**Edgar Allen Poe – Author Study**

Due November 4, 2013

Read **FIVE (5**) of the following short stories by Edgar Allen Poe:

* “The Fall of the House of Usher” (also in your textbook)
* “The Murders in the Rue Morgue”
* “Never Bet the Devil Your Head”
* “The Masque of the Red Death”
* “The Pit and the Pendulum”
* “The Tell-Tale Heart”
* “The Black Cat”
* “A Tale of the Ragged Mountains”
* “The Purloined Letter”
* “The Premature Burial”

**Pick THREE:** Note that there are three rows. Each row offers three choices. Your job is to select ONE task from EACH row and focus on a different story for each task (therefore, your projects will focus on THREE Poe stories). You will take a quiz on one of the remaining TWO stories (teacher’s choice). ***If you take notes while you read, you may use these notes during your quiz.*** This is a major grade, so remember to make your work thoughtful, original, rich with detail, and accurate. ***100 point project (25 points each task)***

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| **Characterization** | Create a pair of collages that compare you and the main character of the story. Compare and contrast physical and personality traits. Label your collages so viewers understand. | Write a bio-poem about yourself and another about the main character in the story highlighting the similarities and differences between the two. Be sure to include the important traits in each story. | Write a set of directions for how you would solve a problem and another for how a main character would solve a problem. Your list should help us contrast your way of thinking with that of the character’s. |
| **Setting** | Draw/paint and write a greeting card that invites us into the scenery and mood of an important part of the story (do not use computer software). Be sure the greeting card and verse help us understand what is important in the scene and why. | Make a model or map of a key place in your life and a map or model of an important setting in the story. Find a way to help viewers understand why the location is of importance to the story of your life and why the other is of importance to the Poe short story. | Make two timelines. The first should illustrate and describe at least 4-5 shifts in the setting in the story. The second should explain and illustrate how the mood changes with the change in setting. |
| **Theme** | Using books of proverbs and/or quotations, find at least 6-7 which reflect what’s important about the story’s theme. Find at least 6-7 that do the same for your life. Display them and explain your choices. | Interview a key character from the story to find out what lessons s/he thinks we should learn from events in the story. This may be typed or videoed. The interview must be thorough and contain at least 10 questions & answers | Find 5-7 songs you think reflect an important message from the story. Prepare an audio collage (a CD). Must be school appropriate – no profanity. Create an insert for your CD which helps explain to the listener how these songs express the story’s meaning. |