

**Unit 3 Culminating Activity**  
**Timed-Writing Essay**  
***Let the Right One In* by Tomas Alfredson**  
(suggested time: 50 min.)

**Directions:** On your own notebook paper, compose a well-written essay in response to the prompt below. Be sure to double space as you write and to avoid using personal pronouns such as *I, me, we, my, us, our,* and *you*.

Morally ambiguous characters -- characters whose behavior discourage readers from identifying them as purely evil or purely good -- are at the heart of many works of literature. In Universal Studios' classic 1931 horror film *Dracula*, Director Tod Browning presents a character who is morally *unambiguous*; a character who represents an opposition to progress and modernity, to independence and free thought. As a villain, Dracula becomes a symbol of the evil of all that has gone by. The vampire, as a metaphor, has evolved over time, however, and can no longer be categorized so simply. Consider the modern vampire film *Let the Right One In* in by Tomas Alfredson in which morally ambiguous characters play pivotal rolls. Choose one of these characters and write a well-developed essay in which you explain how the character can be viewed as morally ambiguous and why his or her moral ambiguity is significant to the work as a whole. In your essay pick at least one of the literary analysis conventions that we have practiced this unit (characterization, setting, symbolism, P.O.V. / focalization or irony) and discuss in detail how the director uses this literary convention to convey the moral ambiguity of the character in the film and how the use of this convention adds meaning to the work as a whole.

