

The Songs of Distant Earth and Other Stories

Arthur C. Clarke

Setting

Choose the best answer.

- The lama wanted the computer to _____.
a choose a new name for his country
b list the names of all the people c list all the names of God d list the names of all the countries
- George and Chuck went to Tibet for _____.
a three months b three years c three days d three weeks
- Henry Cooper had been on the moon for almost _____ before he discovered that something was wrong.
a three weeks b three days c two days d two weeks
- Henry was on his _____ visit to the moon.
a first b second c third d fourth
- Shervane had to travel _____ across the mountains to continue his studies.
a east b west c north d south
- In the _____ there was a season when darkness fell and nothing could live.
a Dark Land b Shadow Land
c Mountain Land d Cold Land
- The earth was _____ light years away from Thaar.
a three thousand b four hundred
c five hundred d six thousand
- The scientists on Thaar had discovered that _____.
a Earth was getting bigger b the sun was getting smaller
c the moon was going to explode d the sun was going to explode
- After three hundred years of silence, Earth had sent a _____ to Thalassa.
a star b starship c shop d scream
- Leon had left Earth _____ years ago.
a a thousand b a million c two d a hundred

20 marks

Characters

Choose the best answer.

- The lama came from a _____ in Tibet.
a school b monastery c church
d company
- George and Chuck were _____.
a lamas b scientists c engineers
d teachers

- Henry Cooper sent _____ back to earth.
a reports and stories b food c people and animals
d plants
- Chandra Coomaraswamy was the _____.
a newspaper chief b police chief
c head engineer d head scientist
- Brayldon was studying to be _____.
a an architect b a teacher c a scientist
d a doctor
- When his father died, Shervane became the _____ in his country.
a richest man b oldest teacher c most important student
d wisest man
- Dr Bill Cross worked for _____.
a the church b a school c the police
d the army
- Bill's wife was called _____.
a Elizabeth b Barbara c Brenda
d Mary
- Leon was _____ from Earth.
a a teacher b an engineer c a scientist
d a doctor
- Lora had promised to marry _____.
a Leon b nobody c Clyde
d the President

20 marks

Dialogue

Who said this?

- 'There is electricity available...?'
a the lama b Chuck c George
d Dr Wagner
- 'We could always arrange for the computer to break down.'
a Chuck b Dr Wagner c the high lama
d George
- 'A perfectly normal golden hamster. Except that this one is five years old...'
a Dr Hastings b Cooper c the Medical Research Group
d Coomaraswamy
- 'My God – you've found a way to make life longer!'
a Dr Hastings b Chuck c Cooper
d the Medical Research Group
- 'I want to be the only one to go all the way up.'
a Grayle b Brayldon d Shervane
d Artex
- 'The wall is wonderful, yes – but there is no need to fear it, for those who understand its secret.'
a Brayldon b Grayle c Artex
d Shervane

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- 27 'My dear hallucination, if I believed you –'
a the Great Scientist b the voice
c Bill d Bill's boss
- 28 'Are all human beings like you?'
a Bill's wife b the Thaarns c Bill
d Bill's boss
- 29 'Come and help me – we've got a lot of fish to bring home.'
a Lora b Leon c the Mayor
d Clyde
- 30 '...you would be more out of place in my world than I would be in yours.'
a Lora b Clyde c Captain Gold
d Leon

20 marks

Vocabulary

Choose the best answer.

- 31 the line at which the land and sky seem to meet
a monastery b horizon c dimension
d curve
- 32 a person who goes to another country (or planet) and makes it their own
a colonist b descendant c lama
d scientist
- 33 something which you think you see or hear but which isn't actually there
a gravity b dimension c telepathic
d hallucination
- 34 being alive but not conscious
a telepathic b suspended animation
c wise d puzzled
- 35 able to communicate directly from one mind to another without speaking
a wise b theodolite c telepathic
d hallucination
- 36 the force that on Earth pulls things towards the centre of the planet
a science b sequence c pyramid
d gravity
- 37 worried and afraid
a drunk b nervous c foolish d fuss
- 38 numbers, actions etc. that follow each other in a special or regular way
a sequence b research c science
d shield
- 39 a message, spoken or silent, that you send to God
a purpose b planet c point
d prayer

- 40 a person who designs buildings
a mathematician b lama c scientist
d architect

20 marks

Plot

Choose the best answer.

- 41 The lamas believed that when the list was completed, God would step in and _____.
a finish the list b close the country
c close everything down d turn off the computer
- 42 George and Chuck saw _____ as they looked up at the sky.
a the stars going out b birds c the plane
d the sun going out
- 43 Henry met Chandra at _____ to go to see Dr Hastings.
a Airlock Three b Gate Six c Gate Five
d Airlock Five
- 44 On the moon, a human life will last for _____ years.
a two hundred b twenty c one hundred
d three hundred
- 45 It took _____ years to build the stairway to the top of the wall.
a five b six c seven d eight
- 46 Shervane destroyed the _____.
a wall b stairway c sun
d mountains
- 47 The _____ made Bill feel much happier.
a voices b water c job d whisky
- 48 There wasn't a _____ day for Bill.
a third b fourth c second d fifth
- 49 Leon's _____ were in suspended animation.
a wife and child b mother and father
c sisters d brothers
- 50 The colonists were travelling for another two hundred years to the _____.
a Earth b moon c sun d stars

20 marks

Total marks