

Name: _____

Genre and Subgenre Practice #1

Directions: read the descriptions of each of the following texts. Identify the genre and subgenre from the list below. Write your answer and explain it in a sentence or two.

Fiction: historical fiction, science fiction, realistic fiction, fantasy

Nonfiction: informational writing, persuasive writing, biography, autobiography

Folklore: fable, fairy tale, tall tale, myth, legend

1. The Time Machine by H. G. Wells

An inventor creates a time machine and travels to the year 802701, where two distinct human races have evolved: the helpless, childlike Eloi and the subterranean Morlocks.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain Your Answer in a Sentence or Two

2. Toyota Camry Handbook by the Toyota Corporation

This text details the parts of the Toyota Camry and the service schedule. It also gives safety tips and instructions for simple maintenance.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain Your Answer in a Sentence or Two

3. Gone For A Soldier: A Novel Of The Birth Of The United States Of America by Jeffrey S. Hepple

Divided by loyalty to the King of England and the idea of democracy, the Van Buskirk family struggles from the Boston Tea Party to the Battle of Yorktown to preserve a way of life or forge a new nation. Set during the American Revolutionary War.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain Your Answer in a Sentence or Two

4. The Ant and the Grasshopper retold by Mr. Morton

One summer day the Grasshopper saw the Ant gathering food and he said, "Hey, Ant. Why don't you chill a bit?" The ant was like, "I've got work to do, and so do you. Winter's coming." The grasshopper was like, "I'll do it later." Soon the icy grip of winter set in and the grasshopper was hungry. He went knocking on the ant's door and the ant was like, "You shouldn't have played around so much. And then he shut his window. *Work comes before play.*"

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain Your Answer in a Sentence or Two

Name : _____

Identifying Genre and Subgenre 2

Directions: Choose the genre and subgenre in which the story most likely belongs. Then explain how you got your answer.

Fiction: science fiction, historical fiction, and realistic fiction

Nonfiction: autobiographies, biographies, informational writing, and essays

Folklore: myth, fairytale, legend, tall-tale, and fable

1. Journey to the Centre of the Earth by Jules Verne

The story of a German professor who believes there are volcanic tubes going toward the center of the Earth. He, his nephew Axel, and their guide Hans climb down a crater and have many wild adventures, encountering dinosaurs and prehistoric man. They eventually return to surface again in southern Italy.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your answer:

2. Sleeping Beauty retold by Charles Perrault

A beautiful princess pricks her finger on a sewing needle, after being cursed by a wicked fairy. The princess falls into a deep sleep. One hundred years later, a prince fights his way through the enchanted forest and awakens the beautiful sleeping princess with a kiss.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your answer:

3. The Rise and Fall of Senator Joe McCarthy by James Cross Giblin

Joseph McCarthy was a senator during the cold war who accused many people of being "communists." Many actors and directors were banned from working on movies because of McCarthy's accusations. James Cross Giblin tells the true story of Joe McCarthy's life, his rise to power and his down fall.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your answer:

4. No Way Out by Peggy Kern

Bluford High freshman Harold Davis is trapped. Medical bills for his sick grandmother are piling up, and a social worker has threatened to put him in a foster home. Desperate for money, he reluctantly agrees to work for Londell James, a neighborhood drug dealer. The choice leads him into a world of dangerous streets where no one is safe. Will Harold escape the violence that surrounds him, or will he become its next victim?

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your answer:

9. **The Time Machine** by H.G. Wells

When a Victorian scientist propels himself into the year 802,701, he is initially delighted to find that suffering has been replaced by beauty, contentment, and peace. Entranced at first by the Eloi, an elfin species descended from man, he soon realizes that these beautiful people are simply remnants of a once-great culture—now weak and childishly afraid of the dark. They have every reason to be afraid: in deep tunnels beneath their paradise lurks another race descended from humanity—the sinister Morlocks. And when the scientist's time machine vanishes, it becomes clear he must search these tunnels if he is ever to return to his own era.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your answer:

10. **Chicago Tribune** published by the Tribune

This newspaper contains news, sports, classifieds, and entertainment stories.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your answer:

11. **All Quiet on the Western Front** by Erich Maria Remarque

The book tells the story of a fictional character named Paul Bäumer, a soldier who—urged on by his school teacher—joined the German army shortly after the start of World War I. Bäumer arrives at the Western Front and meets an older soldier, nicknamed Kat, who becomes Paul's mentor. While fighting at the front, Bäumer and his comrades have to engage in frequent battles and endure the dangerous and often squalid conditions of warfare. The book does not focus on heroic stories of bravery, but rather gives a view of the conditions in which the soldiers find themselves.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your answer:

12. **African Creation Story** by unknown

In the Bakuba account, the Earth was originally nothing but water and darkness, ruled by the giant Mbombo. This giant, after feeling an intense pain in his stomach one day, vomited up the sun, moon, and stars. The heat and light from the sun evaporated the water covering Earth, creating clouds, and after time, the dry hills emerged from the water. Mbombo vomited once more. Many things were contained in this second vomiting—people (the first man and the first woman), animals, trees, the falling star, the firmament, and lighting.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your answer:

Identifying Genre and Subgenre #3

Directions: Read the descriptions of the texts. Look for details that reveal the genre. Write the genre and subgenre on the lines and write a sentence explaining your answer.

1. Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card

In order to develop a secure defense against a hostile alien race's next attack, government agencies breed child geniuses and train them as soldiers. A brilliant young boy, Andrew "Ender" Wiggin is drafted to the orbiting Battle School for rigorous military training. Ender's skills make him a leader in school and respected in the Battle Room. Yet growing up in an artificial community of young soldiers Ender suffers greatly from isolation, rivalry from his peers, pressure from the adult teachers, and an unsettling fear of the alien invaders.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

2. The Everything Kids' Science Experiments Book by Tom Robinson

Science has never been so easy - or so much fun! With The Everything Kids' Science Experiments Book, all you need to do is gather a few household items and you can recreate dozens of mind-blowing, kid-tested science experiments. You'll discover answers to questions like: Is it possible to blow up a balloon without actually blowing into it? What's inside coins? Can magnets ever be "turned off"? Get ready to enter the laboratory and learn how to conduct cool experiments, understand scientific terms like photosynthesis, and know fun facts like how many latex balloons per day can be made from a rubber tree.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

3. Tales of the Greek Heroes retold by Roger Lancelyn Green

This book has the mysterious and exciting stories of the gods and heroes in Ancient Greece, from the adventures of Perseus, the labours of Heracles, the voyage of Jason and the Argonauts, to Odysseus and the Trojan wars.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

4. The Bully by Paul Langan

Darrell Mercer is in for some trouble. After he and his mother move to California for her new job, Darrell begins getting bullied by a bigger kid from his high school. After spending months living in fear, Darrell is faced with a big decision. He can either keep running from this bully--or find some way to fight back.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

5. The Watsons Go To Birmingham - 1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis

The year is 1963, and Byron Watson is the bane of his younger brother Kenny's existence. Constantly in trouble for one thing or another, from straightening his hair into a "conk" to lighting fires to freezing his lips to the mirror of the new family car, Byron finally pushes his family too far. Mom and Dad finally make good on their threat to send him to the deep south to spend the summer with his tiny, strict grandmother. Soon the whole family is packed up, ready to make the drive from Flint, Michigan, straight into one of the most chilling moments in America's history: the burning of the Sixteenth Avenue Baptist Church-with-four-little-girls-inside.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

6. Empire of the Summer Moon: Quanah Parker and the Rise and Fall of the Comanches, the Most Powerful Indian Tribe in American History by S. C. Gwynne

In the first half of the nineteenth century, the Comanches, often referred to as "lords of the Plains," were the single most powerful military force in the region, to the frustration of both the Mexican and U.S. governments. In this engrossing chronicle, award-winning journalist Gwynne traces the rise of the Comanche people from their roots as primitive bands of hunter-gatherers to their mastery of the horse and emergence as the feared power brokers of the area.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

7. John Henry retold by Julius Lester

A great American hero comes fully to life in this epic retelling. From his momentous birth, when all the animals come to see him and the sun won't go to bed, John Henry works wonders. As a child he helps his father by adding "a wing onto the house with an indoor swimming pool and one of them jacutzis"-and that's just before lunch. His greatest feat is, of course, in his battle against the steam drill, as he races the machine to cut through "a mountain as big as hurt feelings."

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

8. Decision Points by George W. Bush

In this candid and gripping account, President George W. Bush describes the critical decisions that shaped his presidency and personal life. George W. Bush served as president of the United States during eight of the most consequential years in American history. The decisions that reached his desk impacted people around the world and defined the times in which we live. Written by George Bush and from the perspective of George Bush.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

Identifying Genre #4

Directions: Read the titles and descriptions of the stories. Identify the genre and subgenre using the word bank. Some items may repeat.

Main Genre: fiction, nonfiction, folk tale, drama, and poetry (poetry may not have a subgenre).

Subgenre: autobiography, biography, comedy, essay, fable, fairy tale, historical fiction, informational writing, ~~legend, myth, science-fiction, tall tale, technical writing, and tragedy~~ (there are other subgenres but they are not tested on ISAT).

1. Story of Alfred Bulltop Stormalong by unknown: Stormalong was said to be a sailor and a giant, some 30 feet tall; he was the master of a huge clipper ship known in various sources as either the *Courser* or the *Tuscarora*, a ship so tall that it had hinged masts to avoid catching on the moon.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

2. The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition by Caroline Alexander: Photos and first person accounts describe Shackleton's 1914 expedition to Antarctica in this companion volume to a museum exhibit.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

3. The House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer: Humans and clones populate a corrupt drug empire located between the United States and Mexico in this futuristic thriller.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

4. 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: _____ Subgenre: _____

5. This Land Was Made for You and Me: The Life and Songs of Woody Guthrie by Elizabeth Partridge: An award-winning author has taken the life of this songwriting genius and woven his lyrics and other material into a touching and entertaining portrait of a true genius.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

6. 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: _____ Subgenre: _____

7. 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: _____ Subgenre: _____

8. 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: _____ Subgenre: _____

9. 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: _____ Subgenre: _____

10. 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: _____ Subgenre: _____

11. "My Summer Vacation in The Dells" by Jerome Gardner: Jerome Gardner describes his trip to Wisconsin Dells in five thrilling paragraphs.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

12. "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: _____ Subgenre: _____

13. "The Lion and the Mouse" by unknown: A lion almost eats a mouse that woke him, but the mouse begs forgiveness and promises to return the favor. The lion lets the mouse go. Later, the lion is captured by hunters and tied to a tree; the lion roars for help. The mouse hears the lion's pleas and frees him by gnawing through the ropes. The last line of the story is: "Little friends may prove great friends."

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

14. "Xbox 360 Operations Manual" by Microsoft: Explains how to operate the Xbox 360 and includes a trouble shooting guide.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

15. "Little Red Riding Hood" by unknown: a girl walks through the woods to deliver food to her sick grandmother. A wolf goes to the grandmother's house, eats the grandmother, and waits for the girl, disguised as the grandmother.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Identifying Genre and Subgenre #5

Directions: Read the descriptions of the texts. Look for details that reveal the genre. Write the genre and subgenre on the lines 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: _____ Subgenre: _____

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: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

3. Fractions by Sara Pistoia

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

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

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: _____ Subgenre: _____

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: _____ Subgenre: _____

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: _____ Subgenre: _____

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: _____ Subgenre: _____

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 every after.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer