

The Man Who Was Poe

Reading Guide

Please read *The Man Who Was Poe* by Avi (Yes, he has no last name) over the summer and complete the reading guide. The book can be purchased through a bookstore (it may be at a library, but I doubt there will be many copies). Feel free to buy a used copy online to save a little on the price.

The Reading Guide

It's due the second day of school. The boxes below each question are designed to give you a sense of how much to write.

THE LARGEST BOXES:	3-5 SENTENCES
MEDIUM SIZE BOXES:	2-3 SENTENCES
SMALLER BOXES:	1 SENTENCE OR PHRASE
SMALLEST BOXES:	A FEW WORDS

Please be specific and accurate in your answers. Use details.

Remember **there will also be a large test** over the book within a few days after the beginning of school.

Intro:

This is not a true story...as far as we know, though it does weave in true elements of the life of a very strange, sometimes frightening, real-life personality: writer Edgar Allen Poe. You don't need to know anything about him to enjoy this story, though reading a short bio online or in a book might help you understand how his true-to-life personality plays into the pages of this story.

MAJOR SUSPECTS, WITNESSES, AND VICTIMS

SIS

Real name:

What happened to her?

Status at end of story:

AUNTY PRU

Reason for being in America:

Status at end of story: Explain how this occurred.

EDMUND'S MOTHER/MUM

Full Name:

Status at end of story:

AUGUSTE DUPIN

Real name:

Occupation:

Major addiction:

Reason for being in Providence, Rhode Island:

Explain his indifference to Edmond's plight:

Auguste Dupin continued:
Status at end of story:

THROCK

Occupation:

Explain the meaning of this note and how it relates to Throck: "Meddle at your peril!"

MAN WITH WHITE HAIR

Real name:

First appearance in the story: Explain the reason for his actions.

Connection to Mr. Ratchett:

What is the significance of his knowledge of "The Gold Bug" story?

What does he attempt to do to Edmond at the wharf?

Status at end of story:

MR. RACHETT

Real name:

Connection to Edmund's mum:

Connection to Edmund and sister:

What is his interest in Helen Whitman?

Why does he suddenly leave Mrs. Whitman's house after talking to Dupin?

Why does he need money?

Why does he need a divorce?

Status at end of story:

MAJOR EVENTS UNDER INVESTIGATION

MISSING CHILD (SIS)

How was she taken from a locked room?

THE BANK ROBBERY.

Who was responsible for it?

How was it possible to get the gold from the locked vault?

What was the motive for the robbery?

GRAVEYARD

What is the truth about the ghost in the graveyard?

ABANDONED COAT

Why does Ratchett leave his coat at the clothing store?

STREET ATTACK

Who attacks Dupin and Edmond on the street with a pistol?

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Explain the significance of the following.

THE BUTTONS

THE MATTRESS IN THE MAUSOLEUM

THE CORPSE FOUND IN THE WATER (WEARING A DRESS THAT DID NOT BELONG TO HER).

MISSING PORTRAIT OF EDMOND'S MUM AND AUNTY PRU

THE STRING FOUND IN THE VAULT

Explain the identity of the three underlined details. Note: “**MEET ME AT THE HOTEL. I HAVE MOVED GIRL AND GOLD. MUST LEAVE. SUNRISE AT SIX A.M.”**”

GIRL:

GOLD:

SUNRISE: