

Mr Jerome is Afraid

Answer the following questions carefully and be prepared to share your ideas with others in your class.

1. Find some phrases in the first few paragraphs which show Arthur's contrasting feelings between the night before and the morning. Think about how some of these are reflected in the description of the room and the daylight, why do you think Hill does this?
2. Describe the office of Mr Jerome. What sort of impression does it give the reader of him?
3. What is Mr Jerome's reaction to Arthur's suggestion? Why do you think he responds in the way he does? Find some quotations or illustrations for your ideas.
4. Why do you think Arthur writes Mr Bentley a letter rather than telephoning him? For what reasons might Hill have felt this was better for the narrative?
5. Look at the description of Arthur's bike ride.
 - a. Where does Arthur intend to cycle?
 - b. What reasons does he give for not going where he intended?
 - c. What does his decision reveal to us about Arthur's attitude?
 - d. What does the last sentence suggest to us about what might happen in the end?