

The Raven

Edgar Allan Poe



Rhyme & Structure

- Rhyme scheme: the pattern of how lines in a stanza rhyme together
 - For example: AABBCCAA
- External Rhyme: when the _____ of poetry rhyme
- Internal Rhyme: when two or more words _____ one line rhyme

Practice Rhyme Scheme

- Skim the poem.
 - Mark at **least 1 moment** of both internal AND external rhyme
- Skim again
 - What kind of rhyme scheme do the stanzas have?

Storyline

What is the plot or storyline of this poem?

- Create a timeline including:
 - Beginning
 - Middle
 - HOW YOU THINK IT ENDS.



Vocabulary

Take a moment to **circle any words you don't understand** in the poem. Choose at **least 4** to look up.

Example:

1. Unknown word: *Definition*

Parallel Structure

Parallel Structure: When either exact words/phrases or word patterns are repeated on purpose for a stylistic or rhythmic effect

- Mark (PS) on your poem where you find examples of this happening.

Allusion

When one text mentions or refers to _____ piece of text, piece of art, historical event, mythology etc.

We are going to define these terms and explain what they mean to the poem:

- “Bust of Pallas”
- “Night’s Plutonian shore”
- “Is there balm in Gilead”
- “...if within that distant Aidenn”

Allusion

- Bust of Pallas:
 - Statue of Athena; goddess of war
- Night's Plutonian Shore
 - Referring to Pluto the roman god of the underworld
- Balm in Gilead
 - Gilead is a region referenced in the bible and balm is used for medicinal purpose.
- If within that distant Aidden
 - Another word for Garden of Eden ; hopes for his wife Lenore

Theme

A theme is an author's direct or implied _____ to readers.

What do you think is the theme or “point” of this poem? (Does it JUST tell a story, or does it convey anything?)

Symbolism

In several cultures, the color black represents

And ravens symbolize _____.

What is generally thought of Ravens?

- Why do you think Poe used a raven instead of another bird? (or for that matter, something supernatural like a ghost?) Explain your answer with details from the poem.

Unreliable Narrator

When a narrator is unreliable, it means that (s)he isn't telling the full _____ for one reason or another; (s)he might be _____, a child, ill, or just not have all the facts.

* Underline all the spots in the poem that YOU think are proof that the narrator is insane/unreliable.

Do you think this narrator is unreliable, or not? Why?

The Raven by *The Simpsons*



Reflection

1. Now that you've been through these exercises, do you UNDERSTAND the poem better?
2. Do you LIKE the poem better, the same, or worse than before? Explain with supportive reasoning.
3. This poem is famous for many reasons. Why do you think it has stood the test of time and continues to be taught in schools?

All responses should be well thought out and supportive reasoning for full credit