

## 12th Grade Summer Reading 2020 -- Ms. Geen

Book: *Dracula*, by Bram Stoker (full novel--no abridged versions, please)

You can find this on Amazon and in most bookstores. If you want to purchase a used copy, [thriftbooks.com](http://thriftbooks.com) often has books for a good price, but order it soon. Shipping is much slower. You may also use an e-reader, or check out the book from the library, but keep in mind that **everyone needs to have a copy of the book for the first week of school.**

*Dracula* was published in 1897 in London, England. It is a detective story and a vampire story. You will need to allow yourself some time to read it. It's not a short book, and it was written in Victorian times, so there is a lot of description.

### Your assignment:

Annotate *Dracula*.

These notes are due **the first day of school. Please turn in a Google Doc.**

Suggestion: annotate your book as you read by underlining information about characters, setting and possible themes. Underline passages you think are important, beautifully written, or make you think. Jot notes in the margins about your thoughts and questions. Of course, if you have a library book, you will need to use post-it notes, or paper. The reason I suggest annotating before writing your Google Doc is so your reading isn't interrupted. Ideally, you will take your notes right away after reading.

**Start by looking up each of these literary terms and give a definition of each in your own words:**

Genre

Gothic Novel

Epistolary novel

Theme

**What you need to have in your annotations:**

1. **Thoughts and reactions to the novel.** Do not use sparknotes or the like. I can tell. Don't just do a synopsis of the plot.

2. **Vocabulary words.** Have a list of words you looked up, with definitions in your own words.
3. **Information about the characters.** What are they like? What do they care about? What do you think about their choices and actions? How do they change as the book progresses?
4. **The setting.** Where does this novel take place? What is it like? Are you familiar with this world?
5. **What do you think about the epistolary form of this novel? Do you like it or dislike it? What are the pros and cons of this form?**
6. **Themes:**

**Supernatural vs. Rational Thought**

**Christianity vs. Occult**

**Romantic Love vs. Lust/Seduction**

Include in your notes at least two specific examples of how you think each of these themes is developed. One way to do this is to quote a passage from the book (include page number) and explain how it reveals the theme.

**I will grade these notes according to how complete they are, and on the quality of the content. You will be using them for a quiz and a project.**

Any questions, please email me at [jgeen@args.us](mailto:jgeen@args.us)

I hope you have a great summer!