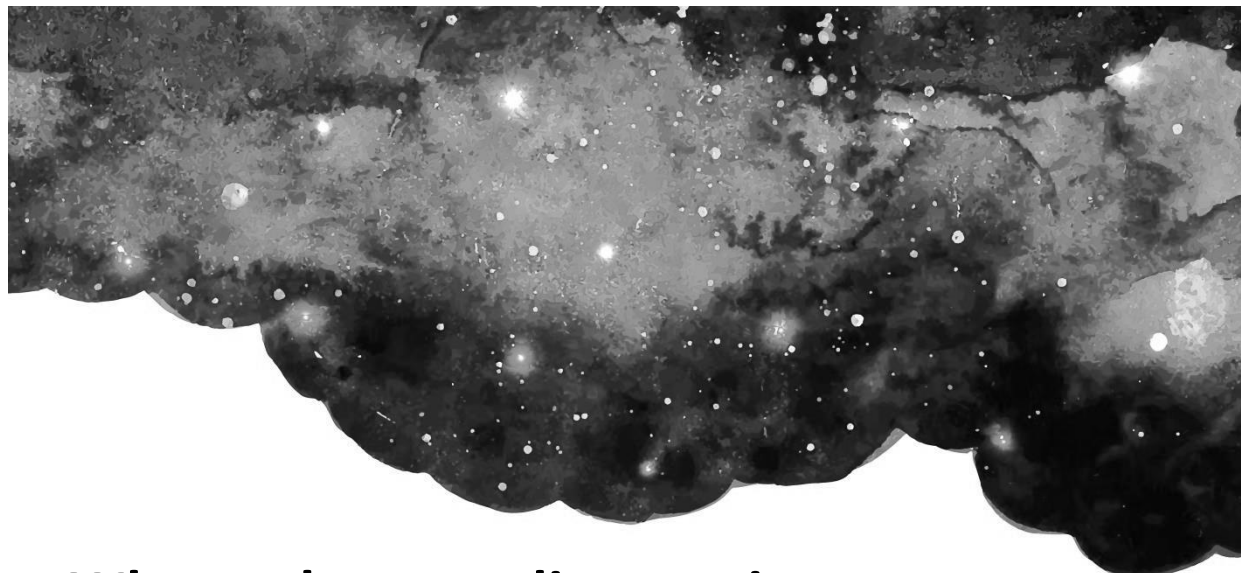


Name: _____ () Class: _____ Date: _____

You have found an essay on the Internet about why people love reading stories. Read the essay.

Text 2 Essay



Why we love reading stories

① Many of us love reading stories. In fact, our love for stories usually begins at a young age. As children, we used to love listening to bedtime stories each night. As we matured and learnt to read for ourselves, our love for stories has only grown stronger. So why do we love stories?

5 ② Many stories, especially those in the fantasy, sci-fi and adventure genres, offer us an escape from work and the dull routine of the real world. From time to time, when we do not know how to deal with the hardships in our lives, such as exam stress and family
10 troubles, reading about imaginary worlds allows us to temporarily forget all about our worries. For a moment, we can just abandon everything and immerse ourselves completely in the tale. We can go travelling on a spaceship to the furthest reaches of outer space or explore an enchanted land of magical creatures. Unlike real life, the
15 possibilities in stories are endless and we can let our imaginations run wild.



③ The distinctive and memorable characters in many famous stories also explain why we find reading stories so enjoyable and addictive.

For example, when we read *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, we are blown away by the
20 brilliance of the intelligent detective and his incredible eye for the most minor details.

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Likewise, the mysterious Cheshire Cat with his trademark grin and the strange Mad Hatter's fondness for tea parties in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* entice and draw us into the story because we cannot wait to see what other unusual yet wonderful creatures Alice will meet.

- 25 **4** Another reason why we love reading stories is that they present us with the opportunity to experience all sorts of wonders, mysteries and adventures without
- 30 putting ourselves in danger or which we would probably never have the chance to encounter in real life. We are used to rules and boundaries in real life, but stories free us from these restrictions and allow us to be whoever we want. We can imagine what we
- 35 would do if we were one of the characters. For example, we can put ourselves in Percy Jackson's shoes as he embarks on various quests inspired by Greek mythology in the *Percy Jackson* novels or transform into an international teenage spy in the action-packed *Alex Rider* novels.



- 40 **5** Ultimately, reading stories is a holiday into another world. When we are engrossed in a story, we can escape from reality, get to know the fascinating characters and go on thrilling adventures
- 45 using just our imagination. All things considered, how can anyone not love reading stories?

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Comprehension 2 *Your friend wants to know more about why we love reading stories. Answer his questions using information from the essay. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer and blacken ONE circle only.*

- 1** Which word in paragraph 1 means 'grew older'?

- 2** According to the essay, what kinds of stories help us escape from reality?

- 3** Give examples of TWO kinds of difficulties in daily life that reading stories helps us escape from.

i) _____

ii) _____

- 4** Find an expression in paragraph 3 that means 'very impressed by'.

- 5** Who has a 'trademark grin' (line 21)?

☐ A Alice

☐ B Cheshire Cat

☐ C Mad Hatter

☐ D Sherlock Holmes

- 6** Why does the writer mention Sherlock Holmes, Cheshire Cat and Mad Hatter in paragraph 3?

- 7** According to paragraph 4, what stops us from going on wild adventures ourselves?

- 8** What does 'put ourselves in Percy Jackson's shoes' (line 36) mean?

☐ A buy shoes inspired by Percy Jackson

☐ B write about Percy Jackson

☐ C pretend we are Percy Jackson

☐ D dress up as Percy Jackson

- 9** What are Percy Jackson's adventures inspired by?

- 10** Who does 'an international teenage spy' refer to in line 39?

- 11** i) What metaphor does the writer use to compare reading stories to in paragraph 5?

- ii) Why do you think the writer uses this metaphor?

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- 12** Match the subheadings to the outline for the text. Write A–D in the box next to the number. I and V have been given. One subheading is NOT used.

Subheadings

- A Be someone else
B Create a new life
C A diversion from reality
D Unforgettable characters

Outline A, B, C, D

| | |
|-----|--------------|
| I | Introduction |
| II | |
| III | |
| IV | |
| V | Conclusion |

- 13** Below is a summary of the text. In three of the lines, there is ONE mistake. If you find a mistake, underline the mistake and replace the word with one that expresses the correct idea. Write the word in the space on the right. If there is no mistake, put a tick (✓) in the space. The first has been done for you.

| | Summary | Correction |
|------|--|------------|
| e.g. | In the world of stories, <u>nothing</u> is possible. Many people | anything |
| i) | read to escape from the worries of the fictional world. Some of | |
| ii) | them are attracted to the captivating scenery in books. | |
| iii) | Others read stories to experience thrilling adventures | |
| iv) | and solve mysteries while remaining out of safety. | |

- 14** Complete the following sentences with words from the text. Use ONE word to complete each blank. Make sure your answers are grammatically correct.

- i) Ginny took a long holiday because she needed a break from her same old daily _____. (paragraph 2)
- ii) The villain in this story has a _____ for hats. He has a huge collection of them! (paragraph 3)
- iii) The volunteers from the animal shelter tried to _____ the injured cat out of the hole by offering it some food. (paragraph 3)
- iv) The explorers _____ on an adventure to find the hidden treasure. (paragraph 4)
- v) The boys were so _____ in their video game that they did not notice anything that happened around them. (paragraph 5)