

Reading Comprehension: Genres

Match the following definition to the correct genre.

1. Stories that speculate on what could happen based on science.
2. Stories based on historical events, but the stories themselves are not real.
3. Two subgenres of this genre include tragedies and comedies.
4. Stories with magic, monsters, mythical creatures.
5. Stories with gods and goddesses, usually they explain something about the origin of the world or why nature works in a certain way.
6. Stories that have a moral message.
7. Stories that generate fear.
8. Stories recounting true facts.
9. A recounting of someone's real life.
10. Stories that revolve around growing up, becoming an adult, etc.

Science fiction Biography Horror Coming of age Myth Fable Non-fiction
Fantasy Drama Historical fiction

Choose the correct genre for the following texts.

1. *The Three Body Problem*, by Liu Ci Xin: Set against the backdrop of China's Cultural Revolution, a secret military project sends signals into space to establish contact with aliens. An alien civilization on the brink of destruction captures the signal and plans to invade Earth.
 - a. Dystopian Fiction
 - b. Horror
 - c. Science Fiction
2. *Persuasion*, by Jane Austen: "There could have never been two hearts so open, no tastes so similar, no feelings so in unison, no countenances so beloved. Now they were

as strangers; nay, worse than strangers, for they could never become acquainted. It was a perpetual estrangement.”

- a. Romance
- b. Fantasy
- c. Historical Drama

3. *The Willows*, By Algernon Blackwood: ““Look! By my soul!’ he whispered, and for the first time in my experience I knew what it was to hear tears of terror in a human voice. He was pointing to the fire, some fifty feet away. I followed the direction of his finger, and I swear my heart missed a beat. There, in front of the dim glow, something was moving. I saw it through a veil that hung before my eyes like the gauze drop-curtain used at the back of a theater—hazily a little. It was neither a human figure nor an animal. To me it gave the strange impression of being as large as several animals grouped together, like horses, two or three, moving slowly.”

- a. Tragedy
- b. Drama
- c. Horror

4. *The Hobbit*, by J.R.R Tolkien: “The mother of our particular hobbit ... what is a hobbit? I suppose hobbits need some description nowadays, since they have become rare and shy of the Big People, as they call us. They are (or were) a little people, about half our height, and smaller than the bearded Dwarves. Hobbits have no beards. There is little or no magic about them, except the ordinary everyday sort which helps them to disappear quietly and quickly when large stupid folk like you and me come blundering along, making a noise like elephants which they can hear a mile off. They are inclined to be at in the stomach; they dress in bright colours (chiefly green and yellow); wear no shoes, because their feet grow natural leathery soles and thick warm brown hair like the stuff on their heads (which is curly); have long clever brown fingers, goodnatured

faces, and laugh deep fruity laughs (especially after dinner, which they have twice a day when they can get it)."

- a. Fantasy
- b. Drama
- c. Historical Fantasy

5. *A Tale of Two Cities*, by Charles Dickens: set in London and Paris before and during the French Revolution, it tells the story of the French Doctor Manette, his 18-year-long imprisonment in the Bastille in Paris, and his release to live in London with his daughter Lucie whom he had never met. The story is set against the conditions that led up to the French Revolution and the Reign of Terror.

- a. History
- b. Historical Fiction
- c. Mystery