

Ejercicios resueltos > True or false

Where Does Dracula Come From? - True or False

The English seaside town of Whitby is a fishing port which has changed little for the past 300 years. Critics say that it was this picturesque town, with the imposing ruins of a thirteenth-century abbey perched on a promontory, which gave the writer Bram Stoker the idea for his world-famous book *Dracula*. The writer, his wife and his son spent the summer of 1890 in Whitby, while he was probably engaged in planning the novel.

Dracula, published in 1897, is the story of a vampire from Transylvania who travelled to England. When his ship was damaged in a terrible storm, Dracula -the vampire- jumped to land at Whitby in the shape of a huge dog. Stoker, the author, is known to have consulted books on legends from Transylvania, Moldavia, and the Carpathians at the local library at Whitby and later in the British Library in London.

The Dracula of Transylvanian legend appears to originate from Vlad Dracul II, Prince of Walachia (1456-1476), known for his prodigious cruelties both to enemies -the invading Turks- and his own people. However, he was not a vampire. It is suggested that Stoker's Count Dracula was a composite figure derived from Vlad Dracul and the Countess Báthori. This lady was a Hungarian aristocrat who was arrested in 1610 for murdering girls. It was her habit to wash in the blood of her victims in order to stay young and to maintain her skin in a perfect condition.

Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE? Copy the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.

✓ Bram Stoker was familiar with Eastern European stories because of his readings

✗ When Stoker's Dracula arrived in England, he had the appearance of a terrible black bat

Explicación: Para la primera afirmación el párrafo relevante es:

"Stoker, the author, is known to have consulted books on legends from Transylvania, Moldavia, and the Carpathians"

La afirmación es verdadera ya que el segundo párrafo explica que Bram Stoker consultaba libros de lugares de Europa del Este (Moldavia, Transilvania...), en varias bibliotecas. Por lo tanto, estaba familiarizado con historias de esa zona.

Mientras que para la segunda es:

"Dracula -the vampire- jumped to land at Whitby in the shape of a huge dog"

El texto nos dice que cuando Drácula llegó a Whitby, en Inglaterra, tomó la forma de un enorme perro (*huge dog*), y no de un murciélago (*bat*), como dice la afirmación.