

“The Raven”

Edgar Allan Poe



Essential Question #1

How do effective writers create mood in their poetry?

Readers respond to the use of literary techniques used in poetry to feel the mood of a poem. Writers use sound devices such as rhythm, rhyme, onomatopoeia and alliteration as well as literary techniques like imagery, personification, and figurative language to create the mood.

Essential Question #2

How can readers analyze the tone of a poem?

Since tone refers to the writer's feelings, readers must analyze the word choice of the poem, looking for specific vocabulary as well as repetition to find the emphasis from the writer. By analyzing word choice, readers can better understand the content and the development of those ideas by the writer.



Poe's Motivation



With your copy of the poem, you will find a quote from Poe's "The Philosophy of Composition," originally published in April of 1846.

What was Poe's motivation for writing "The Raven?"

According to Poe, what is the most poetical topic in the world?



the raven

The Narrative

Even though this is a poem, it tells a story about a man who has lost the woman that he loves. In his anguish, he begins a conversation with a raven, a bird of ill omen, and drives himself mad with grief. As we read, look for all of the elements of a narrative poem: plot, setting, character, dialogue, and conflict.

Introduction with BrainPOP

<http://www.brainpop.com/english/famousauthorsandbooks/edgarallanpoe/>

As you read...

To begin, we are going to listen to the poem.

Then, as we analyze, make notes on your copy of the poem to help with your understanding of the poem's content and literary devices.

Reading of “The Raven”

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sXU3RfB7308>

Interactive Website

www.teachersfirst.com/share/raven/

Post-Reading Activity

Characteristics of Horror Tales

Does the characteristic “Writers fully understand the frightening power of the unknown and the supernatural” apply to “The Raven”?

In your notes, state your opinion on this idea and provide at least two examples from the text to support your thoughts.

SOAPS

Title of Poem: "The Raven"

Author & Facts: Edgar Allan Poe

- One of America's most famous writers
- This is the most popular poem in American history

Subject: a man speaks to a raven about his lost love

Occasion: possibly personal experience or he needed the money

Audience: someone who has lost a loved one;
general audience

Purpose: to entertain and tell the story of Lenore

Speaker: Lenore's lover and the raven

“The Raven”

Courtesy of *The Simpsons*...

http://teachertube.com/viewVideo.php?video_id=251203