

Thrill of Dread Answer Key

1. Tone Words

- *Answer:* "sad," "uncertain," "terrors."

2. Tone Created

- *Answer:* The tone is uneasy and fearful. The narrator's nervous state is revealed through words suggesting sadness, uncertainty, and dread.

3. Mood for Reader

- *Answer:* The mood is suspenseful and eerie. Readers feel the same nervous anticipation that grips the narrator.
- *Teacher Note:* Accept synonyms like "foreboding," "haunting," or "creepy" if explained well.

4. Sound Devices

- *Answer:* Poe's alliteration ("silken, sad, uncertain"), rhythm, and repetition ("visitor entreating...") intensify the tension and create a hypnotic, unsettling effect.

5. One-Word Atmosphere

- *Answer:* "Foreboding."
- *Explanation:* The combination of fearful tone words and ominous repetition creates a sense that something dreadful is about to happen.

Teacher Notes

- Distinguish for students: **Tone = Poe's attitude (uneasy, fearful)** vs. **Mood = Reader's feeling (suspense, dread)**.
- Point out how **Poe layers language + sound devices** to produce a chilling atmosphere.
- Extension: Have students compare this stanza's tone and mood to another stanza later in the poem when the raven speaks, noting how both evolve.