

HOMework ASSIGNMENT

Due Wednesday, February 22, 2012

STUDENT: _____

SCORE: ___/50 points

Exercise #1: Identifying Genre and Sub-genre (30 points)

Directions: Read the descriptions of the texts. Look for details that reveal the genre. Write the genre and sub-genre on the lines (USE THE GENRES & SUB-GENRES WE COVERED IN CLASS & THAT ARE IN YOUR TEXTBOOK, CHAPTER 2), and write a sentence explaining your answer.

1. The Perfect Shot by Elaine Marie Alphin

In this novel, Brian's girlfriend, Amanda; her sister; and their mother are shot to death in their garage. The girls' father is put on trial for the crime. On the day of the murders, however, Brian saw something that he thinks might affect the case. The story is told in flashbacks as he struggles for his life after being shot—as readers will suspect—by the true killer. Brian must also cope with pressure from his father to excel in basketball, and with his overwhelming grief over Amanda's death.

Genre: _____ Sub-genre: _____

Explain your Answer

2. An Audience for Einstein by Mark Wakely

Professor Percival Marlowe is a brilliant astrophysicist who's dying, his greatest achievement still unfinished and now beyond his diminished means. Doctor Carl Dorning, a neurosurgeon, discovers a secret method of transplanting memories from one person to another using advanced technology. Miguel Sanchez, a homeless boy, agrees to become the recipient of Marlowe's knowledge and personality in this experiment, enticed by Dorning's promises of intelligence, wealth and respect, but unaware that his own identity will be lost forever. What results is a seesaw battle for control of Miguel's body.

Genre: _____ Sub-genre: _____

Explain your Answer

3. Fractions by Sara Pistoia

This workbook text explains fractions, what they are, and how to use them.

Genre: _____ Sub-genre: _____

Explain your Answer

4. "Antlers" adapted by Heather Forest

Very short story of a buck (male deer) who was admiring his horns and feeling bad about his skinny legs. When a hunter came to shoot him, his big horns got stuck in some tree branches, but his skinny legs managed to pull him free. The moral of the story is that what is truly valuable is often unappreciated.

Genre: _____ Sub-genre: _____

Explain your Answer

5. The Takers (Oz Chronicles, Book 1) by R.W. Ridley

Never say their name! If you do, they will find you! If they find you, they will eat you! Thirteen-year-old Oz Griffin knows it's his fault that the Takers are eating everyone in sight. He also knows that a comic book written by a neighborhood boy is the key to defeating them. But every time he and his band of survivors try to read the comic book, the Takers draw closer. Can they get to the end of the story before the Takers devour them?

Genre: _____ Sub-genre: _____

Explain your Answer

6. Dealing with the Stuff That Makes Life Tough : The 10 Things That Stress Teen Girls Out and How to Cope with Them by Jill Zimmerman Rutledge

"Dr. Jill" gives prescriptions for dealing with difficult situations. The chapters address relationships, drug addiction, stress, body image, parental divorce, insomnia, bullies, and the author offers several scenarios based on her years of experience as a psychotherapist. Every chapter encourages readers to find ways to respect themselves. The author admits that some situations are complicated and offers realistic solutions.

Genre: _____ Sub-genre: _____

Explain your Answer

7. A House Divided-A Novel of the Civil War by Elizabeth Massie

By April 1863 the Civil War has been raging for two years. On their sleepy farm in Gettysburg, sixteen-year-old twins Susanne and Stephen are alarmed by news that Confederate forces under General Robert E. Lee are threatening to invade the North for a strike at Washington, D.C.! Frustrated with farm life and itching for action, Stephen runs away to join the fight. But little do they know that forces are converging on a small town for a battle that may determine the outcome of the war—a town called Gettysburg.

Genre: _____ Sub-genre: _____

Explain your Answer

8. "Rapunzel" adapted by Adler and Robin Books

Once upon a time a young girl named Rapunzel was running an errand for her mother when an evil witch caught her and imprisoned her in the tower of a castle. After years in the tower, Rapunzel grows long, beautiful hair. Rapunzel is very lonely, having seen nobody but the evil witch her whole life, until one day a prince wanders by and climbs up Rapunzel's hair. Action ensues, but eventually the prince and Rapunzel live happily ever after.

Genre: _____ Sub-genre: _____

Explain your Answer

9. Story of Robin Hood by unknown

Robin Hood is a highly-skilled archer and outlaw who actually existed. He is known for "stealing from the rich and giving to the poor" assisted by a group of outlaws known as his "Merry Men". There are many songs and stories about him. Though he was a real person, many of the facts surrounding him have been distorted or greatly exaggerated.

Genre: _____ Sub-genre: _____

Explain your Answer

10. What are My Rights?: 95 Questions and Answers About Teens and the Law by Thomas A. Jacobs

Teenagers have many questions about the law, but often they don't know where to turn for answers. This book makes it easy to explore 95 legal questions that pertain specifically to them.

Genre: _____ Sub-genre: _____

Explain your Answer

11. The Wall: Growing up behind the Iron Curtain by Peter Sis

In his most personal work to date, Peter Sis offers a brilliant graphic memoir, taking readers on an extraordinary journey as he recalls his youth growing up in Czechoslovakia in the 1960s, when his country was on the Communist side of the Iron Curtain.

Genre: _____ Sub-genre: _____

Explain your Answer

12. Story of Achilles by unknown

During the Trojan War, Achilles was the Greek's best warrior; his nymph mother, assisted by the gods, held him by his heel when she dipped him in the River Styx making him immortal everywhere but there.

Genre: _____ Sub-genre: _____

Explain your Answer

13. Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance by Barack Obama

Born in 1961 to a white American woman and a black Kenyan student, Obama was reared in Hawaii by his mother and her parents, his father having left for further study and a return home to Africa. So Obama's not-unhappy youth is nevertheless a lonely voyage to racial identity, tensions in school, struggling with black literature. This is his story in his own words.

Genre: _____ Sub-genre: _____

Explain your Answer

14. "The Story of the Three Bears" by unknown

Goldilocks, a little girl with blonde hair, is lost in the forest. She comes upon a house that seems comfortable and safe, but the house is actually the home of a family of bears.

Genre: _____ Sub-genre: _____

Explain your Answer

15. Anna of Byzantium by Tracy Barrett

In the eleventh century, the teenage princess Anna Comnena fights for her birthright--the throne to the Byzantine Empire--which she fears will be taken from her by her younger brother, John.

Genre: _____ Sub-genre: _____

Explain your Answer

Exercise #2 – Discussing the Attributes of a Piece of Writing (10 points)

Directions: Read the following passage, identify its GENRE and SUB-GENRE, and then, using the appropriate chart from chapter 2 (for the GENRE), discuss to what degree it follows the criteria for this type or writing.

A TALE OF MYSTERY

A Mélo-Drame In Two Acts

by

THOMAS HOLCROFT

First performed at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, November 13, 1802.

Cast of Characters

BONAMO	PIERO
ROMALDI	EXEMPT
FRANCISCO	SERLINA
STEPHANO	FIAMETTA
MONTANO	GARDENERS, PEASANTS, MUSICIANS,
MICHELLI	DANCERS, ARCHERS
MALVOGLIO	

ACT I.

A hall in the house of Bonamo, with two side doors, and folding doors in the back scene: a table, pen, ink, and paper, chairs, etc. Music to express discontent and alarm.

Enter Selina and Fiametta.

Sel. You seem hurried, Fiametta.
Fiam. Hurried, truly! Yes, yes, and you'll be hurried too.
Sel. I?
Fiam. Fine news!
Sel. Of what kind?
Fiam. A very bad kind. The Count Romaldi—
Sel. (*Alarmed*) What of him?
Fiam. Is coming.
Sel. When?
Fiam. This evening.
Sel. Heavens! What can he want?
Fiam. Want? He wants mischief. We all know he wants you to marry his son, because you're a rich heiress.
Sel. Surely, my uncle will never consent?
Fiam. Your uncle and all Savoy fear him.

Bona. (*Calling without*) Fiametta!

Fiam. I am here, sir.

Bona. But I want you here.

Fiam. Lord, sir, I am busy.

Sel. Go, run to my uncle.

Fiam. It's a shame that he should not think of marrying you to his own son, when he knows how dearly you love each other.

Sel. It is the excellence of my dear uncle's heart, that disdains the appearance of self-interest.

Fiam. So, rather than be blamed himself, he'll make you and I and everybody miserable! But I'll talk to him.

Bona. (*Without*) Fiametta, I say!

Fiam. Coming! (*Going*) He shall hear of it. I'm in the proper cue. He knows I'm right, and I'll not spare him. *Exit, talking.*

Hunting music. Enter Stephano, with his fowling-piece, net, and game.

Sel. Why are you so late, Stephano? I had a thousand alarms.

Steph. Forgive me, dear Selina. The pursuit of game led me too far among the mountains.

Sel. Do you know ---?

Steph. What?

Sel. I almost dread to tell you. Count Romaldi is coming.

GENRE _____ SUB-GENRE _____

Now that you have identified the genre and sub-genre, find the correct chart in chapter 2, and discuss to what degree this passage follows the criteria for this type or writing:

Exercise #3 – Defining Terms related to Genres of Writing (10 points)

Directions: Find an example of each of the following literary terms (these terms come from the discussions in chapter 2 about genres and sub-genres.)

1. An example of a highly descriptive SETTING (reference: p. 64, number 4).

EXAMPLE:

2. An example of a TRAGIC HERO (reference: pp. 74-75).

EXAMPLE:

3. An example of an OCTAVE from an Italian Sonnet (reference: p. 68).

EXAMPLE:

4. An example of a world-famous AMPHITHEATER (reference: p. 72).

EXAMPLE:

5. An example of a COUPLET from an English (Shakespearean) Sonnet (reference: p. 68).

EXAMPLE: