

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Let's start working with the poem "Annabel Lee" by Edgar Allan Poe

1) Go to the link <https://poemuseum.org/poe-biography/> and read Edgar Allan Poe's biography. Then, complete it.

- a) Poe was born on _____.
- b) Poe died on _____.
- c) The cause of his death is _____.
- d) His father, David Poe, abandoned the family. _____
- e) Poe _____ a good relationship with his foster family.



2) Read the biography again. Decide which heading best suits each piece of information.

- a) Even though he was the first American writer to live completely off his earnings, he struggled to financially support himself and his family during most of his adulthood. _____
- b) Edgar Allan Poe was part of a junior color guard. _____
- c) His bout of cholera had made his health to be fragile. _____
- d) Poe rekindled his childhood romance with Elmira Royster Helton. They got engaged before his death. _____
- e) Poe attended the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. _____
- f) "The Murders in the Rue Morgue" is particularly important because it was the first modern detective story. _____
- g) Poe spent his last days drunk and in deplorable conditions. _____
- h) After leaving the Southern Literary Messenger, he wrote some of his best-known stories. _____
- i) Poe joined the army and did a great job, rising to the rank of sergeant major. _____

POE'S EARLY LIFE

POE'S LITERARY CAREER

POE'S DEATH

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3) Listen and read the poem.

Annabel Lee

by Edgar Allan Poe
(published 1849)

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 winged 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 high-born kinsman 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 a 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.

4) Match the words in the poem that have a similar meaning to the following:

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|-----------------------|--------------|
| 1) An unmarried woman | a) high-born |
| 2) Angels | b) sepulchre |
| 3) Envy | c) dissever |
| 4) Of noble birth | d) maiden |
| 5) A male relative | e) beam |
| 6) Separate | f) coveted |
| 7) Shine | g) seraphs |
| 8) Tomb | h) kinsman |

5) Choose the correct option to complete the story map.

a) In a kingdom by the sea.

CHARACTERS	PLOT	SETTING	SOLUTION
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b) The Speaker and Annabel Lee.

CHARACTERS	PLOT	SETTING	SOLUTION
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c) The speaker can't overcome his grief because of Annabel Lee's death.

CHARACTERS	PLOT	SETTING	SOLUTION
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d) The poem finishes with the speaker telling how no one can ever separate their souls from one another.

CHARACTERS	PLOT	SETTING	SOLUTION
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6) Which of these themes can be found in Poe's poem? You may choose more than one option.

- WAR
- DEATH
- GRIEF
- POVERTY
- LOVE
- FAMINE

7) Answer the questions.

a) What are some emotions you felt while reading the poem? What specific lines or stanzas caused you to feel those emotions? Why?



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