Study Guide for “The Open Window”

I. VOCABULARY: Be able to define the following words and understand them when they appear in the story or class discussion.

romance highly imaginative fiction

bog

veracity

infirmity

imminent

rural

guffled

II. LITERARY TERMS: Be able to define each term and apply each term to the story.

Point of View

First person

Third person omniscient

Third person limited

pseudonym

protagonist

Who is the protagonist?

antagonist

Who is the antagonist?

flashback

What is learned in the flashback in this story?

mood
III. QUESTIONS: Answer the following questions. Be sure to use complete sentences.

1. Who is the author?
2. What is the author’s real name?
3. How old is Vera?
4. From what does Framton Nuttel suffer?
5. What did Framton’s sister give him to take with him and why?
6. What does Framton know of Vera’s aunt?
7. What does Vera say happened three years ago?
8. Besides the three men, who else went missing, according Vera?
9. According to Vera, why is the window left open?
10. Why does Framton run out of the house?
11. What does a bicyclist have to do to avoid hitting Framton?
12. What reason does Vera give for why Framton ran off?
13. How might the story be different if Framton were the narrator?

IV. POINT OF VIEW

This story is told from the third person omniscient. Below write quotes that support that this is third person omniscient.

Example: “Privately he doubted more than ever whether these formal visits ... would do much” (817).