

# Poes Short Stories: Notes

## The Cask of Amontillado

By Edgar Allan Poe

### Concepts Explored this Story:

irony, dramatic irony, situational irony, verbal irony, plot, exposition, narrative hook, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution, protagonist, antagonist, setting, conflict, external conflict, internal conflict,

### Assignments:

**1. Unscramble the plot exercise** — Somebody dropped the plot all over the place, and now "The Cask of Amontillado" is all mixed up. Using what is given, put this plot back together again — **10 points (AA)**.

**2. Is it Ironic or isn't it?** — Using Alanis Morissette's *Ironic* determine what is and what is not ironic in her song. Use the specific vocabulary such as dramatic irony, verbal irony, and situational irony in your explanations. Use the white space at the right side of the song lyrics for your explanations and notes.

**3. Irony in "The Cask of Amontillado"** — Explain each instance of irony from the short story. Be sure to use words like verbal irony, dramatic irony and situational irony in your explanations — **10 points (AA)**.

**4. Creating a Single Effect** — Poe believed that a good short story should produce a single effect. Most readers would agree that the effect produced in "The Cask of Amontillado" is the feeling of horror. Your task is to write a descriptive paragraph that will give your reader a single strong impression. For example, suppose you are describing your room. Do you want to give an impression of messiness, peacefulness, tidiness, or coziness? If describing a room does not appeal to you, try one of these scenes:

#### Scene

A severe storm  
A crowd  
A close game  
A dark and empty house

#### Single Effect

discomfort or misery  
confusion  
excitement  
fear

### Requirements for the Single Effect Assignment:

1. Your title is simple the single effect you are trying to achieve.
2. You must use and underline at least two noun phrases as free modifiers.
3. You must use and circle at least three present participle phrases as free modifiers.
4. You must use and box in at least two past participle phrases as free modifiers.
5. Your descriptive scene must be at least 200 words — **20 points (AAA)**.

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Sketches) or collections of tales (Poe's Tales of the Grotesque and Arabesque, Herman. Edgar Allan Poe's seven tips for writing stories and poems refrain a repeated key-note in word, phrase, or image that sustains the mood. As Benjamin F Fisher notes, this way of reading them "finds excellent symbols Poe's genius in William Wilson is to tell the story not of a good.

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