# I

ONE MORNING, when Gregor Samsa woke up from troubled dreams, he found himself transformed into a gigantic _____. He was lying in bed on his hard, armour-like back and as he lifted his head a little, he could see his brown, dome-like belly divided into rigid, arched segments. The blanket was hardly able to cover his new body completely and seemed ready to slide off at any moment. His numerous legs, pitifully thin compared to the rest of him, waved helplessly before his eyes.

"What has happened to me?" he thought. It was no dream. His room, a proper human bedroom, although a little too small, lay quietly between the four familiar walls. Above the table, on which a collection of cloth samples was unpacked and spread out – Samsa was a traveling salesman – hung the picture which he had recently cut out of an illustrated magazine and put into a pretty gilded frame. It was a picture of a woman with a fur hat and a fur boa. She sat upright, holding out to the viewer a solid fur muff into which her entire forearm disappeared.

Gregor's eyes then turned to the window and the overcast sky. The sound of raindrops hitting the pane made him quite melancholic. "What about sleeping a little longer and forgetting all this nonsense?" he thought. But that was impossible because he was used to sleeping on his right side, and in his current state, he could not get into that position. No matter how hard he tried to throw himself onto his right side, he always rolled onto his back again. He must have tried it a hundred times, with his eyes closed to avoid seeing his struggling legs, and only stopped when he began to feel a dull pain in his side that he had never felt before.

This is the very first page of a classic novel. Perhaps you know it.

**i. The missing world**
- Read the text carefully
- Try to work out what the missing word is
- Underline all of the parts of the text that provide clues for your answer

**ii. Time setting**
- Look for indications in the text that suggest that the story is not set in the present day
- Underline all of the parts of the text that support this idea