

Dracula: How the legend was born

1. What's the difference between a legend, a myth, a fable and a lore? Match:

fable	an old and well-known narrative that is believed to have taken place at some time in human history. It may include miracles and some magical events.
lore	an idea or story that many people believe, but which is not true. It often has a deep symbolic meaning.
legend	a traditional short story that teaches a moral lesson, especially a story about animals
myth	cultural knowledge or information about a local tradition, for example nature or magic, that is not written down but is conveyed from person to person orally

2. What's the difference between a myth and a legend? Put the following words into the correct category:

beginning of time / angel / immortal / kingdom / nymphs / ancient cities / dragon / deity

Keywords - Myths	Keywords - Legends

3. Is it a legend or a myth? Look at the titles and circle:

1. The Loch Ness Monster – **LEGEND/MYTH**
2. Theseus and the Minotaur - **LEGEND/MYTH**
3. The Knights of the Round Table - **LEGEND/MYTH**
4. Perseus and Medusa - **LEGEND/MYTH**
5. Pandora's Box - **LEGEND/MYTH**

4. Look at the sentences describing some mythical creatures. Rearrange the words in *italics* to find out what was special about them:

1. Chimera is *that an imaginary fire creature breathes* and has a lion's head, a goat's body, and a snake's tail.
and has a lion's head, a goat's body, and a snake's tail.
2. Phoenix is an immortal bird that, according to ancient Greek stories, is periodically reborn. A phoenix obtains its new life by *ashes its from the arising predecessor of*.
Phoenix is an immortal bird that, according to ancient Greek stories, is periodically reborn. A phoenix obtains its new life by
3. Basilisk is an imaginary animal-like creature. It's supposed to be able to *people kill looking at them by*.
Basilisk is an imaginary animal-like creature. It's supposed to be able to
4. Pegasus, in ancient Greek and Roman stories, is a *divine mythical horse winged mythical* winged divine horse.
Pegasus, in ancient Greek and Roman stories, is a

5. Can you name these mythical creatures? Match



Phoenix

Pegasus

Basilisk

Chimera

6. Tell your teacher:

1. Have you ever heard about Pegasus, Chimera, Phoenix or Basilisk?
2. Do these creatures appear in myths/stories from your country?
3. What other mythical creatures can you name? Where did you learn about them?
4. If you could be one of the mythical creatures, which one would you like to be and why?

7. Can you name these characters from English legends? Match:



King Arthur

Robin Hood

The Loch Ness
Monster

Saint George

8. Have you ever heard about Robin Hood, King Arthur, or Saint George? Match the names with the descriptions:

Saint George

was a legendary British leader and knight who, according to medieval tales, led a fierce defence of Britain against Saxon invaders at the turn of the 6th century.

King Arthur

is a heroic outlaw originally depicted in English folklore as a highly skilled archer of noble birth who devoted his life to robbing the rich and giving to the poor.

Robin Hood

was a Christian soldier in the Roman army, who according to the most popular legend, tamed and slayed a dragon that demanded human sacrifices.

9. There are many English idioms with etymology rooted in ancient mythologies and legends. Match:

If you **rise like a phoenix from the ashes** you ...

start something that will cause a lot of other problems.

If you **cut/untie the Gordian knot** you...

take some action that is intended to prevent strife or trouble but that actually brings it about.

When you **open a Pandora's box** you...

become successful again after seeming to have failed completely.

When you **sow dragon's teeth** you...

quickly solve a difficult problem by determined action.

10. Find and correct the mistakes in the idioms:

1. It will be extremely difficult for the president to unlock the Gordian knot. He is probably over-estimating his powers.
2. I guess I sowed dragon's tail when I complained about my neighbours partying too loud last month. They don't want to talk to me anymore.
3. The city of Warsaw rose like a phoenix from the fire after a devastating bombing at the end of WWII.
4. It seems like we've opened Pandora's case with this question today. We're expecting a lot more people to call in and complain about last night.

11. How do the following words and expressions connect to legends?

1. supernatural events
2.

3. character of truth
4.

5. transmitted orally
6.

7. customs and traditions
8.

12. In the past, legends played an important role in local communities. They taught moral aspects and promoted certain noble behaviours.

Can you think of any other roles they played?

1.

2.

3.

13. Look at this Wikipedia entry about Vampires. Match the words in bold with their synonyms from the box:

drawn / damage and harm / face / survive / red

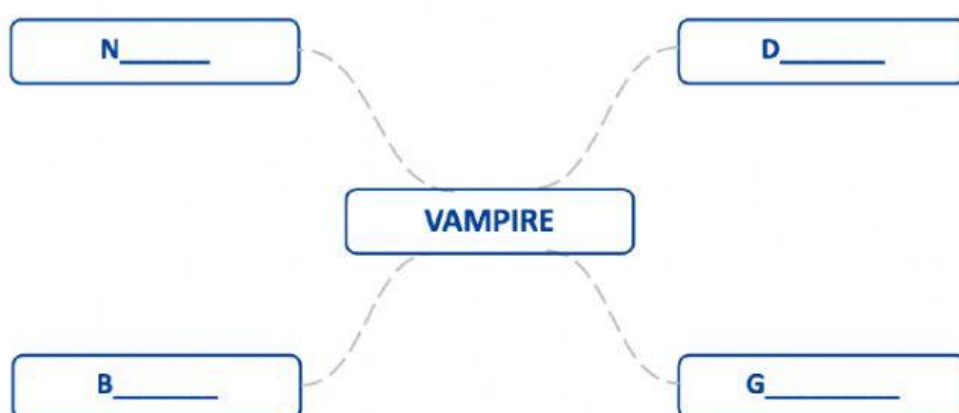
A vampire is a creature from folklore that **subsists** _____ by feeding on the vital essence (generally in the form of blood) of the living. In European folklore, vampires are undead creatures that often visited loved ones and caused **mischief** _____ or deaths in the neighbourhoods they inhabited while they were alive. They wore shrouds and were often described as bloated and

of **ruddy** _____ or dark **countenance** _____, markedly different from today's **gaunt** _____, pale vampire which dates from the early 19th century.

14. Choose the correct alternative:

1. They drain their victim's blood using their sharp **fangs/nails**.
2. They hunt at night since sunlight weakens their **powers/appetite**.
3. Some vampires have the ability to **befriend/morph into** a bat or a wolf.
4. They can't see their image in a mirror and cast no **shadows/votes**.

15. What springs to mind when you hear the word VAMPIRE? Can you guess the hidden words?



16. How are these connected to vampires? Match the questions below with pictures and then answer the questions:

1. Why do vampires hate garlic?

2. Why are vampires afraid of crucifixes?

3. Why does a vampire need a coffin?

4. Why are vampires afraid of holy water?

5. Where did the idea of vampires turning into bats come from?











17. Watch the video and tick the words you heard:

1. Slavic folklore
2. myths
3. rabies, pellagra and decomposition
4. scientific refutation
5. The Royal Family
6. royalties
7. establish copyright
8. custody battle
9. adaptation

18. In what context were the following words mentioned in the video?

1. Slavic folklore

2. rabies, pellagra and decomposition

3. scientific refutation

4. royalties

5. establish copyright

6. adaptation

19. Fill in gaps in the definitions below. Use the words from the box:

bravely / pointed / violence / nobleman

1. Count = a European_____with a high rank
2. Gory = clearly describing or showing_____, blood, and killing
3. Valiantly = very_____, especially in a difficult situation
4. Stake = a_____piece of wood, metal etc, especially one that is pushed into the ground to support something. True or false?
5. It's believed that Bram Stoker named Count Dracula after Vlad Dracul, also known as Vlad the Impaler.
6. Vlad Dracul was born in Transylvania.
7. Transylvania is in Serbia.
8. Some historians describe Vlad the Impaler as an acutely cruel ruler who valiantly fought off the Soviets.
9. According to gory legends, Vlad the Impaler enjoyed dining amidst his dying victims and dipping his bread in their blood.

20. Watch the video and answer the questions:

1. What was Vlad Tepes's childhood like?

2. Why was Vlad Tepes such a cruel ruler?
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21. Watch the video again and correct the sentences:

1. Dracula means the son of the dragon.
2. He was killed and his body was buried in a cemetery near Bucharest.
3. Vlad spend most of his life constructing a respected persona.
4. One of this tactics was to capture prisoners and then torture them.
5. The merciful Ottoman empire was Vlad's mortal enemy.

22. Look at the expressions that contain the word LEGEND.

living legend

- A. someone who is famous for being extremely bad at something
- B. someone who is famous for being extremely good at something

be a legend

- A. to be a person that you admire a lot
 - B. to be a very old person
- Look at the sentences and the words in bold. Match the words and phrases you can replace them with:

developed over time / connected with it / says / pass into

This monastery has a very unusual legend **attached to it**.

The event **became** legend.

The legend of his bravery **grew up** after he killed the dragon and freed the princes.

A bunch of people, so the legend **goes**, disobeyed and killed the king in secret.

23. Odd one out. Explain why it doesn't fit.

1. holy water / crucifix / coffin / garlic

2. Vlad Dracul / Vlad the Impaler / Vlad Basarab / Dracula

3. no reflection / pale countenance / sharp fangs / black or red shroud

24. Tell your teacher:

1. Who do you consider a living legend? Why?

2. What are some of the most famous legends in your country? What magical/non-human creatures do they involve?