

Tier 3.0: Poe and Lovecraft

Author Study (Suspense, Horror and Style)

Multi-media Project Prompt (10.25.23)

Poe is obviously considered one of the most important figures in the genre of horror. H.P. Lovecraft, a more contemporary peer, has recently come to be seen as another heavyweight figure in the genre, and he is probably most famous for creating his own mythos of sort, most famously his Cthulu character.

Choose to read no less than four *additional* stories (no poetry is allowed for this assignment) by Poe or Lovecraft or a combination of the two. Ultimately, you can do an author study on either one of the authors or do a sort of comparative author study between the two. If so, read and incorporate an equal amount of texts for both. Both authors' stories (*and* brief summaries to help you select ones that might most interest you) can be found on the websites linked via the Weebly website.

In an multi-media format,* examine how the author(s) you've chosen build(s) suspense and how he/they develop and/or create horror. This is an author study, so you'll also explore the style and development in all of the short stories you've selected. Use both summary and textual evidence/quotes from the texts to show the development of suspense and horror throughout the works. You might also choose to include "The Tell-Tale Heart" as a fifth text, but it is not necessary, and it does not count toward the four stories if you do choose to use it.

Additionally, though not necessarily required, you might choose to apply Hitchcock's "Let 'Em Play God" essay to the selected stories, evaluating the extent to which Poe and/or Lovecraft build suspense in the Hitchcockian manner. You can show and argue that Poe and/or Lovecraft very much, only somewhat, or does not at all build suspense in the way that Hitchcock says to do it. Depending on your assessment (if you *don't* believe he/they does follow his prescription), you might also argue that Poe's and/or Lovecraft's way is superior or inferior.

As you read, you'll keep a sort of annotated "journal" for the each short story. Each story journal will include a few things: **1)** your thoughts, questions, reactions (what you like/don't like), and connections you make (to other stories, music, movies, life) as your read, **2)** ways in which each story develops suspense *and* horror, as well as any stylistic similarities you notice, and **3)** a brief 2-3 sentence plot summary at the end of each story.

After you finish journaling, you'll complete two different pre-writing worksheets to help assist you in building each part/section of your project.

*multi-media here means that it should incorporate both images and text. Images can, but are not limited to, diagrams and other visual aids, photos and/or illustrations, etc. Text should include both clarifying text, captions, and full paragraphs to tie the whole project together.

Project Rubric

Organization (20 points total):

Org: _____

- Makes strong, consistent, and effective use of organization (the project flows smoothly and logically, topics and transitions are clearly marked, easy to follow, etc.) [20 pts]
- Generally makes effective use of organization (generally flows smoothly and logically, topics and are usually clearly marked, easy to follow, etc.) [17 pts]
- Makes inconsistent use of organizations (at times flows smoothly and logically, topics and are sometimes clearly marked, easy to follow, etc.) [15 pts]
- Largely makes ineffective use of organization (the project typically lacks smooth and/or logical flow, topics and transitions are often not clearly marked, making it difficult to follow, etc. [13 pts]
- Alarminglly problematic in terms of organization. [10 pts]

Content/Support (40 points total):

Spt: _____

- The project is clearly and thoroughly supported and explained with clear, precise textual evidence (including quotes, paraphrase and summary as appropriate) and visual aides, etc.. Project clearly, effectively, and thoroughly answers the prompt. [40 pts]
- The project is generally well supported and explained with clear, precise textual evidence (including quotes, paraphrase and summary as appropriate) and visual aides, etc.. Project largely answers the prompt. [34 pts]
- The project is occasionally well supported and explained with clear and precise textual evidence (including quotes, paraphrase and summary as appropriate). Project largely begins to answer the prompt. [30 pts]
- The project largely lacks sufficient textual evidence (quotes, paraphrase and summary as appropriate), appropriate visual aides and/or sufficient explanation to bring all parts of the project together as a whole. Project incompletely answers the prompt. [26 pts]
- Project is mostly off-topic and does not answer the prompt. [20 pts]

Other (10 pts):

Oth: _____

- All textual citations are correctly handled, project is generally grammatically clean (only occasional issues with spelling, sentence structure, etc.), avoids first person, and formatting is solid, [10 pts]
- Most textual citations are correctly handled, essay has some frequent concerns with spelling and/or sentence structure, etc.), mostly avoids first person, and formatting has minor issues. [8 pts]
- Few textual citations are correctly handled, and/or essay is problematic concerns with spelling and/or sentence structure, etc., heavy use of first person, and/or project has major formatting concerns. [6 pts]

Ttl: _____/70