

A VOCABULARY

A: Have you read *The Little Mermaid* by Hans Christian Andersen?

B: No, but I've seen the movie.

A: You have to read the original story. Some parts are the same as the movie, like the ¹(fiction / setting), but the ²(genre / plot)—what actually happens—is very different.

B: Yeah? How is it different?

A: Well, in *The Little Mermaid*, for example, the Little Mermaid dies in the end.

B: What? She's the main ³(**character** / **fan**). How could she die?

A: I guess you need to read it and find out.

B: Yeah, but I'm not really interested in ⁴(**fairy tales / historical fiction**). And you've just told me how it ends!

B GRAMMAR

1 Historical fiction refers to fictional stories _____ are set in the past.

2 A fantasy story is often about another world _____ life is very different than on earth.

3 Romance novels are usually about two people _____ fall in love.

4 Thrillers are fictional stories _____ are often about crime.

5 Libraries are great places _____ you can find marvelous books.

C TED TALK

Read the quotes from Ann Morgan's TED Talk. Then circle the words that mean the same as the words in **bold**.

1 "Well, when I asked myself this question a few years ago, I made an **alarming** discovery."

a surprising

b dangerous

2 "I explained who I was, how **narrow** my reading had been, and I asked anyone ... what I might read from other parts of the planet."

a limited, not very large

b not very interesting

3 “... books have an **extraordinary** power to take you out of yourself and into someone else’s mindset ...”

a hidden, not obvious

b amazing, incredible

4 "Discovering this ... **blind spot** in my reading came as quite a shock."

a something you do too often

b an area you don't know very much about