Reading Footnotes with JAWS

Many documents, especially professional documents, will use footnotes to provide the reader with clarifying information. Footnotes are written by placing a superscript number after the word or phrase in question, then writing a corresponding number, along with its info, at the bottom of the page. This makes it easier for the author of the document to provide supplimentary material without breaking the flow of the original work. Additionally, an author may choose to write endnotes. These operate exactly the same as footnotes, but their information appears at the bottom of the document rather than the bottom of the page.

When you move across a line which contains a footnote or endnote, JAWS will announce the note and its corresponding number. Here are some useful JAWS commands to work with these notes:

Read footnote or endnote-- alt+shift+E

Place your cursor on the note marker and press this keystroke to have the note read to you. This enables you to read the note without losing your place in the document.

Open Virtual Viewer and view list of comments, footnotes, endnotes, or revisions in current document --**WINDOWS Key-semicolon**

Try this one; it’s awesome!

List endnotes: **JAWS key+SHIFT+E**

List footnotes: **INSERT+SHIFT+F**

*The Jabberwocky*, written by Lewis Carroll, is printed on the next page. This poem is called a “nonsense verse,” for reasons which will soon become obvious. Read the poem, along with its footnotes, and then answer the following questions.

1. What time does the poem take place?
2. What do toves and momeraths live on?
3. What two words make up frumious?
4. What does it mean to “galumph?”
5. How many footnotes are in this document?

'Twasbrillig,[[1]](#footnote-2) and the slithy[[2]](#footnote-3)toves[[3]](#footnote-4)  
Did gyre[[4]](#footnote-5) and gimble[[5]](#footnote-6) in the wabe;[[6]](#footnote-7)  
All mimsy[[7]](#footnote-8) were the borogoves,[[8]](#footnote-9)  
And the momeraths[[9]](#footnote-10)outgrabe.[[10]](#footnote-11)  
  
"Beware the Jabberwock, my son!  
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!  
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun  
Thefrumious[[11]](#footnote-12)Bandersnatch!"  
  
He took his vorpal sword in hand:  
Long time the manxome[[12]](#footnote-13) foe he sought—  
So rested he by the Tumtum tree,  
And stood awhile in thought.  
  
And as in uffish[[13]](#footnote-14) thought he stood,  
The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,  
Came whiffling through the tulgey[[14]](#footnote-15) wood,  
And burbled as it came!  
  
One, two! One, two! and through and through  
The vorpal blade went snicker-snack!  
He left it dead, and with its head  
He went galumphing[[15]](#footnote-16) back.  
  
"And hast thou slain the Jabberwock?  
Come to my arms, my beamish boy!  
O frabjous[[16]](#footnote-17) day! Callooh! Callay!"  
He chortled in his joy.  
  
'Twasbrillig, and the slithytoves  
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe;  
All mimsy were the borogoves,  
And the momerathsoutgrabe.

1. four o'clock in the afternoon, the time when you begin broiling things for dinner. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Lithe and slimy. It's like a portmanteau, there are two meanings packed up into one word. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Toves' are something like badgers, they're something like lizards, and they're something like corkscrews. [...] Also they make their nests under sun-dials, also they live on cheese. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. go round and round like a gyroscope. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. To make holes as does a gimlet. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. The grass plot around a sundial [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. flimsy and miserable [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. a thin shabby-looking bird with its feathers sticking out all round, something like a live mop [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. a species of Badger with smooth white hair, long hind legs, and short horns like a stag that lives chiefly on cheese [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. something between bellowing and whistling, with a kind of sneeze in the middle [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. Combination of "fuming" and "furious" [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. Possibly fearsome; A portmanteau of "manly" and "buxom", [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. A state of mind when the voice is gruffish, the manner roughish, and the temper huffish [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
14. thick, dense, dark [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
15. a blend of 'gallop' and 'triumphant' [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
16. a blend of *fair*, *fabulous*, and *joyous* [↑](#footnote-ref-17)