**THE IMITATION GAME**

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No.\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***A film directed by Morten Tyldum and released in 2015***

**A - Summary of the film.**

**Fill in the gaps with the words below.**

*codebreaker complex chronological illegal*

*unpleasant Second World War discovery*

*anticipate help fight*

Alan Mathison Turing is a British mathematician and cryptologist. During the (1) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, he leads a varied team made of scientists, linguists, chess champions, and secret agents, who (2) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ against time to decode secret messages by the German army. Endorsed by Churchill, who provides moral and financial (3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, he builds a machine which can be programmed, called ‘the Bombe’. Thanks to this machine, the Allied forces succeed to decode the messages, that are encrypted by the Nazis’ ‘Enigma’ machine. This achievement helps to end the war, (4) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the enemy’s tactics, and save millions of lives.

The film does not follow a (5) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ order of events. By travelling through time in different moments of Turing’s life, the film director Morten Tyldum makes a (6) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ portrait of the scientist. Turing is shown in 1927 when he is at a boarding school; from 1939 to the end of the war, when he works as a (7) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and statistician; then in 1952 when his house is robbed and he is arrested. A police investigation follows. It leads to the (8) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of ‘gross indecency’ in his personal life. He is charged of inappropriate sexual behaviour, which was (9) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Great Britain at the time. A sequence of (10) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ events follows. He is compelled to undergo a chemical treatment, and finally commits suicide on 7th June 1954.

(Adapted from: Fiche pédagogique in www.e-media.ch)

**B - Translate the following words or phrases in the text.**

1 *mathematician and cryptologist*:

2 *to lead a team*:

3 *to decode secret messages*:

4 *to provide moral help*:

5 *to build a machine which can be programmed*:

6 *achievement*:

7 *to make a portrait of the scientist*:

8 *boarding school*:

9 *codebreaker and statistician*:

10 *a sequence of events*:

**C - Opposites - Give the opposite word. Use a word from the text. Follow the example.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ex. pleasant | *unpleasant* |  |  | to lose |
| simple |  |  | legal |  |
|  | immoral |  | personal life |  |
| to begin |  |  | at first |  |

**D - Summary of the scene ‘It works!’**

**Put the following parts of the text in chronological order by writing a number.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| N. | Description of the scene |
|  | Alan agrees and they go to meet the ladies. Helen, who intercepts radio messages, talks about her activity and tells them that her German counterpart can be recognized by a particular way of typing. Besides, he always starts and ends his messages with the same letters, C-I-L-L‐Y, and she likes to imagine that it is an especial word, a message to his sweetheart. Hugh and Helen walk away to the bar. |
|  | The following day, Alan Turing and his team programme the machine with the words ‘Wetter’ and ‘Heil Hitler’, which were repetitive in the Nazi messages, and also insert the Nazi secret code. |
|  | The codebreakers enter the cypher into their captured Enigma machine and finally they decode their first message. The counterpart has no more secrets. Now it is possible for Britain to understand every communication of the enemy. |
|  | At the beginning, the machine to decrypt messages (named ‘Christopher’ in the film) is almost ready to work, but the British codebreakers are worried because they do not have a key to make it work. What to do? They do not know. |
|  | Thanks to the input, the machine gives the Nazi cypher in a few minutes, that is the key to decrypt all messages. |
|  | In the evening, they go to a pub, where they meet other people of Bletchley Park. The men and women sit at different tables. Hugh is attracted by Helen, a friend of Joan Clarke, and asks Alan for an introduction. |
|  | Alan does not follow them to the bar, but he thinks at Helen’s words. He has an insight. By now, he knows what to do. The solution is looking for repetitive words. |

**E - What happened afterwards? Read the text and fill in the table.**

In 2009 British Prime Minister Gordon Brown expressed a formal apology for Turing’s unjust treatment. The public opinion had changed. In 2012, which marked the centenary of his birth, eleven British scientists, including Stephen Hawking, asked the government to pardon the legendary mathematician and computer scientist. In 2013, Turing was rehabilitated and granted a royal pardon by Queen Elizabeth II.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Noun | Verb | Translation of the verb |
| apology |  |  |
|  | to pardon |  |

**F - Quotes from the film. Translate, answer.**

**1.** Sometimes it's the very people who no one imagines anything of who do the things no one can imagine.

**2.** When people talk to each other, they never say what they mean. They say something else and you are expected to just know what they mean.

**3.** You're not God, Alan. You don't get to decide who lives and who dies.

**4.** Now, if you wish you could have been normal, I can promise you, I do not. The world is an infinitely better place precisely because you weren't.

**5. Which movie quote do you prefer? Why?**

**G - Computer science - The Turing machine, what is it?**

The German mathematician David Hilbert had tried to demonstrate that any mathematical problem can be solved by an algorithm, that is by a purely mechanical process. When Turing was a student at Oxford, he was inspired by this idea. He imagined a computing machine capable of resolving all mathematical problems. He tried to design one, but at first it seemed impossible.

In order to carry out his project, he worked out the basic concepts of a universal computing machine. He thought that it would not be limited to doing arithmetic. The internal states of the machine could not only represent numbers, but also ogic values or letters. This ideal machine is known as ‘Turing machine’.

At the beginning, his studies were abstract and theoretical. He described the abstract essence of any computing device. However, he wished to build one. His work had no immediate effect. Later on, it became essential for building a universal computing machine. A new age had began.

(Adapted from: [www.britannica.com](http://www.britannica.com) ‘History of computing’)

**Write in your own words why Turing has a place in the history of computer science.**

**KEY**

**Exercise 3**

pleasant / unpleasant

simple / complex

moral / immoral

to begin / to end

to save / to lose

legal / illegal

personal life / public life

at first / finally

**Exercise 4**

3

5

7

1

6

2

4

**Exercise 5**

Who says the quotes? When? In which situation? How many times are they repeated in the film?

**a)** Repeated more times - Morcom to Alan - Alan to Joan Clarke - Clarke to Alan; *leitmotif*

**b)** Alan to Morcom

**c)** Peter Hilton to Alan

**d)** Clarke to Alan