Vlad III Tepes Dracula

Vlad III Tepes Dracula was born in 1431, in Wallachia (a region in Romania). His father, Vlad II Dracul, was a member of the Order of the Dragon that was founded to protect Christianity in Eastern Europe. That's why Vlad was named Dracula which means "Son of the Dragon" in Romanian.

His father wanted to have peace with the Turks, so he sent Vlad as a hostage when he was only 11 years old. Five years later, Vlad was freed but he had suffered a lot in the Turkish prisons. No wonder Vlad hated the Turks!

Aged 25, he became Prince of Wallachia. When he was at war against his enemies, the Turks, he quickly became famous as a tyrant because he took sadistic pleasure in torturing and killing. His practice of impaling his enemies is central to his historical reputation. As a result he was nicknamed 'Tepes' ("Impaler"). The total number of his victims is estimated between sixty to a hundred thousand people!

In 1462, Vlad went to Transylvania (another Romanian region) in order to seek help from the King of Hungary who had him imprisoned. Consequently he was held in captivity from 1463 to 1475. He died two years later, decapitated by the Turks who wanted proof that the Impaler was dead. He was indeed dead, but that was the beginning of the legend...

Reading comprehension

A. TIMELINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>1462</th>
<th>1463-1475</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1442</td>
<td>Birth</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Freed from Turkish prison</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Prince of Wallachia</td>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Death</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. FULL QUESTIONS for FULL ANSWERS

1) Where and when was Vlad Tepes born? 

2) In which century did he live? 

3) Who was his father? 

4) What mission did his father have? 

5) What does “Dracula” mean? 

6) Vlad and his brother visited Turkey as tourists. 

7) What happened when Vlad III Tepes Dracula was 25 years old? 

8) Who were his enemies? 

9) Justify by quoting from the text: 

10) How was Vlad considered at the time? One word from the text: “a _______” 

11) What was Vlad’s favourite method of execution? 

12) How many enemies did he kill? Say it in French: 

13) How did he die? 

Link words (mots de liaison). En voici quelques-uns en français. Retrouve leur traduction dans le texte.

c'est pourquoi : ________________ qui (non humain) : that / ________

donc : ________ quand : ____________ mais : ________

pas étonnant que... : ________________ parce que : ________________

par conséquent (1) : ________________ afin de : ________________

qui (humain) : ________ par conséquent (2) : ________________ en effet : ________________
TRANSYLVANIA, HOME OF VLAD III TEPES DRACULA and COUNT DRACULA

Fill in the blanks with a word from the list:

- Carpathians / mountainous / Transylvania / Romania / central / Dracula / written / north western / published

________________ is part of ________________ . It is in ________________ Europe. It is in the ________________ part of the country. It is very different from the other Romanian regions because it is very ________________ (the name of the mountain range is the ________________ = it is bounded on the east and south by the Carpathian mountain range).

Etymology: Transylvania means ‘on the other side of the woods’. Transylvania is associated with the story of ________________ ________________ by Bram Stoker and ________________ in 1897.