

Summer Assignment on

The short stories of Edgar Allan Poe

AP Language and Composition

*Please read all instructions **carefully**; the completed assignment on **one** of the given Poe stories is **DUE** Tuesday, July 29th, 2025 (the first **full** week of school). This assignment is **mandatory** for all AP Lang and Comp students.

[Any questions regarding the assignment can be directed to lcook@bfcsaz.com]

Required Texts: **all by Edgar Allan Poe**

"The Murders in the Rue Morgue" (1841)

"The Purloined Letter" (1845)

The Black Cat" (1845)

SCAN —>
to access pdf
versions of texts
on Mrs. Cook's
Website



For **each** story, you are encouraged to do the following:

- Read and annotate the entire text, focusing **specifically** on Poe's overall **message/meaning** conveyed in the story and the **rhetorical choices*** he makes in order to convey that message/meaning to his readers.

***rhetoric** is the art of effective or persuasive speaking/writing, especially the use of figures of speech and other writing techniques. **THINK the power of words!**

***rhetorical choices** refer to literally ANYTHING the author does in the text to create/convey meaning; these can be specific literary/figurative devices, such as **repetition, hyperbole, metaphor, simile, allusion, etc.** but they do not need to be a specific literary device.

Final **Assignment** to be submitted in class on **Tuesday, July 29th**:

- Choose **one** of the three stories to complete either a **poster** or Google slide **presentation** in which you include the following information:
 - Title and author of the story
 - Author's overall **message** conveyed in the story
 - A minimum of **4** rhetorical choices made throughout the story in order to convey the overall message; include specific textual evidence for each choice and clearly explain the **effect** of each choice.
 - Poster/presentation must be visually appealing: clear, legible font(s) and well chosen organization, text colors, backgrounds, and images (when appropriate).

*If submitting a Google slide **presentation**, it must be sent to lcook@bfcsaz.com before the **start** of class on Tuesday, **July 29th, 2025**.