

A Werewolf of the Campagna
By Mary Crawford Fraser

DIRECTIONS: Read Mary Crawford Fraser's "A Werewolf of the Campagna" and complete the following activities.

1. Like the last activity, the selection today is also a non-fiction text. However, because it is an autobiographical text, in many ways it can be treated like a fictional one. This is especially true when, like here, it is telling a story in much the same way that a literary text would. That said, though, there are still differences between a memoir (a historical account or biography written from personal knowledge) and a short story.

After reading the selection, answer these questions about some features of this kind of text.

- a) In autobiographical writing, the first person narrator is the main character, and the experiences that the author relates are meant to reveal something significant about his or her character. What does the relating of these two stories (one personal narrative and one story that she overheard) reveal about the author's attitude toward supernatural events? Explain in more than one sentence (try to capture the complexity of the position).
 - b) Given the nature of the author's personal story, part of her purpose in having written her memoir is to reveal something of the nature of the settings of the various places in which she had lived as a diplomat's wife. How is this true in the selection you read today? Explain.
 - c) The curious event witnessed by the author in Santiago, Chile is followed by a story that she heard secondhand from a servant from when she was living in Italy. Aside from the obvious similarities in the topic itself, what do the two stories have in common? Why were they grouped together by the author? Explain.
2. Because one of the main purposes of autobiographical writing is to reveal something about the author's character and personality, choose TWO personality characteristics that are revealed about the author in the selection and write a paragraph about EACH, explaining how the text reveals it. Each paragraph needs to include reference to the text (a specific example), but this does not have to be in the form of quotation *unless* the specific way that she is phrasing an idea is the important information that reveals something.

In other words, if you are focusing on events, you can use paraphrase in your paragraphs. If you are focusing on her specific word choice, use quotation.

3. So far you have read three werewolf stories and three talking wolf stories. Choose one characteristic of the story that Mary Crawford Fraser tells on pages 3-4 and explain how it is, in some way, a typical werewolf story. You will get more credit for a characteristic that is based in an important pattern or idea, rather than one that is based in a superficial detail.

As an example of the latter, you will not get much credit for writing a paragraph that explains how werewolves are typically hairy, since it doesn't really say anything important about werewolf stories in general.