Year 8
Edgar Allen Poe – Term 2
Homework Booklet

List five facts about gothic literature - use books/the internet to help you:
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Name five pieces of gothic literature, and say who wrote them:
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
In these rapid, restless shadows,  
Once I walked at eventide,  
When a gentle, silent maiden,  
Walked in beauty at my side.  
She alone there walked beside me  
All in beauty, like a bride.  
Pallidly the moon was shining  
On the dewy meadows nigh;  
On the silvery, silent rivers,  
On the mountains far and high,—  
On the ocean's star-lit waters,  
Where the winds a-weary die.

Slowly, silently we wandered  
From the open cottage door,  
Underneath the elm's long branches  
To the pavement bending o'er;  
Underneath the mossy willow  
And the dying sycamore.

Find five quotations which make you think this is a gothic poem. Comment on how each one is supposed to make the reader feel.

1) 

2) 

3) 

4) 

5)
Analyse how Poe creates a spooky and mysterious atmosphere.
Creative Writing – write a gothic description of an old abandoned house. Think about varying your sentence lengths, and varying your paragraph lengths.
You will be reading a story called ‘The Tell Tale Heart’. Write the beginning of your own story based on this title.
You need to learn the meaning and spelling of the following ten words.

1) Gothic
2) Sibilance
3) Villain
4) Setting
5) Connotations
6) Mysterious
7) Castle
8) Abandoned
9) Insanity
10) Guilt

Use each word in a sentence in the space below, proving you know what it means.

1) 

2) 

3) 

4) 

5) 

6) 

7) 

8) 

9) 

10)
Extra reading: your homework expectation is to read for twenty minutes a night, every night. Why not try some of the following?
Whether you read your AR book from the school library, or a book from home, you could try to complete some of the following activities.

The idea is that they are a little more creative, and allow you to respond to what you’ve read without having to write an essay or an analysis.

**Design a costume for one of the characters. Annotate it, explaining your choices.**

**Books in a hurry: sum your book up in as few words as possible! Feel free to illustrate your key chosen points.**

**Design a cover for the book you’ve just read. You could write a blurb for the back.**

**Imagine you are one of the main characters. Create your social media profile.**

**Lonely hearts ad: imagine one of the characters in your book is looking for love. Write an advert they place in a newspaper, promoting themselves and explaining what they want from a partner.**
A note to parents and carers,

The most important reason to read is because it’s enjoyable – we would like your child to view reading as a luxury and not a chore. Children who read for pleasure in their spare time perform significantly better at school than other pupils. The most important thing you can do for your child is to read with them, or at least to insist that they read themselves.

Ideally, they should read every single day – little and often is the way forward!

Your child’s homework for English is to complete this booklet, to the best of their ability, and to read as much as they can and as often as they can. They should always have a book from the school library, but obviously they can read their own books from home should they wish to do so. They can quiz on the books they read once they return to school.

To support us in helping your child, we ask that you complete the following log at the end of every week so that their English teacher can monitor how often they’re reading at home.

Thank you,

Mr Wootton
Head of English

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