Alliterative Emphasis

ASSIGNMENT:
Write a summary statement for each stanza of Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven." Include three examples of alliteration.

Read through the first four stanzas of Edgar Allen Poe's "The Raven". Remember, many poems take 2-3 readings before they start to make sense. After you have finished, please go back and write a summary statement for *each stanza (group of lines)* in your own words. The goal of your summary statements is to follow the action/main ideas of the poem.

Once you have summarized it, remember that "**alliteration"** is the repetition of the initial sounds of words. Finally, find at least 3 examples where alliteration occurs.

"The Raven" by Edgar Allan Poe

Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary,
Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore--
While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,
As of some one gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door--
"'Tis some visitor," I muttered, "tapping at my chamber door--
Only this and nothing more."

Ah, distinctly I remember it was in the bleak December;
And each separate dying ember wrought its ghost upon the floor.
Eagerly I wished the morrow;--vainly I had sought to borrow
From my books surcease of sorrow--sorrow for the lost Lenore--
For the rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore--
Nameless here for evermore.

And the silken, sad, uncertain rustling of each purple curtain
Thrilled me--filled me with fantastic terrors never felt before;
So that now, to still the beating of my heart, I stood repeating,
"'Tis some visitor entreating entrance at my chamber door--
Some late visitor entreating entrance at my chamber door;--
This it is and nothing more."

Presently my soul grew stronger; hesitating then no longer,
"Sir," said I, "or Madam, truly your forgiveness I implore;
But the fact is I was napping, and so gently you came rapping,
And so faintly you came tapping, tapping at my chamber door,
That I scarce was sure I heard you"--here I opened wide the door;----
Darkness there and nothing more.

LIVEWORKSHEETS