

When vampires fall in love

People love to be frightened by vampires. They are the most fascinating creatures in horror stories. They suck blood with their pointed teeth, fly like bats, sleep in coffins, live forever and are usually evil.

5 Stephenie Meyer has written books about vampires, but hers are different. They are incredibly beautiful, intelligent and kind and they control their desires¹ for human blood, feeding on wild animals instead. Like the vampires in other stories, they have strange powers and enormous physical strength, but they want to live among hu-
10 mans and sometimes fall in love with them.

The idea for *Twilight*, the first book in a series, came to Stephenie Meyer in a dream. In it, she saw a teenage girl talking to a beautiful, sparkling young man in a sunny meadow. They were in love and the man, a vampire, told the girl how hard it was for him not to drink her blood and kill her. Stephenie
15 Meyer wrote down her dream and then carried on writing, telling the story of the vampire and the girl. She finished the book in just three months.

That must have been difficult, because the author also had three young children to look after. She had studied English literature in Utah, but settled down to being a housewife and mother when her first child was born. She
20 had always made up stories but never written one down. "I just didn't think that anyone would want to read them," she said in an interview.

Finally after sending her manuscript to 14 publishers, one of them accepted it – a clever decision. The four books in her series have sold more than
25 10 million copies worldwide and even topped bestseller lists. The film version of *Twilight* was released in November 2008.

The secret of the books' success is that they deal with vampires in a completely new way. These vampires struggle to control their desires, trying very hard to be good. And there are even parallels to Stephenie Meyer's own life. Because of her strong religious beliefs, she does not drink alcohol, tea or coffee, or smoke and has strict views on sexuality. That is why her vampires are
30 different. They do not drink human blood and there is a lot of romance and passion in the books. The mix of good vampires, bad vampires and human teenagers falling in love with them makes some very exciting and romantic stories.

Now that the author knows how much people like reading her stories, she has plans for a lot more stories. But vampires do not seem to be a challenge any more: "I think I need a break from vampires. I really enjoyed working on my book *The Host*, doing something totally different. I have several other stories that I've been waiting to work on. At this moment, I'm torn between
40 two, but I'm going to decide on one of them very soon."



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(489 words)

Adapted from: *Read On 11/2008*, www.stepheniemeyer.com (25. 09. 2012)

1 desire – Begierde, Verlangen, Wunsch

A. Text-based tasks

1. Decide whether the following statements are right or wrong.

- a) Vampires are usually very kind creatures.
- b) The author's vampires do not drink human blood.
- c) The idea for *Twilight* came from a song Stephenie Meyer had heard.
- d) She was an English teacher in Utah.
- e) She became a housewife after her third child was born.
- f) Before *Twilight* the author did not write books.

(3 pts)

2. Find information in the text about ... (2 items each)
(You do not have to write complete sentences.)

- a) vampires in horror stories
- b) the success of Stephenie Meyer's book
- c) Stephenie's way of living
- d) characteristics of Stephenie Meyer's vampires
- e) Stephenie Meyer's plans for her future

(5 pts)

3. Finish the following sentences using the information from the text.

- a) Finishing the book ...
- b) Making up stories ...
- c) Thirteen publishers ...
- d) Stephenie Meyer's books ...
- e) *The Host* ...

(5 pts)

4. Answer the following questions in complete sentences using the information from the text.

- a) What did the vampire tell the young girl in Stephenie Meyer's dream?
- b) Why did she wait so long to write her first story?
- c) How does the author make her stories so exciting?
- d) Why did she want to do something completely different after finishing the series of vampire books?

(8 pts)

5. Ask questions.

Stephenie Meyer has been invited to your town for a special reading session.
Ask her **four** questions about her work as an author. Use **four** different question forms.

(6 pts)

B. Use of language

1. Find words or expressions in the text that mean more or less the same.

- a) huge (lines 5 – 10)
- b) continued (lines 11 – 16)
- c) hard (lines 17 – 21)

(3 pts)

2. Explain **two** of the following words in complete sentences.

- a) dream (line 12)
- b) bestseller (line 24)
- c) to struggle (line 27)

(4 pts)

3. Vocabulary – Grammar

Read the text. Find the suitable forms of the words and write them down.

What is an e-book?

Everyone _____ about e-books at the moment.

But what _____ are they?

Basically, whatever you read on a screen instead of on paper
_____ an e-book.

And of course, an e-book can be more than just text. It can also
include photos, graphics and videos.

You can download e-books onto a laptop or a _____
digital assistant so you can read them while _____

There are also portable e-book readers which are very
_____.

These e-book readers are about the same size _____ a book.

But you can store lots of books on them – and whatever you
write can _____ to a PC.

_____ on a screen all the time might get hard on the
eyes, but screens are getting _____

The screens of e-books give you a better picture _____ a
television does.

- a) talk
- b) exact
- c) call
- d) person
- e) travel
- f) use
- g) ?
- h) transfer
- i) read
- j) good
- k) ?

(11 pts)

C. Creative writing

1. Give your opinion.

Choose **one** of the following statements and write about 60 words.

- a) A woman should stop working when she has kids.
- b) Romantic books are only for girls.
- c) Watching the film based on a book is better than reading the book.

(9 pts)

Choose task 2 a or 2 b. Do not work on both tasks.

2. a) Write an article.

Your class organized last year's Halloween party at your school. After the party you write an article for your school's website in about 120 words.

(18 pts)

2. b) Write a story.

Start like this and write about 120 words.

After a long flight we finally arrived at our hotel. When I opened my suitcase ...

(18 pts)

D. Skills and techniques

1. Mediation

You are in a bookshop in London and watch a woman who has problems talking to the assistant in English. So you help her.

a) YOU: Kann ich Ihnen helfen?

WOMAN: Das ist sehr freundlich. Ich möchte meinem Enkel gerne ein Buch in englischer Sprache mitbringen.

YOU: _____

(1 pt)

b) ASSISTANT: I see. How old is her grandson and what does he like reading?

YOU: _____

(1 pt)

WOMAN: Er ist 15, und es muss etwas Spannendes sein, denn er liest nicht so gerne.

c) YOU: _____

(1 pt)

ASSISTANT: What about "Diary of a Wimpy Kid"? The book's really funny and my son liked it a lot. It's a special offer this week.

d) YOU: _____

(2 pts)

WOMAN: Ich glaube, das wäre etwas für ihn. Das nehme ich und vielen Dank für die Hilfe.

e) YOU: _____

(1 pt)
(6 pts)

2. Pass on the information.

Lies die folgenden Texte über Seattle und beantworte die Fragen auf Deutsch.

- a) Was bietet der Markt außer Lebensmitteln? (2 Angaben) **(2 pts)**
- b) Wann ist der Markt geöffnet? **(1 pt)**
- c) Wie kommt man am besten zum Markt? (2 Angaben) **(2 pts)**
- d) Wie kommen wir auf die Besichtigungsplattform der Space Needle? **(1 pt)**
- e) Warum ist neben dem guten Essen der Besuch des SkyCity Restaurants empfehlenswert? (2 Angaben) **(2 pts)**
- f) Was kostet der Eintritt für 16-Jährige? **(1 pt)**
- g) Was kann man mit einem Day & Night Ticket machen? **(2 pts)**
- h) Wie lange sind Online Tickets gültig? **(1 pt)**
- (12 pts)**

Pike Place Market



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Born in 1907, Seattle's Pike Place Market is the granddaddy of farmers' markets. Today, it's a major tourist attraction with 200 businesses operating year-round, 190 craftspeople and 120 farmer booths – plus street performers and musicians. Flowers, flying fish, fruit, handmade cheeses, local honey, wine and lots of surprises are around every corner.

Winter, spring, summer and fall, Pike Place Market is open seven days a week, closing only on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

Parking garages in and near the market can be filled early on busy summer days.

So, if you're coming to the Market for Centennial Events this summer, consider coming early in the day. Better yet, leave the car at home and travel by bus.

Another suggestion is to park near the Seattle Center and ride the Monorail downtown.

The Space Needle – Seattle's ultimate 'must see'!



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You can't go to Paris without stopping by the Eiffel Tower. And you can't visit Seattle without checking out the view from the world-famous Space Needle. A 41-second elevator ride takes you up 520 feet to the observation deck of the Space Needle, built for the 1962 World's Fair. Enjoy a meal at SkyCity, the restaurant at the top that revolves 360° while you dine. If you dine at SkyCity, a ticket is not required. Complimentary access to the Observation Deck is included with your meal.

Prices and tickets

Adult (ages 13 – 64):	\$ 19.00
Youth (ages 4 – 12):	\$ 12.00
Senior (ages 65 +):	\$ 17.00
Child (age 3 & under):	Free
Day & Night Adult:	\$ 26.00
Day & Night Youth:	\$ 17.00

These tickets allow you to visit the Space Needle twice within a 24-hour period – once during the day and once at night.

All tickets purchased on this website are non-refundable and valid for one year from the time of purchase.