

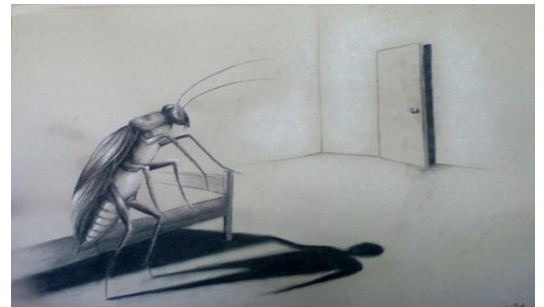


INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VIII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of submission: February 2022
Worksheet No: 26	Topic: A Strange Transformation	Note: For Reference

➤ Summary of the Story

- Imagine waking up one morning to find that, you have become a giant insect. This first sentence of the story is something different. Kafka's goal is not to suspend the laws of nature. He is, of course, not saying that it is possible for a man to be transformed into an insect. The point, rather, is that literature does not need to honor the laws of nature. The story takes this one completely impossible event and develops logically out of it.
- The nightmarish and oppressive feeling that Kafka imbues in the story is indicative of his works. Kafkaesque is the adjective used to describe things that present people with the same feelings of nightmare-like horror and a deepening sense of oppression.
- All of the action in the story takes place within Gregor's apartment. This highlights the isolation theme that Kafka builds. Even with the other family members, we see no action outside of the apartment. The only reality is within, just as the real Gregor is within his newly shelled body.
- This tale is an example of surrealism, in which ordinary objects are seen in strange places or situations.
- Of course, a man changed into a man-sized insect is surreal and absurd. In a true fantasy, perhaps all the characters would be transformed, or the transformed insect would still be able to act and move as a man. This is certainly not the case with Kafka's protagonist, Gregor Samsa.
- In fact, he can only do what a normal-sized insect can do, and has no way to communicate to his human family or ask for help.



➤ **Title:** The Strange Transformation

➤ **Author:** Franz Kafka.

➤ **Type of Work:** Short story

➤ **Genre:** Absurdism

