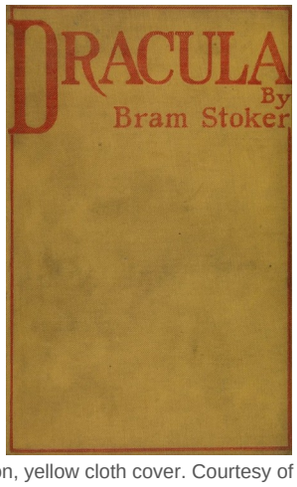
Dracula chapter by chapter

A printable sheet for students and teachers | Studying Dracula | Version 2 | November 2026

No single narrator tells Dracula. This sheet maps the 27 chapters: who writes, in what form, on which dates, and what happens. Use it to find a passage quickly, to plan reading, or to track who knows what at each stage. The second part is a blank timeline for the activity "Who knew what, when". Chapter numbers and dates follow the 1897 text as reproduced by Project Gutenberg (ebook 345). The novel's entries run from 3 May to 6 November of an unnamed year; the final note is set seven years later.

This sheet describes the whole plot, including the ending. First-time readers may prefer the spoiler-free Reading Dracula guide.



Dracula, 1897 first edition, yellow cloth cover. Courtesy of the Bram Stoker Estate.

Part one: the castle (Chapters 1–4)

Ch.	Dates	Documents	What happens
1	3–5 May	Jonathan Harker's journal (shorthand)	Harker travels from Munich through Klausenburgh and Bistritz to the Borgo Pass; the landlady's crucifix, the coach passengers' gifts, the driver with the red eyes, the blue flames, the wolves.
2	5–8 May	Harker's journal	Arrival at the castle. The Count's welcome, his English, his history of his race; no servants, no mirrors; the shaving-glass and the cut; "The castle is a veritable prison, and I am a prisoner!"
3	8–16 May	Harker's journal	The Count's pride in the Szekelys; Harker made to write letters on business only; the Count crawling down the wall; the three women and the "wicked, burning desire"; the bag with the child.
4	16 May – 30 June	Harker's journal	The three post-dated letters; Harker's own letters stolen; the Count in Harker's clothes; the mother at the gate and the wolves; the chapel and the boxes of earth; the Count in his box, "gorged with blood"; Harker's attempt with the shovel and his resolve to climb down.

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Part two: Whitby and London (Chapters 5–9)

Ch.	Dates	Documents	What happens
5	9–26 May	Letters, Mina to Lucy and Lucy to Mina; Dr Seward's phonograph diary; letter, Quincey Morris to Arthur Holmwood; telegram, Arthur Holmwood to Quincey P. Morris	Mina practises shorthand to help Jonathan. Lucy receives three proposals in one day: "Why can't they let a girl marry three men, or as many as want her, and save all this trouble?" Seward first describes Renfield.
6	24 July – 6 August (Seward: 5 June – 20 July)	Mina Murray's journal; Seward's diary	Mina at Whitby: the harbour, the abbey, St Mary's churchyard, Mr Swales and the lies on gravestones. Renfield's flies, spiders and sparrows: a "zoöphagous (life-eating) maniac". Lucy sleepwalks.
7	8–10 August (the log: written from 18 July, covering 6 July – 4 August)	Cutting from *The Dailygraph*; log of the *Demeter*; Mina's journal	The storm and the wreck; the dead captain lashed to the wheel; the log of the crew's disappearance one by one; the great dog leaping ashore; the funeral.
8	10–21 August	Mina's journal; letters between solicitors and carriers; letter from Sister Agatha; Seward's diary	Mina finds Lucy in the churchyard with a tall dark figure bending over her; the two marks on Lucy's throat; business letters trace the boxes to Carfax; Jonathan is found in a Budapest hospital. Renfield escapes to Carfax: "I am here to do Your bidding, Master."
9	24 August – 6 September	Letters, Mina and Lucy; Seward's diary; Lucy's diary; letters and telegrams between Seward, Holmwood and Van Helsing	Mina marries Jonathan in Budapest and seals his journal. Lucy's decline at Hillingham. Van Helsing is summoned from Amsterdam and examines Lucy.

Part three: Lucy (Chapters 10–16)

Ch.	Dates	Documents	What happens
10	7–11 September	Letter, Seward to Holmwood; Seward's diary; Lucy's diary	The first transfusions, from Arthur and then Seward; the garlic flowers; Van Helsing's silence about his suspicions.
11	12–18 September	Lucy's diary; Seward's diary; *The Pall Mall Gazette* on the escaped wolf; telegram; Lucy's memorandum	Van Helsing gives his own blood; Mrs Westenra removes the garlic; the wolf Bersicker breaks the window; Lucy's mother dies; the maids are drugged; Lucy's memorandum written as she waits. Renfield attacks Seward: "The blood is the life!"
12	18–20 September	Seward's diary; letters from Mina; Patrick Hennessey's report	Quincey gives blood; Lucy's teeth lengthen; the voluptuous voice; her death, which seems to give back her beauty. Van Helsing: "It is only the beginning!"
13	22–25 September	Seward's diary; Mina's journal; *The Westminster Gazette* on the "Bloofer Lady"	Lucy's funeral; Van Helsing's hysterical laughter in the carriage afterwards; Mina and Jonathan see the Count in Piccadilly, grown younger; children are lured on Hampstead Heath.
14	23–26 September	Mina's journal; letters and telegrams between Mina and Van Helsing; Jonathan's journal; Seward's diary	Mina transcribes Jonathan's journal; Van Helsing reads it and believes it; he tells Seward that the children's wounds were made by Lucy. "it is the fault of our science that it wants to explain all"
15	26–29 September	Seward's diary; Van Helsing's note	The tomb visited twice; the empty coffin; the child in the churchyard; Lucy seen in her tomb, more beautiful than in life.

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Ch.	Dates	Documents	What happens
16	29 September	Seward's diary	The "Bloofer Lady" confronted; "Come to me, Arthur"; Arthur drives the stake; Lucy's face returns to "sweetness and purity"; the pact to hunt the Count.

Part four: the alliance (Chapters 17–22)

Ch.	Dates	Documents	What happens
17	29–30 September	Seward's diary; Mina's journal; Jonathan's journal	Mina arrives at the asylum, typewrites Seward's phonograph cylinders and arranges every record in order; "the world seems full of good men". Jonathan traces the boxes.
18	30 September – 1 October	Seward's diary; Mina's journal	Mina meets Renfield, who speaks lucidly. Van Helsing's lecture on the vampire's powers and limits; "We have on our side power of combination". The men decide to exclude Mina: "She has man's brain... and a woman's heart." Renfield begs to be released.
19	1–2 October	Jonathan's journal; Seward's diary; Mina's journal	The men enter Carfax; the rats; 29 of the 50 boxes remain. Mina, alone, sees mist at her window and dreams of a white face and red eyes.
20	1–3 October	Jonathan's journal; Seward's diary; letter from the estate agents	Renfield’s conversation about souls; the attendant finds him on the floor “all covered with blood” (his account and death follow in Chapter 21).
21	3 October	Seward's diary	Renfield's deathbed account; the men break into the Harkers' room: the Count forcing Mina to drink from his breast, "a child forcing a kitten's nose into a saucer of milk". "Unclean, unclean!"
22	3 October	Jonathan's journal	The Host scars Mina's forehead. The boxes at Carfax and Piccadilly are sterilised; the Count's papers found.

Part five: the pursuit (Chapters 23–27)

Ch.	Dates	Documents	What happens
23	3–4 October	Seward's diary; Jonathan's journal	The Count confronted in Piccadilly: "Your girls that you all love are mine already." Mina asks to be hypnotised at dawn and hears water and sails: the Count is at sea.
24	4–6 October	Seward's phonograph diary spoken by Van Helsing; Jonathan's and Mina's journals	The *Czarina Catherine* sails for Varna. Van Helsing explains why the Count has fled and why he must be followed; Mina insists on going with them.
25	11–28 October	Seward's diary; Jonathan's journal; telegram	Mina extracts the men's promise to kill her if she turns. In Varna; Mina classifies the Count: "a criminal and of criminal type. Nordau and Lombroso would so classify him." The ship is diverted to Galatz.
26	29 October – 4 November	Seward's diary; Mina's journal and memorandum; Jonathan's journal	At Galatz; Mina's memorandum, a formal "ground of inquiry", works out the river route by a process of exclusion; the party divides: launch, horseback, and Mina with Van Helsing by carriage towards the Borgo Pass.
27	1–6 November; note seven years later	Mina's journal; Van Helsing's memorandum; Jonathan's journal; Seward's diary; the final note	The three women destroyed in the castle; the Holy circle; the race to the box at sunset; Quincey's death; the Count's face at peace as he crumbles. The note: Quincey Harker, and "hardly one authentic document".

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Blank timeline: who knew what, when

Work through the novel and record each new piece of knowledge. In the last column, note who now knows it, and whether the reader knew first.

Date	Ch.	Document and writer	What is learned	Who now knows? Did the reader know first?

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The knowledge grid

For each character, write the chapter in which they first learn each fact. Where does the reader know first, and what does that do to the suspense?

Character	Learns that Harker is alive	Learns what Lucy has become	Learns what the Count is
Jonathan Harker			
Mina			
Lucy			
Dr Seward			
Van Helsing			
Arthur Holmwood			
Quincey Morris			
Renfield			
The reader			

What the grid shows

More on the Estate website: the full chapter map with a focus for study, at bramstokerestate.com/resources/studying-dracula/chapter-map.

Bram Stoker Estate | Studying Dracula | Chapter map and timeline | Version 2

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