

Dracula

Reading and Writing Outline (may change at teacher's discretion)

I will occasionally add extra assignments AND quizzes.
Keep up with the study guide – vocabulary and quiz questions may come from it.

Literary Response Journal

To prepare for class discussion, please respond to the question provided below. Each entry must be dated and a minimum of two paragraphs of 5-6 sentences. Feel free to expand your answer to include interesting observations about the text. Each entry is worth 5 points and will be evaluated on depth of thought and writing.

If you miss class, you are responsible for completing each journal question on your own.

Journals must be:

- In a designated spiral bound notebook.
- Each entry must be dated.
- Demonstrate thoughts, reaction and understanding of reading.

January 6: Introduction to the course, discussion of literature covered et al. Discuss the Victorian Era and Gothic tradition.

Assignments:

- Read Chapter 1 and 2 in Dracula

January 10: Discuss Ch. 1 -2.

Journal Question:

Physiognomy is the practice of trying to judge character and mental qualities by observing a person's facial features and body, including a person's hands. How does Jonathan describe the Count's facial features and his hands? What can the reader infer about the Count's character traits based on these descriptions?

Assignment:

Read Chapters 3 and complete journal question.

January 12: Discuss Ch. 3 and write an in-class response.

Journal Question:

Jonathan records a portion of the Count's tale about Transylvania's history in his journal. As the Count speaks, Jonathan studies him. What is revealed about the Count's character while he talks?

Assignment:

- Read Ch. 4-7

January 17: Discuss Chapters 4-7.

Journal Question:

In this chapter, Jonathan discovers more about the Count, his powers and weaknesses. List three powers and two weaknesses the Count possesses. What is the nature of Renfield's madness? In what sense does Renfield's madness parallel Count Dracula's behavior?

Assignment:

- Read Chapters 8-10

January 19: Discuss Chapters 8-10.

Journal Question:

Dr. Seward uses his powers of observation to try and diagnose Renfield. What conclusion does he

draw about the effect of the sun on Renfield? In what sense is this conclusion an example of dramatic irony?

Assignment:

- Read Chapters 11-13

January 23: Discuss Chapters 11-13.

Journal Question:

Dracula was written in 1897, so the values and beliefs of the characters reflect this era. Cite incidents from the story illustrating the view of 1897 society on each of the following topics: women, scientific advances, and superstitions.

Assignment:

- Read Chapters 14-16

January 25: Discuss Chapters 14-16.

Journal Question:

Van Helsing and Dr. Seward have a conversation about the puncture wounds on the necks of the lost children. Dr. Seward concludes that the children are being attacked by the same attacker as Lucy, but Professor Helsing tries to get Dr. Seward to see another possibility. What flaw in modern science does Professor Helsing point out to Dr. Seward in this conversation? On page 184, find a quote that shows Helsing's point. Identify the literary term used in the quotation. What thesis is the professor trying to get Dr. Seward to believe in?

Assignment:

- Reading and journal catch up.

January 27: Response journal evaluation. Discuss themes up to this point. Watch Nosferatu.

Assignment:

- Read Chapters 17-19

January 31: Discuss Chapters 17-19.

Journal Question:

List ten of Dracula's limitations.

A good novel must be believable both in terms of the novel's plot and in the actions of the characters. The reader understands that Dracula is infecting Mina. Jonathan notes that Mina "looks paler than usual" and like someone "who has been waked out of a bad dream." (Pg. 244) These observations, coupled with Renfield's strange behavior, lead the reader to understand that Mina is coming under Dracula's power; yet, Mina herself is unaware of this influence. Discuss whether or not you find her ignorance of Dracula's presence in her life to be believable.

Assignment:

- Read Chapters 20-22

February 2: Discuss Chapters 20-22.

Journal Question:

What information does Jonathan learn concerning the whereabouts of the boxes missing from Carfax? Why does he come to believe that it is important that all of the boxes be destroyed quickly?

Assignment:

- Read Chapters 23-25

February 6: Discuss Chapters 23-25.

Journal Question:

Gothic fiction is characterized by the following:

- a picturesque setting
- a story dealing with the supernatural
- conflict between good and evil
- innocent, non-aristocratic females being corrupted by aristocratic males

Cite one incident from the story to illustrate each of the above points.

Assignments:

- Read Chapters 26-27.

February 8: Discuss Chapters 26 and 27. **Turn in Response Journals.**

Assignment:

- Work on Dracula essay.

February 10: Review for test and writing workshop.

Assignment:

- Complete Dracula essay.

February 14: Workshop and Dracula Essay due by midnight to turnitin.com.

February 16: Dracula test

Enjoy Long Weekend!!