

LEVEL A5 PAPER 1 / 15

Nombre: _____

1. Read and answer the questions

Science fiction (which is often shortened to SF or sci-fi) is the name for books or films that ask the questions "What would happen if ...?" The words that continue the question are usually about a scientific advance or a major change in the environment. SF aims to disturb our perceptions of what is real and normal by taking us into other worlds. It is often more interested in ideas than people, and reflects the great impact of technology on the modern world.

The first example of science fiction was Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. This was published in 1818 when she was only 19. It tells the story of how Frankenstein, a medical student, creates a living creature out of parts which were taken from dead bodies. This subject was later developed by Jules Verne in *Journey to the Centre of the Earth* (1864) and by H.G. Wells in *The Time Machine* (1895). These writers were seriously concerned about the problems arising from the use of new technology. This is still true today, even attracting genuine scientists such as Isaac Asimov to write science fiction books.

Science fiction stories have provided plenty of material for radio, films and television. In 1938 a play called *The War of the Worlds*, which was about invaders from Mars, was presented as a real news item on the radio. People listening to it were terrified and thousands left their homes in a panic. The films *Star Wars* and *Alien*, both of which were followed by several sequels, are among the most successful films ever made. Some of the most popular television shows such as *Dr Who*, *Star Trek* and *The X-Files* are also science fiction stories.

Computers are playing an increasingly important role in SF stories. One major recent development has been the arrival of cyberpunk. Cyberpunk stories are set in cyberspace, a world within the network of computers, which humans can enter and participate in through virtual reality. How far can we get? How dangerous to the mind can this be?

1. SF books and films attempt to answer questions related to technological advances. T F

2. Why is it surprising that Asimov should write SF stories?

3. Why did many people feel panic when they were listening to *The War of the Worlds*?

4. What is cyberspace?

5. There aren't sequels to the most popular SF films. T F

2. Kate and her brother are talking. Complete the blanks with ONE word only

It was Kate's fifteenth birthday and she was playing with one of her presents – a new computer game called Super Suzy _____ her best friend had given her. Suddenly there was a loud noise and a flash on the computer screen. Then she heard _____ behind her and turned round.

"Leo! Stop staring at me!" Leo, her brother, was standing behind her.

"I'm sorry Kate," Leo said, _____ you like me to show you how to get to the next level? You _____ not supposed to jump so quickly." "Shut up, Leo," she replied, "I feel _____ being on my own."

Leo smiled. "I didn't mean to make you angry," he said, "and I didn't tell you _____ to do, did I?" Kate was not pleased _____ all. "You love telling me what to do! You are always so sure of _____!" she shouted at him. "I hate being your sister! You think you can do everything _____ than me, _____ you?"

"That's not true," Leo replied. "You can shout louder than me."

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3. Go on reading and complete the blanks with a suitable linking word

"OK, Mr Clever," said Kate "See if you can get to the next level more quickly than I did. Then see _____ you can get to Super Level. I keep telling myself _____ I can do it but I still haven't reached it."

Leo started to play. His fingers moved _____ fast as lightning over the keyboard. As _____ as he got to Level 9 he asked his sister what would happen _____ he got to Super Level.

"I don't know," Kate replied. "It just says that you'll get a great surprise."

_____ playing computer games was Leo's favourite hobby, he had never played this game before. He got closer in _____ to see better. Suddenly the screen went white and then shone like the sun. The room filled with bright light. The light hurt so much _____ Kate put her hands over her eyes. Then she heard a loud bang and she opened her eyes. She looked around, _____ her brother wasn't there any longer.

"Leo," Kate shouted. "Where are you?"

"Here," Leo said. "I got to Super Level and now I'm inside the computer." _____, Kate couldn't hear him.

4. Go on reading and complete the blanks with the appropriate tense. Whenever you see a + add a modal verb.

Leo became part of Super Suzy, the computer game.

"I've been waiting for you," a voice said. Leo turned round and saw a young woman. She (have) _____ short blonde hair and bright blue eyes. She (wear) _____ a wide belt with buttons on it.

"You're Suzy," Leo said. "But how did I manage (get) _____ here? You are not real!"

"What is real and what is a game?" she asked. "Now you are part of my game. I (wait) _____ for you for over a year and now you (arrive) _____. There are seven more levels so we (+ start) _____ to play. When you get to the highest level, you (+ escape) _____ from the computer and return to your real life."

Leo asked her what would happen if he (not get) _____ to the highest level. To his horror Suzy told him he (+ stay) _____ there forever.

"The first game is called Supersport," Suzy sent on. "You can choose which sport to play". Leo chose football.

"And who (I, play) _____ against?" he asked. Suzy pointed at one of the players. It was Carlos Tevez! He started to run towards the ball and kicked it. Leo (+ do) _____ nothing. He scored a goal and then another one.

"I (not lose) _____," Leo promised himself. Leo jumped to his right when Tevez kicked again. He stopped the ball. "One all!" Suzy shouted.

"Help me, Suzy," Leo said, "I'm afraid he (score) _____ this time."

Suzy agreed (help) _____ him. She knew Leo was looking forward (finish) _____ the game as soon as possible. "Look in the back of the goal," she began, "there is a pair of Power Trainers there. Put them on."

After Leo (put) _____ them on, Tevez kicked the ball but Leo jumped up into the air and pushed the ball away.

"You (win) _____ !" Suzy said. "Now you'll go to the next level."

Leo wanted to know what it (be) _____ called. "Underwater Super Adventure," she replied.

"Oh, dear," said Leo. "I (+ not swim) _____ ! When I was a child I (+ wear) _____ a life vest and flippers. I haven't been in the water since I was 7!"

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5. A journalist is interviewing Carlos Tevez after the football match in Super Suzy. Complete their conversation.

Interv.: _____ ?

C.T.: For Boca Juniors? Since the beginning of this year.

Interv.: _____ childhood.

C.T.: Yes, sure. I was born in a very poor neighbourhood in the suburbs. I used to share a room with my brother and my adoptive parents. We played together and had lots of fun.

Interv.: _____ ?

C.T.: No, not any more. Now my family lives in a bigger house but they haven't changed at all.

Interv.: _____ ?

C.T.: Yes, I felt it was the least I could do for them. If it hadn't been for their support, I _____.

Interv.: Your father still works as a truck driver, _____ ?

C.T.: Yes. I've asked him to stop but he won't.

Interv.: And what about your older friends? _____ ?

C.T.: Of course I do! I can't forget my childhood friends!

Interv.: Tell me a little bit about your time in England. _____ ?

C.T.: It was really difficult. I couldn't speak English, so it was really hard to communicate with people!

Interv.: And what about your children? _____ there?

C.T.: Well, it was easier for them. They learnt the language quickly and they made many friends.

Interv.: How did you manage _____ ?

C.T.: Well, I suppose I just did things at the right time. I worked hard and I still do to remain on the top.

6. Composition.

Write about 80 - 100 words on one of the following:

- Write about a superstar or
- Write a letter to a penpal that has contacted you for the first time.