

NAME:

Questions for "The Cask of Amontillado"

1. How does Montresor get Fortunato to come with him to his vaults? What is Montresor's motive for leading Fortunato there?
2. What kind of relationship does Montresor have with the people who take care of his home? What does this reveal about him?
3. Describe the conversation between Montresor and Fortunato as they walk in the catacombs. What is **ironic** about Montresor's concern for Fortunato's health?
4. Describe Fortunato's state of mind as Montresor walls in the entrance to the niche. Include details from the story in your answer.

5. How does Montresor feel about what he has done? In your response, consider why he might be telling the story after so many years?
6. Would the story be better or worse if you knew what Fortunato did or said to make Montresor take such terrible revenge? Explain.
7. In your opinion, why did Poe choose to write from the first-person point of view, describing only Montresor's thoughts and not Fortunato's?
8. Did you enjoy this story? Why do you think many people enjoy being frightened by stories, books, and movies?

## **Mood**

Mood is the feeling or atmosphere that an author creates in a literary work. The mood can suggest an emotion, such as fear or joy; it can also suggest the quality of a setting, such as gloom or eeriness. For example, if an author described a landscape as "peaceful" or "still," a quiet, restful mood would have been created.

1. Describe the mood, or atmosphere, that Poe creates in this story. In what way does the mood contribute to the story's suspense?
2. How does Poe create the mood? Consider his word choice and think about what you are led to see and hear in your imagination.
3. What impact does the Carnival setting have on the mood of this story?