



**Task 1. Fill in the gaps in each review with the suitable word combinations.**

**bookworm   protagonist   narrative   page-turner   paperback   set in**

"To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee (1960, 1\_\_\_\_\_) This classical novel is 2\_\_\_\_\_ the southern United States during the Great Depression and tells the story of Scout Finch, a young girl growing up in a racially divided town. The 3\_\_\_\_\_ is beautifully written and the characters are well-drawn, with Atticus Finch as the central character and 4\_\_\_\_\_. The book is a 5\_\_\_\_\_ that explores themes of prejudice, justice, and morality, making it a must-read for any 6\_\_\_\_\_.

**narrative   historical   must-read   romance novel**

"Pride and Prejudice" by Jane Austen (1813, hardback) This classical work of fiction is a 1\_\_\_\_\_ set in Regency England. The story follows Elizabeth Bennet, the protagonist, as she navigates the social norms of her time while trying to find love. The book is a great example of 2\_\_\_\_\_ fiction. The witty and satirical 3\_\_\_\_\_ style of the book is a hallmark of Austen's work and makes it a 4\_\_\_\_\_ for any lover of classic literature.

**short story   horror   a great read   protagonist**

"The Tell-Tale Heart" by Edgar Allan Poe (1843, a short story) This haunting 1\_\_\_\_\_ is narrated by an unnamed 2\_\_\_\_\_ who is haunted by the sound of the old man's beating heart that he has murdered. The story is a great example of Poe's mastery of the 3\_\_\_\_\_ genre and his ability to create a sense of tension and suspense. The book is a perfect introduction to Poe's work and 4\_\_\_\_\_ for anyone who enjoys a good scare.



fiction tells the story historical page-turner

"Gone with the Wind" by Margaret Mitchell (1936, hardback) This 1\_\_\_\_\_ novel is set during the American Civil War and Reconstruction era and 2\_\_\_\_\_ of Scarlett O'Hara, a headstrong and determined southern belle. The book is a classic example of a 3\_\_\_\_\_ that tells the story of the central character, who is forced to navigate the changing social landscape of her time. The book is a must-read for anyone interested in historical 4\_\_\_\_\_ and is a great introduction to the genre.

e-reader tells the story of e-book science fiction

"1984" by George Orwell (1949, an e-book) This classic dystopian novel is set in a totalitarian society where the government has complete control over every aspect of people's lives. The book 1\_\_\_\_\_ Winston Smith, a rebel who tries to resist the oppressive regime. The book is a great example of 2\_\_\_\_\_ and is a must-read for anyone interested in the genre. The 3\_\_\_\_\_ format makes it easy to take out from the library and read on an 4\_\_\_\_\_, making it accessible to anyone with an internet connection.

**Task 2. Read the introduction. Listen to the podcast. Answer the questions.**



In this conversation, Neil and Alice discuss the different types of books people read and what they say about them. Listen to the podcast, answer the questions below.

- 1) Are people these days buying...
  - a) more classic books?
  - b) the same number of classic books?
  - c) fewer classic books than they used to?
- 2) What kind of books do people usually take with them to the beach or on the train?
  - a) Light and easy reads
  - b) Classic books
  - c) Romantic novels
- 3) According to David Adshead, what is the reason behind the shift in the books people are buying?
  - a) To show off to others.
  - b) Changes in personal reading preferences.
  - c) Retailers promoting different books.



- 4) What does David Adshead say about the trend of book sales during summers?
- a) People tend to buy heavier and more challenging reads.
  - b) People tend to buy light and easy reads.
  - c) People tend to buy more romance novels.
- 5) What is the meaning of the term "highbrow" as used in the interview?
- a) Intellectual and challenging.
  - b) Romantic and sentimental.
  - c) Easy and light.
- 6) What is an e-reader?
- a) A physical book with pages.
  - b) An electronic device to read books on a screen.
  - c) A service for buying books online.

**Task 3. Complete the gaps in the biography of Oscar Wilde using the given first letters of the verbs.**

Oscar Wilde was a re\_\_\_\_\_ writer and pioneer of his time. He was b\_\_\_\_\_ up in Ireland and at the age of 20, he moved to London to study at Oxford University. However, his life changed d\_\_\_\_\_ when he d\_\_\_\_\_ out of university to pursue a career in writing.

Wilde's writing career took an un\_\_\_\_\_ turn for the b\_\_\_\_\_ when his play "Lady Windermere's Fan" became a huge success. F\_\_\_\_\_ t\_\_\_\_\_ on, he became one of the most celebrated playwrights of all time. Wilde's writing was known for its wit, humor, and satire, as well as its exploration of themes such as love, marriage, and social class. He also wrote a number of essays and novels, including "The Picture of Dorian Gray," which remains one of his most famous works.

Despite his success, Wilde's life turned u\_\_\_\_\_ d\_\_\_\_\_ when he was sentenced to two years in prison for homosexuality, which was then a crime in England. Wilde was sentenced to two years in prison, during which time his health declined. After his release, he lived in exile in France until his death in 1900. His f\_\_\_\_\_ was a \_\_\_\_\_ by many of his admirers and supporters.

In his ch\_\_\_\_\_, Wilde showed a keen interest in literature and art, which eventually led him to become a p\_\_\_\_\_ of the Aesthetic Movement. His flamboyant personality and witty remarks also made him a popular figure in society. Wilde's legacy as a writer and cultural icon continues to inspire people to this day.



**Task 4. Do you agree with the statement that books need to be in your hand and made of paper?**

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on its right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.