

Bad Moon Rising: The Science of Werewolves
By Jennifer Ouellette

DIRECTION: Read “Bad Moon Rising: The Science of Werewolves” and complete the following activities.

1. Non-fiction informational texts are read differently than narrative texts. Especially in a school setting, one is usually reading for specific information, scanning the text to uncover the portions that relate to the topic one wishes to learn more about. Thus, things like conflict and characterization are largely irrelevant.

After reading the article, answer these questions about the way the information is presented to the reader.

- a) What is the purpose of the article? What is it trying to accomplish?
 - b) Why does the article begin and end with a personal story when the purpose of the article is not to tell a story? In other words, what does the personal story add?
 - c) The article begins with some legendary information about werewolves. How does this relate to “The Science of Werewolves?” Is this information random, or does it set up the information that follows? Explain.
 - d) What are the article’s big conclusions about werewolves? Is it, for example, trying to convince the reader that werewolves really exist? Explain.
2. Create a chart similar chart to what follows and fill in the relevant information both from the article and your background knowledge about werewolves. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO USE THE SPACE BELOW TO FILL IN THIS INFORMATION; THERE IS NOT ENOUGH ROOM TO FIT THE QUANTITY OF INFORMATION THAT WILL EARN YOU A PASSING GRADE:**

	EXPLAINED BY LEGEND	EXPLAINED BY HYPERTRICHOSIS TERMINALIS	EXPLAINED BY LYCANTHROPY (psychological condition)
CHARACTERISTIC #1 OF WEREWOLVES (Choose one)			
CHARACTERISTIC #2 OF WEREWOLVES (Choose one)			

3. In paragraph form, choose EITHER hypertrichosis terminalis or lycanthropy (the psychological condition) and explain how it relates back to the title of the article: “The Science of Werewolves.” This should include a discussion of a) what either condition explains about werewolves, b) how it relates to a legendary characteristic of werewolves, and c) the most important details of how either condition works.

Because this is a non-fiction text, you should be paraphrasing the evidence (summarizing in your own words) as you explain what you learned in the reading. Do not use quotation.