

1. From which point of view is the story told?
2. In paragraph 1, what does the word “mad” mean?
3. How did the old man treat the narrator?
4. For what specific reason does the narrator decide to kill the old man?
5. Find an example of irony (and dark humor) in paragraph 3.
6. Describe the narrator’s nightly routine for the first 7 nights.
7. When the narrator realizes that the old man actually hears him, for how long does he stand silently?
8. What does the “enveloped” mean in this sentence: “Death, in approaching him had stalked with his black shadow before him, and enveloped the victim.”?
9. When the narrator turned on the lantern on the 8th night, what did the light shine upon?
10. How did the narrator feel when the light shone upon the answer to question 9?
11. What was the “new anxiety” felt by the narrator?
12. Find a quote that shows *specifically* how the narrator knows the old man is dead.
13. Why does the narrator think he is wise?
14. Explain Poe’s dark humor in the following sentence:
“Cleverly, so cunningly, that no human eye --- not even his --- could have detected any thing wrong.”
15. Who shows up at the narrator’s house? Why are they there?
16. How does he explain the old man’s absence?
17. What does “reposed” mean in this sentence: “I myself...placed my own seat upon the very spot beneath which reposed the corpse of the victim.”?
18. The narrator welcomes the new visitors at first. How do his feelings for them change in the last few paragraphs?
19. What is the simile used to describe the sound loud the narrator hears (or thinks he hears) in the last few paragraphs?
20. How does the narrator “give himself away”?
21. What is the sound that the narrator hears (or thinks he hears)?
22. Go back and read the first paragraph of the story. What do you think the narrator means by “disease”?