

Welcome to the Teachers' Instructions area for this student activity. Here you'll find directions and suggestions for using this activity along with the materials you need to evaluate your students' work.

**Title:** Raven Review

**Audience:** Middle

**Duration:** 1-2 class periods

**Subject Area(s):**

Language Arts - Vocabulary

**Grade Level(s):** 6,7,8,9

### **Teacher Directions:**

**Overview:** In this activity students will learn new vocabulary as they explore word relationships. Students will read The Raven from the Annotated Poe interactive of the Knowing Poe online field trip and collect and illustrate selected vocabulary. Students will research the main points of the poem in order to summarize the poem. Students will work individually or in small groups to write and present a review of The Raven that includes the new words they have learned as well as the main points of the poem. The review will be written from a selected point of view. This activity should be done after students have read Edgar Allan Poe's poem, The Raven at least once or have the students listen to The Raven being read by clicking play on the video window in the Poe Library section of the Web site.

This activity can be completed using a variety of technology configurations. If a computer lab is available, students can access the activity and worksheets through Thinkport. Another option would be to display the interactive on a classroom computer with a projection device. In this case, students will need a copy of each worksheet.

### **Introductory Activity:**

Since the students read The Raven recently, ask them to think about what they remember about this poem. Ask them to share words, lines, or descriptions they remember and their overall thoughts about the poem. Now access the Annotated Poe interactive at the Knowing Poe Web site at <http://knowingpoe.thinkport.org/writer/annotated.asp>. Launch the interactive. Explore the structure of the Annotated Poe section for the class by clicking on the varied options. Show the students how to use the interactive to find word definitions. This can be done by hitting the tab entitled "What Does This Mean?" and scrolling over the highlighted words. The definitions appear in a box to the left of the poem.

### **Focus for Media Interaction #1:**

The focus for viewing Annotated Poe is for students to learn new vocabulary in context as they explore an interactive version of Edgar Allan Poe's The Raven.

### **Viewing Activity #1:**

Explain to the class that they are many new vocabulary words in The Raven and that today they are going to use an interactive piece of the online field trip to learn the meaning of these new words. Ask the class to go to the Annotated Poe section and to launch the interactive piece. Have

students select the “What Does that Mean” tab at the top of the page. Using the highlighted vocabulary words in the interactive students will complete the Raven Vocabulary Review worksheet by finding specific words in the poem, writing the line of the poem it is used in, and defining the word.

**Post Viewing Activity #1:**

Students should draw an image in the box provided in the worksheet. They can explore other terms not on the worksheet if they have time.

**Focus for Media Interaction #2:**

The focus for viewing Annotated Poe is for students to identify the main points of the poem The Raven.

**Viewing Activity #2:**

Students should use the “Where Is He Coming From” and “What Does That Mean” tabs in the Annotated Poe interactive to research main points of the poem. Students will complete the Raven Review Research worksheet as they interact with the poem.

**Post Viewing #2:**

Discuss with students how their reaction to the poem would differ based on the role they chose. You may need to review questions 6 and 7 with students using the interactive. Have the students go back to the Annotated Poe section and read the published reviews of the poem by clicking on the 'Where Is He Coming From?' section and clicking the highlighted words Once Upon and Dreary.

Depending on your class' experience with writing literary reviews, you may choose to display the online version of the Baltimore Sun newspaper's book reviews using the link provided in the activity. Some reviews require registration to the online newspaper. Registration is free.

**Assessment:** Students will use the information they have collected on their worksheets to write a review of the poem The Raven. Ask each student to write a review of The Raven on the Raven Review Worksheet that incorporates the new vocabulary they have learned as well as a summary of the poem. Have students review the Raven Review checklist and the Raven Review scoring rubric before they begin work on their review. Students should record their final review on the Raven Review worksheet. Provide students with an opportunity to present their reviews orally if time allows, and post them on a class Web site if possible.

**Student Directions:**

Edgar Allan Poe's poetry can make you shiver, tingle, and shriek. He does this through the words he uses to evoke amazing images. In this activity you will explore the power of Poe's poetry and write a review of his poem *The Raven*.

**The Students will:**

Students will be able to locate vocabulary in context, define new vocabulary, and use new vocabulary in writing a review of a poem.

**The Students will:**

Students will summarize and discuss the poem "The Raven".

**Voluntary State Curriculum****1.0 General Reading Process**

Vocabulary Students will use a variety of strategies and opportunities to understand word meaning and to increase vocabulary

Grade 6, 7 and 8

**D. Vocabulary**

1. Develop and apply vocabulary through exposure to a variety of texts

a. Acquire new vocabulary through listening to, independently reading, and discussing a variety of literary and informational texts

b. Discuss words and word meanings daily as they are encountered in texts, instruction, and conversation

3. Understand, acquire, and use new vocabulary

c. Use resources to confirm definitions and gather further information about words

Assessment Limits:

→ Electronic and/or print dictionaries

→ Thesauruses

→ Other grade-appropriate resources

d. Use new vocabulary in speaking and writing to gain and extend content knowledge and clarify expression

**3.0 Comprehension of Literary Texts**

Students will read, comprehend, interpret, analyze, and evaluate literary texts.

Grades 6, 7 and 8

4. Analyze elements of poetry to facilitate understanding and interpretation
- b. Analyze language and structural features to determine meaning

Assessment Limits:

- a. Specific meaning of words, lines, and/or stanzas
- b. Contribution of lines and stanza to meaning
- c. Speaker as distinguished from the poet

Grade 6

6. Determine important ideas and messages in literary texts
- d. Summarize or paraphrase

**Directions:** Use the Annotated Poe interactive link below to research the poem *The Raven*. Complete your Raven Vocabulary Review and Raven Review Research worksheets as you explore the interactive.

**Annotated Poe** This interactive gives you options to help you interpret the poem *The Raven*.

<http://knowingpoe.thinkport.org/writer/annotated.asp>

Can you find and explain new vocabulary words as you read "The Raven?" What are the main points of the poem?

1. Select the *What Does It Mean* tab at the top of the Annotated Poe interactive.
2. Refer to your **Raven Vocabulary Review** worksheet for a list of vocabulary words to define. As you use the interactive to read the poem, locate and click on the highlighted vocabulary.
3. Define and draw images for the new vocabulary words. Make sure your pictures help you understand the new words you are learning and that they are tied to the poem *The Raven*.

Raven Vocabulary Review worksheet ([View](#))

4. Select the *What Does It Mean* and *What Does it Mean* tabs at the top of the Annotated Poe interactive.

5. Find the answers to the questions on the **Raven Review Worksheet** by clicking on highlighted portions in the interactive.

**Directions:** Use the online version of the Baltimore Sun newspaper to see what a review of a book looks like. Some reviews require free registration to the online newspaper.

### Baltimore Sun Book Reviews

This online section of the Baltimore Sun newspaper features reviews of books.

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/features/booksmags/>

What does a book review look like?

Raven Review Research ([View](#))

### Raven Review Checklist:

- A good review expresses the author's reaction to a poem. On your **Raven Review Research** worksheet you chose a point of view from which to write your review. Include specific examples of what you liked and disliked, and the reasons why in the review.
- Summarize the main points of the poem *The Raven*. Use the answers from your **Raven Review Research** worksheet when summarizing the poem.
- In your review of *The Raven* use some of the new vocabulary you have learned. Make sure your review shows an understanding of the meaning of the vocabulary and that it makes sense. Try to think about why Poe chose the words he did as he crafted his poem and how the poem made you feel. One purpose of the review is to get you to think about the words Poe used as he wrote. As you understand the meanings of the words, you are able to think more deeply about the ideas he was trying to express. Your review helps you interpret and express your response to *The Raven*.

**Directions:** Write a review of the poem *The Raven* summarizing the poem for a person who has not read it. Write from your chosen point of view. Incorporate vocabulary words that you have learned. Refer to the Raven Review Checklist and the Raven Review Scoring Rubric before you begin work on your review. Write your final review on the Raven Review worksheet below.

Raven Review worksheet [\(View\)](#)

**Directions:** To evaluate the quality of your review, use the Raven Review Scoring Rubric.

Raven Review Scoring Rubric [\(View\)](#)

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Activity Signature

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