessary.
 4. Phineas Senior does not want to give the Widow Sweeney credit, because c. she's got a long credit column already.
 5. How is the hopping bean good payment for the nickel plug of chewing tobacco? a. Phineas needs special features for his show. Every person admitted to the show pays a nickel admission. So he earns money from the jumping bean over and over again.
 6. How is Phineas a real showman? c. He "collects" things people will find intriguing, and knows how to stage a show.
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1. An example of direct characterization is when the author writes about the Widow Sweeney, a. "It was the Widow Sweeney, shawled and bonneted, peering out of near-sighted, pinkish-rimmed eyes that were much like a rabbit's."
 2. It is an example of indirect characterization, when Laura Benét writes: d. "'That boy of Barnum's has a gift of gab,' said the tired mother of two fretting children. 'First-rate showman!'"
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1. When a mother of two children praises Barnum as a "first-rate showman," we can infer that d. he has a natural talent for putting together a good show and entertaining people.
 2. When Barnum says to his father, "'When folks come in to celebrate, I like to show them a thing or two,'" we can infer that a. he really does like to create an interesting show, that will enable people to have a good time
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1. A Secret for Two takes place in b. Montreal.
 2. Joseph is a. a large, white horse.
 3. Pierre says that he does not need to use reins with Joseph, because d. Joseph knows the milk route and does not need to be guided.
 4. Pierre starts using a walking stick, because c. he is blind, and it helps him find his way down the street.
 5. When Pierre is offered the chance to retire, he refuses, probably because a. his job gives his life meaning, and he has a bond with Joseph.

1. It is reasonable to argue that Joseph is a major character, because a. his role is essential to the story, and because Pierre cannot be Pierre without Joseph.
 2. It is not reasonable to say that Jacques is a minor character, because c. he is involved in nearly all the dialogue and he tries hard to influence what happens to Pierre.
1. There are two surprises at the end of the story: c. Pierre is hit and killed by a truck, and Jacques learns that Pierre has been blind for five years.
 2. The surprise of Pierre's blindness is also part of the tragedy of his running off and getting killed, because a. Pierre felt he was completely alone without Joseph and had no one to turn to, since Joseph was the only one with whom he "shared" the knowledge of his blindness.
1. The country is c. India.
 2. The snake is a a. cobra.
 3. The colonel believes that men have more self-control than women, based on b. what he wants to believe.
 4. The American asks everyone to count to 300 because he a. doesn't want anyone to move and frighten the snake.
 5. The hostess has a servant place a bowl of milk on the veranda, because c. there is a snake in the room, and milk is used for snake bait in India.
 6. The American asks the hostess how she knew there was a cobra in the room, in order to show everyone d. how incredibly brave and self-controlled women can be.
1. At the beginning of the story, the narrator makes the claim that d. Grand Central Station has three levels, not two.
 2. The narrator also tells us at the outset of the story that he has b. talked with a psychiatrist friend of his.
 3. Why does the narrator think that talking with a psychiatrist is the next "obvious step"? a. People will think that if he believes there is a third level—he needs a psychiatrist.
 4. At the beginning of the story, we can tell that the psychiatrist did not believe the narrator. We can figure this out, because the narrator tells us that the psychiatrist has said c. the narrator is having a daydream in which his wishes come true.
 5. The irony, or joke, of the story, is that a. it turns out that the disbelieving psychiatrist apparently decided that Charley's "daydream" was worth taking seriously, and he is the friend who found the third level and went back into the past.

1. Why do the lights on the third level flicker? d. It is the nineteenth century and these are open-flame gaslights.

1. In 1894, Galesburg had c. summer evenings that were twice as long, with people sitting out on their lawns.

2. Setting may be created from vivid images, described by the narrator, but not really existing in the present time of the story. A good example of this occurs when the narrator talks about a. Grand Central growing like a tree, pushing out new corridors and staircases like roots.