

Vlad the Impaler: Comprehension Questions

1. In which year did Bram Stoker create Dracula?

2. What was Prince Vlad III more commonly known as?

3. Where and when was Vlad III born?

4. What does the word 'Dracul' mean?

5. What happened to Vlad and his brother Radu in 1442?

6. Why did Vlad return to Wallachia in 1448?

7. Who did Vlad fight against to reclaim his father's throne?

8. What happened to Vlad in 1456?



9. What does 'Vlad Tepes' mean in English and why was Vlad given this name?

10. What did Vlad do in 1462 as a warning to his Ottoman enemies?

11. What happened to Vlad after he died?

Vlad the Impaler: Comprehension Questions Answers

1. In which year did Bram Stoker create Dracula?

1897

2. What was Prince Vlad III more commonly known as?

Vlad the Impaler

3. Where and when was Vlad III born?

1431 in Transylvania

4. What was 'the Order of the Dragon' and why was it set up?

It was an organisation set up to defend Christian Europe against the Turkish Ottoman Empire.

5. What happened to Vlad and his brother Radu in 1442?

They were captured by the Ottoman Sultan, Murad II after attending a diplomatic meeting with their father which turned out to be a trap.

6. Why did Vlad return to Wallachia in 1448?

To reclaim his father's seat after he learned he and his older brother had been assassinated a year earlier.

7. Who did Vlad fight against to reclaim his father's throne?

Vladislav II, the boyars and his younger brother, Radu, who was supported by the Ottomans.

8. What happened to Vlad in 1456?

He was proclaimed voivode or ruler of Wallachia.

9. Why was Vlad given the name 'Vlad Tepes'?

His favourite method of torture involved impaling people on stakes in the ground and leaving them to bleed to death.

10. What kind of ruler was Vlad? Give at least two examples to support your answer.

He was cruel, bloodthirsty and determined to stamp out any opposition. He left a field full of thousands of impaled soldiers in a field as a warning to his enemies; he invited all the poor and homeless people to a banquet and burnt them to death; he nailed turbans to his Ottoman visitors' skulls.

11. How was Vlad viewed by the people he ruled over? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

They didn't think much of him; they left his body in a ditch to rot and his enemies decapitated his dead body and displayed his head of a pike in Constantinople.