**English 11 – Days 11-16**

*We are going to continue reading literature from the Romantic Era. Perhaps the most famous author from this literary era is Edgar Allen Poe. Poe lived a troubled life, full of loss (his parents, adopted mother, and beloved wife, Virginia). He worked as a literary critic and writer. However, although he did make some money for his writing, he was not wealthy or famous during his lifetime. Poe wrote many different types of literature, including: detective stories, gothic tales, horror, murder mysteries, poems and more. We will be reading two of his works. First, “Annabel Lee,” my favorite poem of his, and then “The Tell-Tale Heart,” a gothic short story.*

**Activity #1**

I would like you watch the following biographical overview of Poe’s life. Knowing a little bit about his losses and struggles will enhance your understanding of the poem. Plus … he had a very interesting life.

[Teacher Tube - Edgar Allen Poe biography video](https://www.teachertube.com/videos/edgar-allan-poe-170485)

Web address = <https://www.teachertube.com/videos/edgar-allan-poe-170485>

**Activity #2**

Read the following poem and then answer the analysis questions. You can look up an audio or video recording of the poem and, if you have trouble understanding the poem, you can look up a “summary of” or “analysis of” the poem.

**Annabel Lee**

BY [EDGAR ALLAN POE](https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/edgar-allan-poe)

It was many and many a year ago,

   In a kingdom by the sea,

That a maiden there lived whom you may know

   By the name of Annabel Lee;

And this maiden she lived with no other thought

   Than to love and be loved by me.

*I* was a child and *she* was a child,

   In this kingdom by the sea,

But we loved with a love that was more than love—

   I and my Annabel Lee—

With a love that the wingèd seraphs of Heaven

   Coveted her and me.

And this was the reason that, long ago,

   In this kingdom by the sea,

A wind blew out of a cloud, chilling

   My beautiful Annabel Lee;

So that her highborn kinsmen came

   And bore her away from me,

To shut her up in a sepulchre

   In this kingdom by the sea.

The angels, not half so happy in Heaven,

   Went envying her and me—

Yes!—that was the reason (as all men know,

   In this kingdom by the sea)

That the wind came out of the cloud by night,

   Chilling and killing my Annabel Lee.

But our love it was stronger by far than the love

   Of those who were older than we—

   Of many far wiser than we—

And neither the angels in Heaven above

   Nor the demons down under the sea

Can ever dissever my soul from the soul

   Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;

For the moon never beams, without bringing me dreams

   Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;

And the stars never rise, but I feel the bright eyes

   Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;

And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side

   Of my darling—my darling—my life and my bride,

   In her sepulchre there by the sea—

   In her tomb by the sounding sea.

**Activity #3**

**Analysis questions:** *If you don’t remember what some of the terms are, be sure to look them up. Just like last week, you may edit the document or record your answers on a separate document. You may send word documents or pictures of handwritten work via email.*

1. Summarize the speaker’s love for Annabel Lee in 1-2 sentences.
2. Do you think the speaker’s love for Annabel Lee is healthy or unhealthy? Support your answer with **two details** from the poem.
3. Give an example of repetition from the poem.
4. Give an example of rhyme from the poem.
5. Give an example of imagery from the poem.
6. Give an example of alliteration (repetition of initial consonant sounds) from the poem.
7. What aspect of life is the speaker “romanticizing”?
8. What aspect of nature is used in this poem?
9. What is the strong sense of emotion that the speaker talks about?
10. Based on what we know about Poe’s life, how do you think his life may have influenced “Annabel Lee”?

**Activity #4**

*Next, we will be reading Poe’s short story, “The Tell-Tale Heart.” I have attached a pdf of Poe’s short story. However, you may also listen to an audio or video recording of the story.*

*Audio =* [*https://americanenglish.state.gov/files/ae/resource\_files/the-tell-tale-heart2.mp3*](https://americanenglish.state.gov/files/ae/resource_files/the-tell-tale-heart2.mp3)

**Activity #5**

**Analysis questions:** *If you don’t remember what some of the terms are, be sure to look them up. Just like last week, you may edit the document or record your answers on a separate document. You may send word documents or pictures of handwritten work via email.*

1. Describe the speaker of the story – emotionally or mentally.
2. Who is staying at the speaker’s house at the beginning of the story?
3. What is it about the guest that really bothers the speaker?
4. What does the speaker do to the guest? Describe this in detail – 2 or more sentences.
5. At 4 o’clock, who was at the door?
6. What had been reported? And what did they do?
7. Did they find anything?
8. Where did the speaker put his chair?
9. Physically, what began to happen to the speaker?
10. What did the speaker begin to hear? Describe it in at least 2 sentences.
11. Did the officers hear the noise?
12. What does the speaker do/say at the end of the story?
13. Give an example of imagery from the story? How does Poe’s use of imagery enhance the story?
14. What is “romanticized” in this story?
15. What is the reference to the magical or unknown in this story?

**This week’s grades:**

**“Annabel Lee” questions 10 points**

**“Tell-Tale Heart” questions 15 points**