



Alice in Wonderland

by Lewis Carroll



There was a table set out under a tree in front of the house, and the March Hare and the Hatter were having tea at it: a Dormouse was sitting between them, fast asleep, and the other two were using it as a cushion, resting their elbows on it, and talking over its head.

‘Very uncomfortable for the Dormouse,’ thought Alice; *‘only, as it’s asleep, I suppose it doesn’t mind.’*

The table was a large one, but the three were all crowded together at one corner of it: *‘No room! No room!’* they cried out when they saw Alice coming. *‘There’s PLENTY of room!’* said Alice indignantly, and she sat down in a large arm-chair at one end of the table.

‘Have some wine,’ the March Hare said in an encouraging tone.

Alice looked all round the table, but there was nothing on it but tea. *‘I don’t see any wine,’* she remarked.



'There isn't any,' said the March Hare.

'Then it wasn't very civil of you to offer it,' said Alice angrily.

'It wasn't very civil of you to sit down without being invited,' said the March Hare.

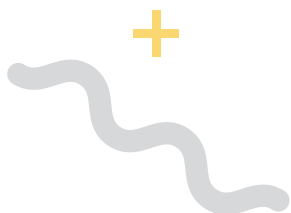
*'I didn't know it was **your** table,'* said Alice; *'it's laid for a great many more than three.'*

'Your hair wants cutting,' said the Hatter. He had been looking at Alice for some time with great curiosity, and this was his first speech.

'You should learn not to make personal remarks,' Alice said with some severity; *'it's very rude.'*

The Hatter opened his eyes very wide on hearing this; but all he *said* was, *'Why is a raven like a writing-desk?'*

'Come, we shall have some fun now!' thought Alice. *'I'm glad they've begun asking riddles – I believe I can guess that,'* she added aloud.





Retrieval

1) What were the March Hare and Mad Hatter having?

2) What did Alice sit on?

3) What was being used as a cushion?

Vocabulary

4) Find and copy a word which means the same as **polite**.

5) ... *said Alice indignantly*... What does the word **indignantly** mean here?

6) Find and copy a word which means the same as **giving confidence** or **reassuring**.



7) ...Alice said with some severity...

What does the word **severity** mean in this sentence?

seriousness

sternness

difficulty

simply

Feedback

Sequencing

8) Place these events in the order they occurred.

The Mad Hatter asked a riddle.

Alice was offered some wine.

Alice saw the table outside the house.

Alice sat down at the table.

Inference

9) What impression do you get of Alice from this extract?
Give two impressions. Refer to the text in your answer.



Classic Text Reading

10) What impressions do you get of the March Hare in this extract? Give two impressions. Refer to the text in your answer.

Feedback

What do you think Alice will do next?



Dracula

by Bram Stoker



Just as I had come to this conclusion I heard a heavy step approaching behind the great door, and saw through the chinks the gleam of a coming light. Then there was the sound of rattling chains and the clanking of massive bolts drawn back. A key was turned with the loud grating noise of long disuse, and the great door swung back.

Within stood a tall old man, clean shaven save for a long white moustache, and clad in black from head to foot, without a single speck of colour about him anywhere. He held in his hand an antique silver lamp, in which the flame burned without a chimney or globe of any kind, throwing long quivering shadows as it flickered in the draught of the open door. The old man motioned me in with his right hand with a courtly gesture, saying in excellent English, but with a strange intonation.

“Welcome to my house! Enter freely and of your own free will!” He made no motion of stepping to meet me, but stood





like a statue, as though his gesture of welcome had fixed him into stone. The instant, however, that I had stepped over the threshold, he moved impulsively forward, and holding out his hand grasped mine with a strength which made me wince, an effect which was not lessened by the fact that it seemed cold as ice, more like the hand of a dead than a living man. Again he said: *“Welcome to my house! Enter freely. Go safely, and leave something of the happiness you bring!”*

The strength of the handshake was so much akin to that which I had noticed in the driver, whose face I had not seen, that for a moment I doubted if it were not the same person to whom I was speaking. So to make sure, I said interrogatively, *“Count Dracula?”*

He bowed in a courtly way as he replied, *“I am Dracula, and I bid you welcome, Mr. Harker, to my house. Come in, the night air is chill, and you must need to eat and rest.”* As he was speaking, he put the lamp on a bracket on the wall, and stepping out, took my luggage. He had carried it in before I could forestall him. I protested, but he insisted.

“Nay, sir, you are my guest. It is late, and my people are not available. Let me see to your comfort myself.”





Retrieval

1) What is the narrator's name?

2) When does Count Dracula shake the narrator's hand?

3) When does the narrator arrive at Count Dracula's home?

Language

4) Find and copy **two** similes.

5) *...and the great door swung back.* What does the word **great** mean in this sentence?

Feedback



Classic Text Reading

6) Find and copy a word that means the way your voice rises and falls as you speak.

7)...*the strength of the handshake was so much akin to that which I noticed in the driver...* What does the word **akin** mean in this sentence?

Sequencing

8) Place these events in the order they occur in the text.

- Count Dracula takes the narrator's bags.
- Count Dracula first welcomes the narrator to his house.
- The narrator asks if the old man is Count Dracula.
- Count Dracula shakes the narrator's hand.
- Count Dracula bows and welcomes the narrator to his house.

Feedback



Inference

Feedback

9) Why does the narrator need to rest? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

10) What impression do you have of Count Dracula? Give **two** points, using evidence from the text to support your answer.



Classic Text Reading

In this story, Count Dracula has not yet been revealed as a monster. What clues does the writer give that there is something strange about him?

Feedback



The Hound of the Baskervilles

by Arthur Conan Doyle



Mr. Sherlock Holmes, who was usually very late in the mornings, save upon those not infrequent occasions when he was up all night, was seated at the breakfast table. I stood upon the hearth-rug and picked up the stick which our visitor had left behind him the night before. It was a fine, thick piece of wood, bulbous-headed, of the sort which is known as a “Penang lawyer.”

Just under the head was a broad silver band nearly an inch across. “*To James Mortimer, M.R.C.S., from his friends of the C.C.H.,*” was engraved upon it, with the date “1884.” It was just such a stick as the old-fashioned family practitioner used to carry—dignified, solid, and reassuring.

“*Well, Watson, what do you make of it?*” Holmes was sitting with his back to me, and I had given him no sign of my occupation.



Classic Text Reading

“How did you know what I was doing? I believe you have eyes in the back of your head.”

“I have, at least, a well-polished, silver-plated coffee-pot in front of me,” said he. *“But, tell me, Watson, what do you make of our visitor’s stick? Since we have been so unfortunate as to miss him and have no notion of his errand, this accidental souvenir becomes of importance. Let me hear you reconstruct the man by an examination of it.”*

“I think,” said I, following as far as I could the methods of my companion, *“that Dr. Mortimer is a successful, elderly medical man, well-esteemed since those who know him give him this mark of their appreciation.”*

“Good!” said Holmes. “Excellent!”

“I think also that the probability is in favour of his being a country practitioner who does a great deal of his visiting on foot.”

“Why so?”

“Because this stick, though originally a very handsome one, has been so knocked about that I can hardly imagine a town practitioner carrying it. The thick-iron ferrule is worn down, so it is evident that he has done a great amount of walking with it.”

“Perfectly sound!” said Holmes.

“And then again, there is the ‘friends of the C.C.H.’ I should guess that to be the Something Hunt, the local hunt to whose members he has possibly given some surgical assistance, and which has made him a small presentation in return.”

“Really, Watson, you excel yourself,” said Holmes.





Retrieval

1) Who owned the stick?

2) How did Sherlock Holmes see that Dr Watson was looking at the stick?

3) Why did Dr Watson think that the stick's owner did a lot of walking?

Vocabulary

4) Find and copy **two** expanded noun phrases.



Classic Text Reading

5) *...I had given him no sign of my occupation.*

What does the word **occupation** mean here?

6) Find and copy a word which means the same as **respected** or **admired**.

7) *"Perfectly sound!" said Holmes.*

What does the word **sound** mean here?

Sequencing

8) How is this story being told?

Feedback



Inference

Feedback

9) Sherlock Holmes is the world's most famous detective. How is his cleverness shown in the text?

10) Describe the relationship between Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson. Give **two** impressions using evidence from the text.



Classic Text Reading

Have Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson met Dr Mortimer? How do you know? Give two reasons to support your answer.

Feedback
