Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

SKILLS TEST 5 Standard

READING

1 Read the article quickly. Tick [✓] the seven things that it mentions.

Star Wars – a modern fairy tale?

The *Star Wars* films are some of the most popular science-fiction movies in cinema history. The original film, which came out in 1977, was thrilling, with amazing special effects. The most recent films, which will be shown over the next few years, are still loved by modern audiences, and have made a lot of money. But what makes them so successful?

One possible reason is that they are like the fairy tales we enjoyed when we were children. Many of them have the same kind of plot and characters as *Star Wars*, even though the setting is completely different. In fact, Harrison Ford, who played the character of Han Solo, once said that he thought *Star Wars* was more like a fairy tale than a science-fiction movie.

First, let's start with the characters. In fairy tales, it's common for the hero to be alone in the world. They might have no mother or father, and they might not know who they really are. But, by the end of the story, they will have become an important person – perhaps a prince or princess.

In fairy tales, a common plot is for the hero to go on a journey. They leave home, which they can never return to, and travel far, finding out who they really are. They usually meet people on the way who teach them something important – like a fairy godmother, or the character of Obi Wan Kenobi in *Star Wars*. Often, these friendly characters are old and have magical powers. They are like a parent to the hero.

Most fairy tales have a villain, and it's very easy to know who they are. This is no different in *Star Wars*. The villains are the people who wear black, and the heroes wear white! In some famous fairy tales, like Snow White or Cinderella, the villain is one of the hero's parents. If you know the plot of *Star Wars* well enough, you will know that one villain is actually the hero's father.

Finally, all fairy tales have a happy ending, and this is certainly true of the *Star Wars* movies. We know that the heroes will win, the villains will be destroyed, and everyone will live happily ever after.

1 the first *Star Wars* film ☐
2 how many *Star Wars* films there have been ☐
3 what *Star Wars* is similar to ☐
4 where *Star Wars* is set ☐
5 the people in the *Star Wars* films ☐
6 the things that happen in the stories of fairy tales ☐
7 people who help the main character in fairy tales ☐
8 the bad people in fairy tales ☐
9 the last part of the story of fairy tales ☐
10 why people are happy that *Star Wars* is like a fairy tale ☐

☐ 7

2 Read the article again. Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false), or DS (the article doesn't say).

1 The article says people were delighted with the first *Star Wars* film. ☐
2 Fairy tales have a very different story to *Star Wars*. ☐
3 The setting of the *Star Wars* film is important. ☐
4 In fairy tales, the main character changes by the end of the story. ☐
5 At the beginning of fairy tales, the hero knows who he or she really is. ☐
6 A fairy godmother is someone who helps the hero. ☐
7 There are more villains in *Star Wars* than most fairy tales. ☐
8 The ending of *Star Wars* is similar to a lot of fairy tales. ☐

☐ 8

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

SKILLS TEST 5 Standard

LISTENING

3 **Listen to two teenagers talking. Decide if these sentences are T (true) or F (false).**

0 The girl watched a film. T

1 She hasn't seen any other films like it. ☐

2 She didn't like it as much as other films. ☐

3 She remembers what happened in the story very clearly. ☐

4 The boy read a science-fiction novel. ☐

5 He can't remember what happened in the story. ☐

6 The story was famous, as many people thought it was real. ☐

7 He believes people shouldn't always trust what they see or hear. ☐

☐ 7

4 **Listen again and for each question, choose the right answer (A, B or C).**

0 What type of film does the girl enjoy?

A adventure. (B) comedy. C science-fiction.

1 Why wasn't the film as good as others in the series?

A There were few new ideas. B There was no villain. C It was in Spanish.

2 What did she think of the actors?

A Everyone was a good hero. B They didn't do a good job. C This was not their best film.

3 What did she like about the film?

A the plot. B the effects. C the characters.

4 How did the girl feel at the end?

A The film was too long. B The film was too short. C She felt disappointed.

5 What did the boy listen to?

A A message from another planet. B A play which was written in 1938. C An old news story.

6 Why did some people get upset?

A They were afraid of monsters. B They didn't like the programme. C Many people were attacked.

7 What did newspapers say which wasn't true?

A Some people called the police during the radio programme.
B Earth was really being attacked by monsters.
C A very large number of people were extremely scared by the programme.

8 What does the boy say at the end?

A The writer of the radio drama didn't have a successful career.
B It's better not to get news from the radio.
C Some things in the news might not be true.

☐ 8

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Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

SKILLS TEST 5 Standard

WRITING

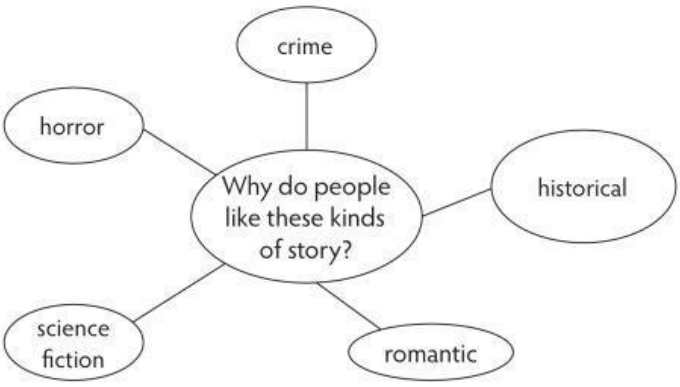
5 **Write an article (around 150–180 words) for your school magazine about your favourite story. Include information about the following parts of the story.**

- The plot
- The characters
- The setting
- The opening and ending
- Type of story

20

SPEAKING

6 **Work in pairs. Look at the ideas below, of types of story people like. First, talk to each other about why people like these types of story. Then decide together which type of story you think is most popular.**



7 **Now think of a story you recently read or watched. Imagine that you were one of the characters in the story. Tell your partner what happened. You can use the phrases below to help you.**

You'll never believe what …

The strangest thing happened …

Well …

Let me finish …

… was the most annoying thing.

20

TOTAL SCORE 70

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