Edgar Allan Poe
Literary Heritage

Poe is best known for his poetry and short stories, particularly his tales of mystery and the macabre. He is widely regarded as a central figure of Romanticism in the United States and of American literature as a whole, and he was one of the country's earliest practitioners of the short story. Poe was also known as a writer of fiction and became one of the first American authors of the 19th century to become more popular in Europe than in the United States.

Edgar Allan Poe is the first great American literary critic. He is also known as the most musical of the 19-th century American poets.

Indeed, his poems do not give a picture of life. They were written only for the beauty of the words, harmony, melancholy, music and fantastic dreams.

Although he wrote few poems, they are among the best that America has produced. Some European critics even think that Poe is the greatest American poet.

His most popular and celebrated work, *The Raven,* tells the story of a scholar who encounters a raven that slowly drives him insane. People turn to this story because it offers a sense of suspense that is rarely captured by other works in the literary world.

Original and highly romantic as a poet, Edgar Allan Poe is also original and very interesting as a prose writer of a vivid imagination. He is best known for his fantastic and sometimes even terrifying short stories which are the first and certainly among the cleverest detective stories ever written.

The best known of these works include *"The Murders in the Rue Morgue"* *Вбивство на вулиці Морг* *"The Mystery of Marie Roget"* *«Таємниця Марі Роже» , and "The Purloined Letter"* *«Вкрадений лист».*

The artistic content of Poe's stories is by no means exhausted by pictures of horrors and physical suffering. Depicting various extreme situations and revealing the heroes' reactions to them, the writer touched on those areas of the human psyche that are currently being studied by science.

Poe was one of the most prolific, touching writers. What he wrote stings you into an emotional response, and you can feel his poems and stories, you can be there, in your mind, seeing what he put down on paper.

Answer the questions

1. What is Poe best known for?
2. Why do people turn to the poem *The Raven?*
3. What kind of stories did he write?
4. What does the writer depict in his stories?

Poe’s Short stories

"The Black Cat"	«Чорний кіт»
"The Cask of Amontillado"	«Барило амонтільядо»
"The Fall of the House of Usher"	Падіння будинку Ашерів
"The Gold-Bug"	Золотой жук
"The Masque of the Red Death"	«Маска Червоної смерті»
"The Murders in the Rue Morgue"	Вбивство на вулиці Морг
"The Pit and the Pendulum"	«Колодязь і маятник»
"The Purloined Letter"	«Вкрадений лист»