Name: _____

Directions: After reading, write an appropriate response for each space.

Name of story (use capitals and quotation marks):

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Question: _____

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Quotation (include quotation marks and page number/s): _____

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Sci Fi category: _____

Sci Fi motif/subjects (book refers to them as "themes"): _____

Name of story (use capitals and quotation marks):

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Question: _____

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Quotation (include quotation marks and page number/s): _____

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Sci Fi category: _____

Sci Fi motif/subjects (book refers to them as "themes"): _____

Name of story (use capitals and quotation marks):

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Quotation (include quotation marks and page number/s): _____

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Sci Fi category: _____

Sci Fi motif/subjects (book refers to them as "themes"): _____

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Sci Fi category: _____

Sci Fi motif/subjects (book refers to them as "themes"): _____

CATEGORIES OF SCIENCE FICTION

- Hard Science Fiction--stories often featuring believable scientists or scientific inventions. If the scientific elements are both important to the story and plausible, given today's technology, it is hard science fiction.
- Soft Science Fiction--stories emphasizing the psychological or sociological sciences. Relationships, more than scientific inventions or principles, are the basis for action.
- Alternate History--stories in which history as we know it has been altered in some fundamental way, such as Napoleon winning at Waterloo, or Einstein never unlocking the secrets of atomic power. We see a different society because of such changed events.
- Cyberpunk--stories set in a computer-dominated environment, usually in the near future, and containing rebellious characters such as street punks.
- Dystopia--stories in which society is dominated by negative factors.
- Utopia--stories in which society's ills have, for the most part, have been cured and daily life is perfect, or nearly so.
- Future History--stories set in a distant time and containing a more or less worked out society reflecting the relationships among competing or cooperating species in that universe.
- Steampunk--stories set in an alternate history when steam power was prominent, such as Victorian England. These stories usually show technology changed in some way by the addition of more modern invention, and like cyberpunk, most have rebellious characters.
- Fantastic Voyage--stories where the heroes travel to unknown regions, encountering strange inhabitants.
- Space Opera--stories with outer space or other planets and galactic war as the center of the action--a soap opera played out in space.

**Please refer to these as "subjects,"
"topics" or "motifs," common to Science Fiction stories: they are
not fully-formed themes, even though they are labeled as such
below.**

THEMES OF SCIENCE FICTION

- Unexplained Phenomena--stories featuring UFOs, pyramid power, paranormal abilities, telekinesis, ESP, and other psychic possibilities and how those talents affect humans.
- Self-Knowledge--stories emphasizing the ability to know and accept our humanity. May include situations challenging gender identities or other preconceived notions.
- The Individual versus Society--tales where the society has certain guidelines for compatible living, but situations occur that the rules don't cover. A strong individual accomplishes daring feats, and sometimes this requires breaking the rules.
- People in Time or Space--stories involving humans traveling in time or space. Situations include the beings humans encounter, and how the humans react to the unfamiliar surroundings.
- Humans and Technology--stories describing how humans interact with computers, nanotechnology, bioengineering, virtual reality, artificial intelligences, or other parts of a technologically driven society. These stories often question the concept of what it means to be human.