

Time limit: 120 minutes.

Maximum score: 100

**Внимание! Обязательно перенесите ответы в бланк ответов.
Жюри проверяет только бланк ответов.**

LISTENING (20 points)

Task 1. Listen to the first part of the text. Decide which statements are A. True according to the text, B. False, or C. Not mentioned in the text. Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

№	Statement	A	B	C
1.	Isaac Asimov could have been born in the autumn of 1919.			
2.	In the US, Isaac's parents owned a publishing business.			
3.	Isaac has always dreamed of being a writer.			
4.	When he entered the university, Isaac was planning to study animals.			
5.	"Marooned off Vesta" was published in Astounding Science Fiction magazine.			

Task 2. Listen to the second part of the text. Each statement contains a factual error, which is written in bold. Replace the words in bold with the correct word/words from the text. Write down only the correct word/words according to the number in brackets. Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

№	Statement	Your answer
6.	Campbell's idea was used as the backdrop of Asimov's story "Nightfall".	_____ (2 words)
7.	The dichotomy of people and robots is one of the main topics of Asimov's works.	_____ (3 words)
8.	Asimov was the first to use the word " robot " in his works.	_____ (1 word)
9.	According to the Third Law, a robot must prioritise its safety unless that contradicts the First and Second Laws.	_____ (1 word)
10.	In his novels, Asimov discusses the reasons for following the four rules beyond the normal limit.	_____ (1 word)

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE STUDIES (40 points)

Task 1. Read the first part of the text. There are ten statements listed after the text. The statements are not related to the text but they contain antonyms (in bold) to the words in the text. Find antonyms to the words in bold in the text and write them down in the box. Do not change the word form given in the text. Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

In the strictest sense, science fiction is a lot older than one might expect. Stories, tales, and myths from all around the world posing speculative questions about technologies have existed long before Ray Bradbury and Frank Herbert, from the time-travelling Japanese fairytale "Urashima Taro" and flying machines from Sanskrit epic "Ramayana" to some of the elements of "1001 Arabian Nights" and space voyages in Lucian's "True History" – a veritable wonderland of pseudo-scientific marvels.

But these were mostly epics and fantasies with just a bit of novelty. Science fiction as a genre wasn't conceived until a period of literary change in the 19th-century West.

As romantic visions met with realist sensibilities, the work of some authors began to reflect this confluence. In her momentous novel "Frankenstein", Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley combined emerging concepts of galvanic electricity and chemistry with gothic horror. H.G. Wells and Jules Verne made adventure stories of their speculations, both to wide acclaim. Jules Verne pioneered the adventure-driven romantic sci-fi opera. His most celebrated works are breathtaking adventures that send us beyond the reach of our mundane world. At the time, actual science had yet to catch up to that. Meanwhile, H.G. Wells' novels are taking a much more moralising tone. In "The Time Machine," humankind has devolved into either childlike, naive beings or complete monsters. And eventually, Earth ends up as a dried out seasonless husk.

And so it was that a smattering of disparate works published over the course of nearly 100 years turned into a new literary form – the simple merging of science and fiction.

Writer and editor Hugo Gernsback began to call such stories "scientifiction", and in 1926 he established a magazine, Amazing Stories, and it became the first aggregate for science fiction.

The difference between what later became science fiction and existing at that time pulp science fiction was in its instruments and goals. Pulp sci-fi films and stories rely on spectacle, action, thrills, dazzling effects. But not all science fiction spectacles are so much about entertainment. Some invite you to ponder over their speculations, marvel at glimpses of a possible future. By making a spectacle of real science and technology in a way that pulp never had, hard science fiction asserts itself as the truest "fiction of science".

№	Statement	Your answer
1.	It is a proven fact that water freezes at 0 degrees Celsius	
2.	“To make a nice cup of coffee, add two teaspoons of milk and plenty of sugar.”	
3.	There are certain chemicals that the bloodstream can absorb easily, while others cannot be digested.	
4.	The stated problem is minor and should be overcome quickly.	
5.	When we were making that decision, the facts were unknown to us or the result would have been different.	
6.	It was extremely boring to sit there without having anything to do.	
7.	If you look inside , you might see a magical world full of wonders.	
8.	When schoolchildren get sick, they usually start to fall behind in their studies.	
9.	The owner of the company dismissed the board of directors.	
10.	It seems unlikely that he left everything and ran away, he must have been in shock.	

Task 2. Read the second part of the text. There are five incomplete sentences after the text. Complete each sentence with the words from the text. Write down only the correct word/words according to the number in brackets. Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

One of the most influential figures of the emerging genre of science fiction was John W. Campbell. He was great at coming up with new story ideas, but lacked the necessary literary talent to make it as a full-time author.

However, Campbell truly shined as an editor and a champion for science fiction. He assembled a group of regular writers which included some of the most famous minds of the genre - Isaac Asimov, Arthur C. Clarke, Robert A. Heinlein and others.

Thus, Campbell almost single-handedly catalysed the first major surge in hard science fiction. These were the years of ingenious works like Asimov's “Foundation” series and Bradbury's “Martian Chronicles”; a period we know now as The Golden Age of Science Fiction.

At the end of the 1950s, an epidemic struck the sci-fi racks in bookstores. There were roughly 23 major titles circulating in the U.S. by 1957; by the end of 1960, only 6 remained. The cause of this fall in popularity was a new era of space travel, as when the rockets went up, all eyes shifted from science fiction to a scientific reality.

The works of that period stepped outside the bounds of established science fiction, experimenting more with form than with subject matter. It was called the New Wave, and in 1964 English writer Michael Moorcock strengthened the movement by doing as Campbell had

done for hard science fiction – he created a home for it by turning New Worlds magazine into the first ever dedicated New Wave publication.

A mere three years later, Harlan Ellison brought the movement to America with his 1967 anthology “Dangerous Visions”, turning New Wave into an international phenomenon. And finally, with the stylistically inventive nature of these works, science fiction was beginning to gain recognition as a genre that could be literary.

Writers of this genre became respected in the literary community and started receiving awards for their efforts. One of the major awards was named after John W. Campbell himself. John W. Campbell Memorial Award not only celebrates the achievements of authors, but also encourages them to continuously perfect their craft.

№	Sentence	Your answer
11.	One of the greatest contributions that John W. Campbell made to the development of science fiction was that he _____ of the authors that were regularly published.	_____ (3 words)
12.	The Golden age of science fiction is known for the _____ of Asimov, Clarke, Heinlein and others.	_____ (2 words)
13.	With the beginning of the space era, people became more interested in a _____, than in fiction.	_____ (2 words)
14.	When Michael Moorcock established New Worlds magazine as a New Wave publishing territory, he _____.	_____ (3 words)
15.	Science fiction started to _____ when New Wave became popular worldwide.	_____ (2 words)

Task 3. There are five British and American authors listed below. Match the author with the brief description of his work. There are two extra descriptions. Transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

№	Author's name	Your answer
16.	Ray Douglas Bradbury	
17.	Stephen Edwin King	
18.	Frank Herbert	
19.	Ursula Kroeber LeGuin	
20.	Orson Scott Card	

DESCRIPTIONS

A. This American journalist, photographer and science fiction writer is the author of the best-selling science fiction novel of all time. The book and its sequels form a saga that tells the story of a distant future, where feudal families own planets and where a son of such a family decides to fight against the imperialistic order. The saga raises the questions of the survival of humankind, evolution, ecology, and many others. The first book of the series was recently adapted into a film.

B. This science fiction writer, poet, translator and literary critic won numerous awards and was named a Grand Master of science fiction. The author's works were greatly influenced by Chinese philosophy and anthropology. The writer is mostly famous for science fiction books for children and teenagers.

C. This American author is mostly known for his books in various genres, but he is also a successful fantasy writer. His most famous series of fantasy novels tells the story of an archer from an ancient order, whose aim is to reach a tower where he will be able to find a key to returning the balance between the darkness and the light. The author believes that this series is his major literary achievement.

D. This American science fiction writer was one of the most significant figures of the genre. He paid a lot of attention to the scientific accuracy of his works, thus pioneering a so-called "hard science fiction" genre. His books often explore various social and political ideas. His most famous books include a story about a man who was raised by aliens and a novel that describes an army of the future.

E. As a science fiction author he wrote almost 200 works during his life and received a prestigious Hugo award for his novel describing alternative history after World War II, thus attracting attention to the subgenre of alternative history literature. He often incorporated and observed philosophical ideas and ethical problems in his works. His best-known novel tells a story of a bounty hunter whose work is to catch androids, or artificially created people.

F. This American science fiction writer is the only person (as of now) who won the prestigious Hugo and Nebula Awards consecutively. His most prominent work tells the story of genius boy who among other children is taken to be trained as an elite officer by playing war games. The book was adapted for the big screen and was also turned into a comic book series.

G. The works of this science fiction writer were seminal for the development of the Afrofuturism subgenre, as the author made African American people the main characters of the books. The author's most famous novel revolves around time travelling and a slavery narrative.

CREATIVE WRITING (40 points)

Внимание! Не указывайте свои ФИО в творческом задании.

Task: Read two quotes about literature.

A quote by Isaac Asimov (American science fiction author):

Science fiction is that branch of literature which is concerned with the impact of scientific advance upon human beings.

A quote by Frederik Pohl (American science-fiction writer, editor):

A good science fiction story should be able to predict not the automobile but the traffic jam.

Now write an article comparing these two points of view on literature and giving your own opinion.

You must write 250 – 300 words.

