

Name _____ Date _____ Per _____

Annotating Text—Paragraphs 2 – 6: for this activity, identify key literary devices/terms and figurative language as well as respond to the questions. As you complete the worksheet, you will also want to place the annotations on your TTH Text in preparation for the final test.

Paragraph #2

It is impossible to say how first the idea entered my brain; but once conceived, *it haunted me day and night*. 1. Hyperbole (fig. lang.) Object there was none. Passion there was none. I loved the old man. He had never wronged me. He had never given me insult. For his gold I had no desire. I think it was his eye! yes, it was this! He had the eye of a *vulture—a pale blue eye, with a film over it*. 2. **What does a vulture symbolize?** _____ 3. **What happens if you place a film over the eye?** _____ 4. **Would you say that the old man has good eyesight?** Yes or No

Whenever *it* fell upon me, 5. **What is the narrator referring to with “it”?** _____

my blood ran cold; 6. _____ (**fig. lang.**) and so by degrees—very gradually—I made up my mind to take the life of the old man, and thus rid myself of the eye forever.

7. **What literary device is used if the narrator says that he/she loves the old man yet the narrator must kill the old man?** _____ 8. **Is the narrator suggesting that it was a premeditated murder? How so?** _____

Paragraph #3

Now this is the point. You fancy me *mad*. 9. **What definition is the narrator using here for the word “mad”?** _____

Madmen know nothing. But you should have seen me. You should have seen how wisely I proceeded—*with what caution— with what foresight—with what dissimulation* 10. _____

_____ (**fig. lang.**). I went to work! *I was never kinder to the old man than during the whole week before I killed him*. 11. _____ (fig. lang.) And every night, about midnight,

I turned the latch of his door and opened it—oh so gently! And then, when I had made an opening sufficient for my head, I put in a *dark lantern*, 12. _____ (**fig. lang. one word**) all closed, closed, that no light shone out, and then I thrust in my head. *Oh, you would have laughed*

13. **Why would the narrator claim that the reader/audience/listener would laugh?** _____

to see how cunningly I thrust it in! I moved it slowly—very, very slowly, so that I might not disturb the old man’s sleep. It took me an hour to place my whole head within the opening so far that I could see him as he lay upon his bed. Ha! would a madman have been so wise as this?

14. Is the narrator bragging? Yes or No

And then, when my head was well in the room, I undid the lantern *cautiously—oh, so cautiously—cautiously* 15. _____ (fig. lang.) (for the hinges creaked) 16. _____

(fig. lang.) —I undid it just so much that a single thin ray fell upon the vulture eye. And this I did for seven long nights—every night just at midnight—but I found the eye always closed; and so it was impossible to do the work; for it was not the old man who vexed me, but his Evil Eye.

17. Why is Evil Eye capitalized? What does it suggest?

And every morning, when the day broke, I went boldly into the chamber, and spoke courageously to him, calling him by name in a hearty tone, and inquiring how he has passed the night. So you see he would have been a very profound old man, indeed, to suspect that every night, just at twelve, I looked in upon him while he slept.

18. How is the narrator different in daylight? Why do you suppose there is a change?

Paragraph #4

Upon the eighth night I was more than usually cautious in opening the door. A watch's minute hand moves more quickly than did mine. Never before that night had I felt the extent of my own powers—of my sagacity. I could scarcely contain my feelings of triumph. To think that there I was, opening the door, little by little, and he not even to dream of my secret deeds or thoughts. I fairly *chuckled*

19. _____ (fig. lang.) at the idea; and perhaps he heard me; for he moved on the bed suddenly, as if startled. Now you may think that I drew back—but no. *His room was as black as pitch*

20. _____ (fig. lang.) with the thick darkness, (*for the shutters were close fastened, through fear of robbers,*) 21. _____ (type of irony) so I knew that he could not see the opening of the door, and I kept pushing it on steadily, steadily.

Paragraph #5

I had my head in, and was about to open the lantern, when my thumb slipped upon the tin fastening, and the old man sprang up in bed, crying out—“Who’s there?”

Paragraph #6

I kept quite still and said nothing. *For a whole hour I did not move a muscle,* 22. _____ (fig. lang.) and in the meantime I did not hear him lie down. He was still sitting up in the bed listening;—just as I have done, night after night, hearkening to the death watches in the wall.

23. Look up “death watches.” What are they? _____