

READING SKILL REVIEW - IDENTIFYING EXAMPLES:

Review the passage about predictions in science fiction. Then answer the questions.

- A** Predicting what life will be like in the future is not easy, and most predictions are incorrect. Even science fiction writers, who make a career out of writing about the future, are usually wrong in what they predict. But occasionally, science fiction writers have made predictions about future developments that are surprisingly accurate.
- B** Many sci-fi stories deal with future conflicts - for example, wars fought between humans on earth, and conflicts between humans and alien species. It is perhaps not surprising that at least some predictions about war technology have come true. In a story written in 1903, for instance, early sci-fi writer H.G. Wells predicted metal war machines. His prediction came true just 13 years later when the first tanks were built. Wells also predicted that humans would one day develop weapons based on nuclear power. Again, his prediction came true.
- C** Other science fiction predictions have focused on entertainment technologies. Have you used a tablet computer to access online information recently? Listened to music through earbud-type headphones? Or, watched something on a flat-screen television? For many citizens today, these are common activities. Yet these were all predicted several decades or longer ago by science fiction writers.
- D** Science fiction writers have predicted several advances in communications technology, too. These include computers that can translate immediately between different languages, and the use of artificial satellites to broadcast television or telephone signals around the world. Sci-fi authors also predicted developments in security technology, such as the use of such satellites to track the position of objects, or even people, from space, and the use of cameras to spy on the actions of citizens.
- E** Some kinds of science fiction technology have not come true yet - but are very close. Take the machines called replicators that appear in the *Star Trek* movies and television programs. These machines are able to produce a wide variety of objects - from food to liquids to clothes. Although replicators do not yet exist, 3-D printers are a similar device. Self-driving cars are also common in science fiction stories. These already exist on our streets, at least in some regions, and some experts predict they will become normal within a decade.

23. In paragraph B, the writer uses "for instance" to introduce an example of _____.
a. an imaginary type of alien species
b. an accurate prediction by a sci-fi writer
c. a type of story that is popular with sci-fi readers
24. In paragraph C, how many examples of "entertainment technologies" does the writer list?
a. two
b. three
c. four
25. In paragraph D, the writer uses "such as" to introduce examples of _____.
a. writers who predicted the use of spy cameras
b. types of technology used for security
c. different satellites that are used for tracking
26. In paragraph E, which word does the writer use to introduce an example?
a. Take (second sentence)
b. These (third sentence)
c. Although (fourth sentence)