Pročtěte si znovu první polovinu maturitní otázky British literature – Fantasy (Tolkien, Rowling), kterou jsme probírali na online hodině. Vypište si důležitá fakta do sešitu. K otázce si můžete vytvořit osnovu. Zkuste následně podle osnovy na téma hovořit, aniž byste se dívali do poznámek, jako kdybyste si otázku vylosovali u maturity.

Pokud v textu narazíte na neznámá slova, vyhledat je můžete ve slovníku, např. [www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com). Na online hodině budeme toto učivo znovu opakovat a pokračovat v druhé polovině maturitní otázky.

Fantasy is imaginative fiction characterized by strangeness of setting (e. g. other worlds or times) and of characters (e. g. supernatural or unnatural beings). **Fantasy** is often inspired by real world [myth](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Myth) and [folklore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Folklore). Its roots are in oral traditions.

Examples include [William Shakespeare’s](https://www.britannica.com/biography/William-Shakespeare) A Midsummer Night’s Dream, [Jonathan Swift’s](https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jonathan-Swift) Gulliver’s Travels, J.R.R. Tolkien’s The Lord of the Rings.

[Science fiction](https://www.britannica.com/art/science-fiction) can be seen as a form of fantasy, but the terms are not interchangeable. Science fiction is usually set in the future and is based on some aspect of science or technology. Fantasy is set in an imaginary world and there are often mythical beings.

Fantasy has expanded further into various media, including film, television, graphic novels, [manga](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manga), animated movies and video games.

J.R.R. Tolkien, in full John Ronald Reuel Tolkien [/ruːl ˈtɒlkiːn/](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help%3AIPA/English); , (born 1892, South Africa—died 1973, England), English writer, poet, philologist, and scholar (učenec, vědec, vzdělanec) who achieved fame with his children’s book The Hobbit (1937) and his epic [fantasy](https://www.britannica.com/art/fantasy-narrative-genre) [The Lord of the Rings](https://www.britannica.com/topic/The-Lord-of-the-Rings)(1954–55). Sometimes he is called the "father" of modern fantasy literature.

At age four Tolkien, with his mother and younger brother, settled near [Birmingham](https://www.britannica.com/place/Birmingham-England), England, after his father, a bank manager, died of rheumatic fever in South Africa. He could read by the age of four and could write fluently soon afterwards. When he was 12, his mother died of diabetes. He and his brother became wards /wɔː(r)d/ (svěřenec, poručenec) of a Catholic priest (kněz). In 1909, Tolkien fell in love with another orphan, Edith Bratt. His guardian (opatrovník, poručník, zákonný zástupce) prohibited him from meeting her. Tolkien could only ask Edith to marry him when he was 21.

As a teenager he studied Latin and Esperanto. /ˌespəˈræntəʊ/ Also, he attended King Edward’s School in Birmingham and Exeter College, Oxford, where he studied English language and literature. (B.A., 1915; M.A., 1919).

During the WWI, he was in the army. After this, he was briefly on the staff of The Oxford English Dictionary
(then called The New English Dictionary).

For most of his adult life, he taught English language and literature, specializing in Old and Middle English, at the Universities of [Leeds](https://www.britannica.com/place/Leeds-England) (1920–25) and Oxford (1925–59). He also acted as an examiner for other universities.

In private, Tolkien enjoyed [writing](https://www.britannica.com/topic/writing) fantasy tales, often dark and sad, set in a world of his own creation. He invented “Elvish” languages. (an elf – skřítek, elf - plural: elves - a small imaginary person with magic powers). He liked myths and legends, so he told tales of Arda and Middle-earth (fantasy worlds). To entertain his four children, he wrote fiction which was lighter, lively (=exciting, eventful – vzrušující, bohatý na události) and often humorous. The longest and most important of those stories, begun about 1930, was The Hobbit, a fantasy about [a comfort-loving “hobbit](https://www.britannica.com/topic/Bilbo-Baggins)“, [Bilbo Baggins](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bilbo_Baggins). Hobbits are a fictional human-like race, about half the height of humans. They live barefooted, and live in underground houses which have windows, as they are typically built into the sides of hills.  The story reaches its climax (vrchol) in the Battle of Five Armies. Central themes of the story include personal growth and forms of heroism along with motifs of warfare (válčení).

In 1937 The Hobbitwas published, with pictures by the author, and was so popular that its publisher asked for a sequel (pokračování). 17 years later, Tolkien published his masterpiece,The Lord of the Rings. A few elements from The Hobbit were carried over, in particular a magic ring.

Tolkien was inspired by early Germanic, especially Old English, literature, poetry, and mythology

***The Lord of the Rings*** is an [epic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Epic_%28genre%29) fantasy novel. It is set in [Middle-earth](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middle-earth), the world at some distant time in the past. It developed into a much larger work. It was written between 1937 and 1949.  *The Lord of the Rings* is one of the best-selling books ever written, with over 150 million copies sold.

The story's main antagonist (nepřítel, protivník) is the Dark Lord Sauron. He had in an earlier age created the One Ring to rule the other Rings of Power. Thanks to the One Ring you can conquer and rule all of Middle-earth. The One Ring must be destroyed before it can be used by the terrible Dark Lord, Sauron, to rule the world.

The story begins in the Shire /ˈʃaɪə(r)/ (hrabství, venkovská správní jednotka), which is a hobbit land, similar to the English countryside. Then the story ranges across (passes through) Middle-earth and follows the quest (pátrání, hledání) for the ring mainly through the eyes of the hobbits [Frodo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frodo_Baggins), [Sam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samwise_Gamgee), Merry and Pippin.

The work is a trilogy. It was published in three volumes in 1954 and in 1955. The three volumes were titled *The Fellowship of the Ring*, (Společenstvo Prstenu)*The Two Towers* and *The Return of the King*. Structurally, the work is divided internally into six books, two per volume, with several appendices /əˈpɛn dəˌsiz/ (příloha, dodatek, singular appendix) of background material at the end.

*The Lord of the Rings* has since been reprinted many times and translated into at least 38 languages.It has inspired numerous derivative /dɪˈrɪvətɪv/ (odvozený) works including artwork, music, films and television, [video games](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middle-earth_in_video_games), board games, and subsequent (následný) literature. A[daptations of *The Lord of the Rings*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adaptations_of_The_Lord_of_the_Rings) have been made for radio, theatre, and [film](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Lord_of_the_Rings_%28film_series%29).