1. The exposition of the story is deliberately written to create suspense. What questions are raised in the reader’s mind by the end of the first two paragraphs? Why do you think the author chooses to begin the story this way? What is the effect?

2. This story does not follow a typical plot diagram. Discuss why the author chose to write the story non-linearly and decide whether it was an effective choice. Would the story be less or more effective if it was told in a linear fashion? Explain.

3. Identify the climax of the story and defend your choice.

4. In Lewis Carroll’s classic book, *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*, Alice undergoes a bewildering number of transformations – one moment she’s the size of a mouse, the next she’s a giant. During her adventures, she encounters a Caterpillar who raises a question often dealt with in literature:

   “Who are you?” said the Caterpillar.
   This was not an encouraging opening for a conversation. Alice replied, rather shyly, “I – I hardly know, Sir, just at present – at least I know who I was when I got up this morning, but I think I must have been changed several times since then.”
   “What do you mean by that?” said the Caterpillar, sternly. “Explain yourself.”
   “I can’t explain myself, I’m afraid, Sir,” said Alice, “because I’m not myself, you see.”
   “I don’t see,” said the Caterpillar.
   “I’m afraid I can’t put it more clearly,” Alice replied, very politely, “for I can’t understand it myself, to begin with; and being so many different sized in a day is very confusing.”
   “It isn’t,” said the Caterpillar.
   “Well, perhaps you haven’t found it so yet,” said Alice; “but when you have to turn into a chrysalis – you will some day, you know – and then after that into a butterfly, I should think you’ll feel it a little queer, won’t you?”
   “Not a bit,” said the Caterpillar.
   “Well, perhaps your feelings may be different,” said Alice; “all I know is, it would feel very queer to me.”
   “You!” said the Caterpillar contemptuously. “Who are you?”
   Which brought them back again to the beginning of the conversation.

Do you think it is helpful to draw a connection between Alice in “Mirror Image” and Alice in *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*? Why or why not? What do you think the author might gain by making an allusion to another story, especially one that is well known?