

The Tell-Tale Heart
CREATIVE WRITING ASSIGNMENT:

This assignment requires you to analyze *The Tell-Tale Heart* and then write a short story of your own. Your short story should be written in a style based upon that of Edgar Allen Poe in which the main character is a paranoid individual tormented by an internal conflict. Use various developmental devices, (i.e. sentence variety, exaggeration, etc.) to highlight the tension.

- The protagonist should be haunted by a guilty conscience and finally break down and confess to a horrible deed.
- The subject matter is limited only by the boundary of good taste.
- The short story should be approximately three to five (3-5) minutes in length when read aloud. (Assume 2 typed pages at 11 or 12 point font).
- Try to create mood or atmosphere while at the same time highlighting the internal conflict of the main character.
- You will present your story to the class.

EVALUATION: (Application/Communication)

Content:	/10
Of story/Short Story Techniques	
Style:	/5
Spelling/Grammar/Organization/Clarity	
Presentation:	/10
Tone/Voice/Length/Volume	

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SHORT STORY ANALYSIS

*Choose a short story of appropriate length. Using that story, answer the following questions. Be sure to use specific **details, examples, and quotations** from the text to support your ideas.*

1. Make a **plot diagram** including all components (introduction with inciting event, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution). List the major events of the story on the diagram. You may use numbers and a legend, if you wish.
2. What is the central **theme** of the story?
3. What is the main **conflict** type and who/what is it between?
4. Choose one character and write a **character sketch** in a well-developed formal academic style paragraph. Be sure to include several aspects of character analysis. Use examples and quotations to support your claims.
5. Who are the **protagonist** and **antagonist**? Is there a **foil character**? If so, explain the use and effectiveness of the contrast.
6. What is the **mode of narration**? How do you know this? (Give quotations). Why do you think the author chose this style of narration for this piece?
7. What is the **setting**?
8. Describe the **atmosphere** using examples and quotations from the text.
9. Give an example and explain how FOUR of the following **literary devices** are used in the story:

- Allegory
- Allusion
- Euphemism
- Foreshadowing
- Hyperbole
- Imagery
- Repetition
- Satire
- Simile

- Irony
- Metaphor
- Onomatopoeia
- Oxymoron
- Pathetic Fallacy
- Personification
- Symbolism
- Juxtaposition

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