**Lesson Plan #3**

**“Masque of the Red Death”**

**Romanticism and Gothic Elements**

**Exemplified in Edgar Allen Poe’s**

**“The Masque of Red Death” and “Fall of the House of Usher”**

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**English III 11th Grade**

This is an 11th grade class with 25 students. The class is racially diverse with 30% of the class being African American and 70% of the class being Caucasian. There is also great socio-economic diversity. The class consists of 13 boys and 12 girls. This lesson will take one 55 minute class.

1. **Objectives**
2. Summarize the plots of “The Masque of the Red Death.” (Cognitive; Show-Me Standards CA 2; G 1.5)
3. Recognize the Gothic elements in “The Masque of the Red Death.” (Cognitive; Show-Me Standards CA 2, 6; G 1.5, 2.4)
4. Discuss symbolism, theme, and other stylistic elements of “The Masque of the Red Death” as a class. (Affective; Show-Me Standards CA 2, 6; G 1.5, 2.3, 2.4, 4.1)
5. **Instructional Components**

Initiatory Activity

Students will take the first five or ten minutes to finish their group papers on Poe. As groups finish, they will turn in their paper to the teacher, review for the quiz, and wait quietly for the other groups to finish.

1. The students will complete a short quiz of the plot of “The Masque of Red Death,” and the teacher will go over the answers.
2. Students will work in groups of five assigned by the teacher to discuss “The Masque of Red Death” by filling out a handout on a specific element. Each group will have one element, and they will have fifteen to twenty minutes to discuss. The elements are:
3. Significance of the color imagery
4. Gothic elements of the setting
5. Symbolism
6. Gothic elements of the narrator
7. Theme
8. Each group will informally present to the class the element the students discussed in groups.
9. The teacher will clarify and emphasize major points brought up in discussion.
10. The teacher will explain the writing assignment that will be due on exam day. The students will write original two-paged fiction stories incorporating Gothic themes and stylistic elements.
11. Assignment: The students will read “The Fall of the House of Usher” on page 473 and complete the worksheet. Students will also work on their Gothic short story.
12. **Materials**
13. Teacher’s Materials
14. *The Language of Literature: American Literature,* Teacher’s Edition, McDougal Littell
15. “The Masque of the Red Death” Quiz
16. Student Materials
17. *The Language of Literature: American Literature,* McDougal Littell
18. Pens
19. Paper
20. binder