



The Fall of the House of Usher and Other Stories

Book key

1–2 Open answers

3 a whirlpool b chimney c spring d razor
e orang-utan f rainbow g nail h crack
i drawer j barrels

4 a dark, silent b flat, gray c melancholy, dark
d strange e sick f death g dark
h heavy with sadness i thin, wild; large, wet; pale
j strange and not of this earth
k small and completely dark
l low, heavy, mysterious m crazy, old
n loud, terrible o full, blood-red

5 a The storyteller goes to the House of Usher to see his old friend, Roderick Usher.
b Madeline does not notice the storyteller or her brother. The storyteller feels afraid. Roderick cries.
c The two men place her body in a tomb under the house. Now, strangely, she seems more alive.
d The two men hear strange noises. Madeline opens the door and walks in.
e The sister and brother both die.
f The House of Usher falls in pieces to the ground and is destroyed.

6–8 Open answers

9 a 7 b 2 c 5 d 8 e 6 f 3 g 1 h 4

10 a It changes from black to white in less than a day because he was very scared.
b They fall away in a dangerous straight wall of black shining rock.
c These waves move everywhere, quickly and angrily, sometimes against the wind.
d These walls seem mysterious because they are smooth, black water.
e The whirlpool makes a screaming sound.
f No one sees the terrible storm coming. It surprises and scares everyone.
g The watch stops, probably because of the terrible storm.
h The rainbow seems like a bridge to death, to the next world.

11–12 Open answers

13 a ii b i c ii d ii e i f i

14 Possible answers:

- a It is easy for Montresor to trick Fortunato.
- b Fortunato wants to taste the Amontillado, so he follows Montresor into the cave.
- c Fortunato does not have good judgement on this day because he is drunk.
- d Fortunato wants to taste the Amontillado before Luchesi can taste it.
- e No one sees Montresor and Fortunato go into Montresor's cave.
- f The wine makes Fortunato more drunk. He forgets his cough and thinks only about the Amontillado.
- g Montresor ties Fortunato to these rings.
- h Montresor has planned Fortunato's punishment carefully. He uses the tools and stones to build a wall.

15 Open answers

- 16 a Spanish, French
b Italian
c French, French
d German, French
e English, French
f Russian, French

17 a P b D c D d P e D f D g D h P
i D

- 18 a Dupin b Mademoiselle L'Espanaye
c Madame L'Espanaye d the sailor
e the orang-utan f the Chief of Police

- 19 a One of the nails is broken. Nobody will know if the window was opened.
b A man cannot reach the window from the pipe, but an animal can.
c It is unusual that the murderer does not steal the gold.
d No ordinary criminal puts a body up a chimney. The murderer was unusual and very strong.
e The hair in Madame L'Espanaye's hand is not from a person.
f The language of the high voice is not known.
g These are words in French and are words of surprise and fear. The speaker *saw* the murders.
h It is the kind of band that sailors use.

20 Open answers

21 a X b ✓ c ✓ d X e ✓ f X g ✓ h ✓

22–33 Open answers



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Discussion activities key

- 1 He was from Boston, Massachusetts. When he was a child his parents died and he was adopted by John Allan and his wife. Allan was angry with Edgar because he lost a lot of money on card games and horse races. Poe became a soldier and worked for a newspaper. Poe was not a happy man.
- 2–3 Open answers
- 4 Roderick owned the house of Usher. He was very sick in mind and body. He disliked being with other people. He loved art and music. He was very rich and gave money to poorer people. He had a very private life. He was good-looking when he was a boy, but now he had thin, wild hair. His eyes were large and wet and his face was pale. He had a sister called Madeline. He could only eat simple foods and wear soft clothes.
- 5–6 Open answers
- 7 Suggested answers: On page 13, the people may be interested or afraid. On page 15, the people are probably afraid. The man has changed because he is thinner and he has white hair. He looks much older.
- 8 The fishermen got into the dangerous situation because there was a storm. The younger brother was knocked into the water by the wind. Open answers.
- 9 Open answers
- 10 Suggested answers: One man is building a wall. The other man is afraid and he is screaming. This isn't a prison.
- 11–13 Open answers
- 14 It happened about 3 o'clock in the morning. When the neighbors entered the house, they heard two loud voices at the top of the house. The door to the room where the murders happened was locked. The room was in disorder. The furniture was broken. There was a bloody razor and gray hair in the room. There was also a bag of gold and many expensive things. A dead body was in the chimney. It was still warm. Another dead body was in the yard. It was covered in blood and the neck was badly cut. The bodies were of a mother and her daughter. Neighbors said that nobody visited the house very often. One of the voices was probably a Frenchman. The other voice was high, but nobody knew what language it was.
- 15 Open answers
- 16 The police normally ask for personal information and the exact details of what happened during the crime.
- 17–20 Open answers

Activity worksheets key

- 1 a poor > rich
b light > dark
c ugly > good-looking
d school > house
e behind > under
f young > old
g silver > gold
h dead > alive
- 2 a ✓ b ✗ c ✗ d ✓ e ✓ f ✗ g ✓ h ✓
- 3 a 1 b 3 c 2
- 4 a highest
b coast
c rough
d owned
e shining
f fear
g attacked
h plan
- 5 a ✗ b ✓ c ✓ d ✓ e ✗ f ✗ g ✓ h ✓
- 6 a He had a weakness for wine.
b There was a big party.
c In the underground caves.
d Because they were under a river.
e A smaller cave.
f A wall.
g Montresor.
h Fifty years.
- 7 a enjoys using his mind.
b on their chests.
c they heard terrible screams.
d bags of gold.
e her head fell off.
f high and very strange.
g to keep the sailor in his house.
h he found a hair-band.
- 8 bought – sold
gladly – unhappily
loud – quiet
pick up – put down
continued – stopped
rough – smooth
high – low
amusing – boring
exit – entrance
thick – thin
- 9 a 3 b 7 c 4 d 1 e 6 f 5 g 8 h 2



The Fall of the House of Usher and Other Stories

- 10 a opinion
b apartments
c guessed
d dangerous
e description
f criminal
g address
h handwriting
- 11 a Roderick Usher
b Madeline Usher
c A fisherman

Progress test key

- 1 a 2
b 2
c 3
d 1
e 2
f 3
g 2
- 2 a ✓
b ✓
c ✓
d ✗
e ✓
f ✗
g ✗
h ✓
i ✓
j ✗

- 3 a 2
b 5
c 3
d 1
e 8
f 7
g 4
h 6
- 4 a Madame L'Esplanaye
b Dupin
c Isidore Muset
d Adolphe Le Bon
e Camile L'Esplanaye
f Pauline Duborg
g Jules Mignaud
h Henri Duval
i Pierre Moreau
j The writer
- 5 a simple
b knew
c many
d happy
e knife
f second