

eXplore

DRACULA

C. White Adapting the
original by Bram Stoker

KNOWLEDGE
BOOKS

38

Reading Recovery Level: 14

Word Count: 3950

Content: Fiction, Sci-Fi

ACARA F-10 References:

Learning Areas:

English and Literacy

General Capabilities:

English and Literacy

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SENSITIVITY NOTICE:

This book is not suitable for a young reader. Restriction should be considered based on age. An adolescent reader of this book may find the topic violent. Prior notice before reading should be considered.



explore

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Teacher Notes:

This timeless classic has been read by generations. This version has been developed as an abridged version for younger readers. Cleverly crafted by C. White into a modern context to appeal to young readers who will be familiar with the messaging process. Engaging graphics have further enhanced the story and will motivate readers at all levels. There are many points of discussion in relation to the times that it was written and the English view of the world and how they saw distant places such as Budapest which was described as 'entering the East'. The story offers many opportunities for discussion and vocabulary building as well as looking at the historical aspects.

Discussion points for consideration:

1. Describe Dracula and what happened to him.
2. How did they stop the spread of vampires?
3. The story of Dracula being present in Romania has many effects even now. Find out about Dracula and the impact of this story on Romania.

Difficult words to be introduced and practised before reading this book:

wished, travelled, travelling, arrived, Budapest, purchase, interesting, leaving, Bistritz, easier, nonsense, townspeople, gathered, countryside, passengers, howling, friendly, worried, expensive, curtains, prisoner, disguise, freaking, escape, attacked, disappeared, delivery, protested, necklaces, noticed, dreaming, different, everywhere, taunted, Transylvania, journey, information.

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9. Dracula Escapes
10. The End of Count Dracula



1. Jonathan Leaves to Meet the Count.

The strange Count Dracula wished to purchase an old house in England. Jonathan Harker, a young lawyer, travelled to meet the Count. He would help with the sale.

Jonathan Harker
May 3rd

Hey Mina. I just arrived in Budapest. 😊
Budapest is an interesting city. It feels like you're leaving Western Europe and entering the East.

Next stop is Bistritz. From there I'll go to Castle Dracula to meet the Count. I don't know why he's making me travel all this way. Email would be so much easier. 😞

Not sure if my phone has signal. Let me know if you get this message.



Jonathan Harker
May 4th

Good morning, Mina. I slept terribly. 😞
It sounded like dogs were howling outside my window all night.

I just reached Bistritz after travelling all day. The train went through lovely countryside. I saw mountains, little old towns, and huge castles on top of hills.

I just checked into the Golden Krone Hotel. No Wi-Fi here, so I hope you get my messages.

The people are friendly. A little odd though. They seemed really worried about my trip and don't want me to go.

The hotel owner's wife gave me a rosary. She said it's St George's Eve. At midnight all the evils in the world will gain power.

It's just nonsense, I'm sure. I'll be fine. 😎

Mina Murray
May 4th

I just got your messages. You should send me some photos too! Hope you're keeping safe. 🙄

Jonathan Harker
May 4th



2. Leaving for Castle Dracula.

A coach arrived in Bistritz to take Harker to Castle Dracula. The hotel owner's wife and other townspeople gathered to see him off.

Instead of waving goodbye they made the sign of the cross.

Jonathan Harker
May 5th

More strange nonsense when I left Bistritz this morning. Though I'm starting to think maybe it wasn't so strange. 🤔

The driver raced us through more lovely countryside. The other passengers wanted him to go even faster.

I don't know why they felt the need to rush. They made the sign of the cross, just like the townspeople.



Jonathan Harker
May 5th

We arrived early to where I was meant to meet the Count's ride. The driver wanted me to stay on until the next town and come back tomorrow to meet the Count.

The Count's ride appeared before the driver could leave. The other passengers were scared for some reason.

I thought the first ride was rough. I was not ready for the second one. 🤢

We kept going back and forth over the same ground. I didn't ask the driver why, but I realised it was almost midnight. Were we just waiting for 12 o'clock?



Jonathan Harker
May 6th

I heard wolves howling from all around. It spooked me almost as much as it spooked the horses. The driver calmed them down.

It got colder and started to snow. The howling of the wolves grew closer.

The driver got out to check a strange blue flame. The moon shone bright. I saw the coach was surrounded by wolves. I was too scared to move. 🐺

The driver didn't scare the wolves away. He just told them to leave and they did.