

Adv. English 2

Class Recap

What We Learned

Today, we entered the dark and mysterious world of Edgar Allan Poe and became detectives of description. We read "The Masque of the Red Death" as a class, and instead of just focusing on the plot, we paid close attention to the small details Poe used to build the story's eerie atmosphere. We learned that writers don't just tell you a place is spooky; they use specific words to show you, making you feel the suspense and fear right along with the characters.

- **Poe's Secret Weapon:** Edgar Allan Poe is a master of creating a powerful mood or atmosphere. He doesn't just write stories; he crafts a feeling for the reader.
- **Mood through Description:** Poe creates an eerie, unsettling mood by carefully describing the setting, objects, and characters' actions. The seven colored rooms and the dreadful chiming of the ebony clock are perfect examples of this.
- **Show, Don't Tell:** We saw how Poe uses precise, descriptive language to "show" us the story's mood, rather than just "telling" us that something is scary or mysterious.

Key Takeaways

- **Details Matter:** Every detail a writer includes—from the color of a room to the sound of a clock—can contribute to the overall mood of a story.
- **Mood is a Tool:** Writers can use mood to make their stories more engaging, suspenseful, and memorable. You can use this skill in your own writing to make your readers feel a certain way.

Homework:

Your mission for homework is to become a detective of Poe's writing style.

1. Reread "The Masque of the Red Death."
2. Find three descriptive passages that you believe create a specific feeling or mood.
3. Write down each passage and, in one to two sentences, explain what mood it creates and why it made you feel that way



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