



30-minute lesson plan: Porphyria (Vampire Syndrome)

Topic: porphyria (vampire syndrome)

Timing: 30–40 mins

Lesson type/focus: reading and vocabulary

Level: B2–C1

Aims:

- developing topic-specific vocabulary
- reading for detail

Teaching notes and answer key

Part 1: speaking

Put students into pairs or small groups and ask them to discuss questions 1–3 on the student worksheet.

Do whole class feedback to discuss and share answers.

Suggested answers

1. What do you know about vampires?

Students' own answers

2. What time of day are vampires supposed to prefer?

night time, the hours of darkness

3. What do vampires do in order to survive?

drink human blood

Part 2: vocabulary

A. Ask students to look at the list of words. Model the pronunciation and have students say each one aloud.

Don't go through the meanings of the words as students are going to look at this in activity B.

B. Have students work in pairs to complete the definitions with words from A.

Go through the answers as a class.

Answers

1. *porphyria* 2. *supportive* 3. *disfigurement* 4. *recede* 5. *fang* 6. *folklore*
7. *millennia* 8. *aversion* 9. *phenomenon* 10. *prevalent* 11. *fictional*
12. *stem cell transplant* 13. *surmise*



Part 3: reading

A. Have students work individually or in pairs to read the text and answer the questions. Click the link to access the article.

[Vampire myths originated with a real blood disorder](#)

Go through the answers as a class.

Answers

1C 2B 3C 4B 5A 6C

B. Have students work individually or in pairs to complete the sentences with the correct words.

Go through the answers as a class.

Answers

1. *supportive* 2. *stem cell transplant* 3. *classified* 4. *physician* 5. *myth*

Resources

[Stem Cell Transplant Successfully Treats Bone Marrow Porphyrias](#)

[Congenital erythropoietic porphyria](#) (Gunther disease)

[History of Porphyria](#)

[George Harley](#)