



**Who Killed
Edgar
Allan Poe?**

Vocabulary- Introduction

The following words come up over the course of the Introduction. You should know these words in order to solve the mystery.

Bust (n.) – A statue of someone's body from the neck up.

Contemporary (n.) – A person who lives or works during the same time period as someone else.

Insufferable (adj.) – Unbearable; too much to stand.

Executor (n.) – The person responsible for another person's belongings after that person has died.

To be acquainted with (v.) – To be familiar with or knowledgeable about something or someone.

Vocabulary- Chapter 1

The following words come up over the course of Chapter 1. You should know these words in order to solve the mystery.

Administer (v.) – To give or apply something.

Classless (adj.) – Trashy or unsophisticated.

Last Will and Testament (or just “Will”) (n.) – Instructions for what to do with a person’s things after they die, written when the person is still alive.

To Stipulate (v.) – To demand or require.

Unkempt (adj.) – Messy or not looked after.

Censer :



A censer, incense burner, perfume burner or pastille burner is a vessel made for burning incense or perfume in some solid form. They vary greatly in size, form, and material of construction, and have been in use since ancient times throughout the world.

[Wikipedia](#)

Chapter 1 Sample Interrogation Questions

- What do you know about the cloth?
- What do you know about the dropper?
- What do you know about the feather?
- What do you know about the key?
- Do you know why the window was open?
- Were you angry with Edgar Allan Poe?
- What could have been used as a murder weapon?
- Why was one of Edgar Allan Poe's eyes open and the other closed?

Chapter 1 Text-Based Questions

- In which of Edgar Allan Poe's short stories did loose floorboards play a key role?
- In which of Edgar Allan Poe's stories does a strange eye play a key part?
- Which one of Edgar Allan Poe's characters has never murdered anyone?
- How does the Red Death's disease kill?
- Which character uses wine as a crucial part of his murder plot?

Vocabulary- Chapter 2

The following words come up over the course of Chapter 2. You should know these words in order to solve the mystery.

Alibi (n.) - Proof that someone was in a different place when a crime happened, and so must be innocent.

Erratic (adj.) Unpredictable.

Motive (n.) – A reason to do something.

Pseudonym (n.) - A false name used to protect someone's identity.

To incriminate (v.) – To make a person look guilty, like they broke a rule or committed a crime.

Chapter 2 Text-Based Questions

- In Griswold's obituary of Poe, what does "This announcement will startle many, but few will be grieved by it" mean?
- In Griswold's obituary of Poe, what does "He was at all times a dreamer—dwelling in ideal realms—in heaven or hell—peopled with the creatures and the accidents of his brain" mean?
- Do you think Griswold's obituary of Poe was positive or negative? How so?
- Would Mark Twain read Edgar Allan Poe's writing?
- How does Mark Twain say he wished Jane Austen would die?
- What is Mark Twain's opinion of "The Murders in the Rue Morgue"?
- Do you think either of these documents incriminates Twain or Griswold?

Chapter 2 Sample Interrogation Questions

- Where were you at the time of Poe's murder?
- Was anybody with you during that time?
- If so, was he or she with you the whole time?
- If he or she left the room, do you know where he or she went?
- Do you have an alibi?
- What do you know about Poe's relationship with either Mark Twain or Rufus Griswold?



Do you now have information about every piece of evidence?

Vocabulary- Chapter 3

The following words come up over the course of Chapter 3. You should know these words in order to solve the mystery.

Dastardly (adj.) – Wicked or evil.

Lavish (adj.) – Expensive and elaborate.

Penned (v.) – Written.

Quarrelsome (adj.) – Argumentative; likely to fight.

To frame (v.) – To make someone look guilty of a crime they didn't commit.

Chapter 3 Sample Interrogation Questions

- What do you know about Dupin's documents?
- What do you know about the poisons?
- What do you know about the letter written by Poe?
- Do you think it was actually written by Poe?
- Who was the letter written by Poe addressed to?

Chapter 3 Text-Based Questions

- Which Poe character is “nameless here forevermore”?
- Which Poe character lives “by the sea”?

Chapter 3 Discussion Questions

How was Poe killed?

What was/were the murder weapon(s)?

When did Poe die?

How could the killer(s) enter the room?

Vocabulary- Chapter 4

The following words come up over the course of Chapter 4. You should know these words in order to solve the mystery.

Animosity (n.) - Anger, hatred.

Correspondence (n.) – The exchanging of letters.

Scandalous (adj.) - Causing anger; inappropriate.

Hearth (n.) – The floor of a fireplace.

Somber (adj.) – Gloomy.

Chapter 4 Sample Interrogation Questions

- What do you know about the vial of poison?
- What do you know about Annabel Lee's and Lenore's letters?

Conclusion: Writing the Accusation

Items to include in your one-page accusation:

- Who killed Poe
- Where, how, and at what time Poe was killed
- The murderer's motive



15:00

Support all accusations
with as many facts &
evidence as possible.

