

**DIRECTIONS: Read Alissa Burger’s “The Werewolf” and complete the following activities.**

1. Like the last readings, this selection is also a non-fiction text. Like “the Science of Werewolves,” it is also (on some level) informational (particularly in this selection). However, its real genre is literary criticism: the study, evaluation, and interpretation of literature. Specifically, though this selection is cut down to discuss werewolf stories in general, the work as a whole addresses the fiction of horror writer Stephen King.

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

- a) The main purpose of literary criticism is to explain how literary texts work: uncovering patterns in texts in order to explain how they achieve their effects. How is this true in the selection you read today? Explain.
- b) In the selection, Alissa Burger uses a theoretical idea: Freud’s structural theory of personality. The purpose of the article, though, is not informational in the same way that a psychological text is. What, then, is her purpose in including this information when she is writing about stories, not psychology?
- c) To “analyze” a text is to break it into smaller parts in order to understand it. How is this idea true in terms of today’s text? Explain.

2. Create a chart similar chart to what follows and fill in the relevant information from the article, the discussion in class, 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:**

	CHARACTERISTICS	RELEVANCE TO WERE-WOLF STORIES
ID		
EGO		
SUPER-EGO		

3. In paragraph form, choose either Id, Ego, or Super-Ego and explain why this concept helps us to understand how werewolf stories work. The easiest way to do this is to focus on connecting one of these ideas to what makes werewolf stories (potentially) frightening. This should include a discussion of a) what the Freudian term means, and b) a specific example of one of the werewolf or talking wolf stories that we have read so far this school year.

Because this selection is mostly informational in nature, you should be paraphrasing (summarizing in your own words) the evidence as you explain what you learned in the reading. Do not use quotation.