1. In two columns, outline the plot of the story. In one column, list the actual events. In the second column, list the events in Mitty's fantasy life. What are the advantages of having the plot zigzag from fantasy to reality? Was the plot difficult to follow?

2. Conventional short stories contain a climax. In your opinion, does “The Secret Life of Walter Mitty” contain a climax and/or resolution? Explain your answer using examples from the story. Speculate on why James Thurber did or did not include these conventional short story elements.

3. Provide at least three good reasons why the author would end the story with a fantasy sequence. Which do you think is the best reason? Why?