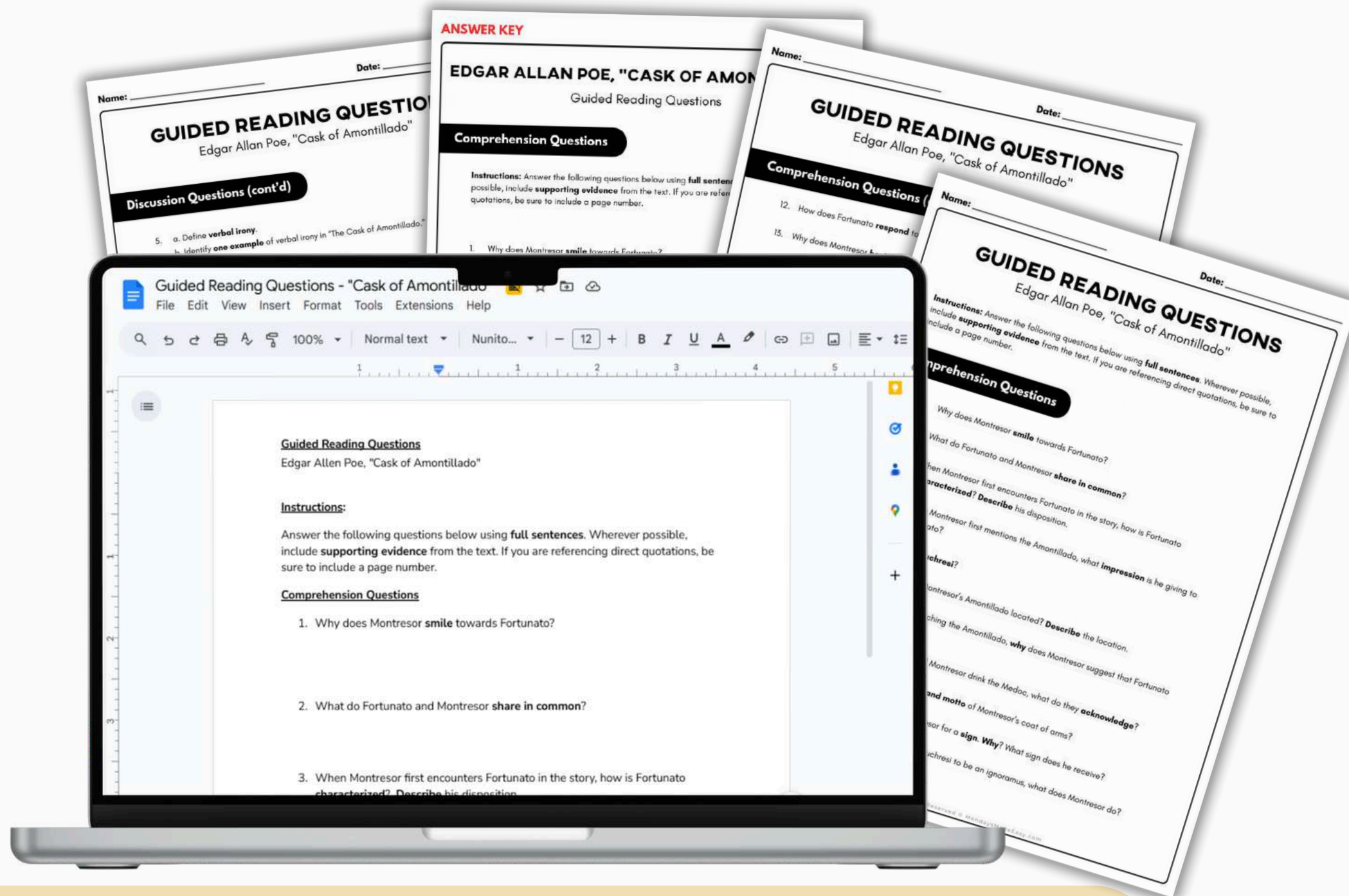


Reading Questions for “The Cask of Amontillado”

Help students gain a deeper understanding of Edgar Allan Poe’s “The Cask of Amontillado” with these comprehension questions and discussion prompts!



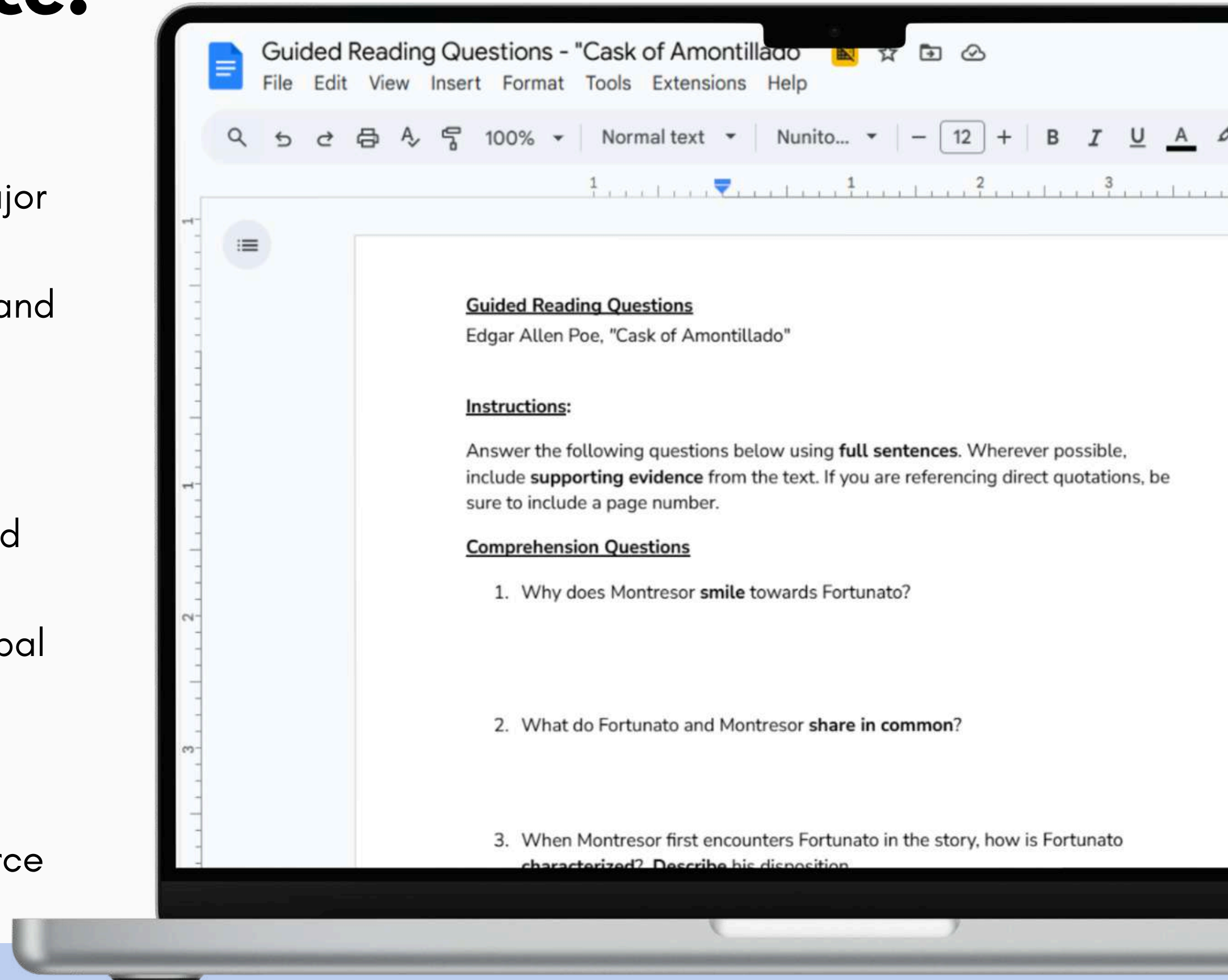
- Engage students with critical thinking questions on themes, characterization, and literary devices in “The Cask of Amontillado.”
- Support diverse learning environments with digital and print formats for classroom or online use.
- Save time with a detailed answer key and teacher instructions for effective discussions and text analysis.

These reading questions will facilitate a guided reading of this classic short story!

PURCHASE HERE

Included with this resource:

- ✔ **7 Comprehension Questions** for “The Cask of Amontillado” Short Story
 - Explore key relationships and summarize major plot events
 - Analyze imagery, characterization, setting, and character motivations
- ✔ **8 Discussion Questions** for “The Cask of Amontillado” Short Story
 - Analysis of setting, irony, foreshadowing, and characterization
 - Explore literary devices including mood, verbal irony, and aphorism
- ✔ **Detailed Answer Keys**
- ✔ **Teacher Instructions** for how to use this resource



Includes Digital Version for Google Drive®

Comprehension Questions and Discussion Prompts

Facilitate a guided reading of Edgar Allan Poe's classic short story, "The Cask of Amontillado"

Name: _____ Date: _____

GUIDED READING QUESTIONS

Edgar Allan Poe, "Cask of Amontillado"

Comprehension Questions (cont'd)

- How does Fortunato **respond** to the twist in Montresor's plan?
- Why does Montresor **hesitate**?
- What are Fortunato's **last words**?
- What did Fortunato do to deserve **retribution**?

Discussion Questions

- When Montresor and Fortunato first encounter one another in the story, we are given a description of Fortunato's appearance. Shortly after, Montresor changes his clothing to enter the vaults. **Compare and contrast** their physical appearances.
- a. Define foreshadowing.
b. Identify three examples of foreshadowing in "The Cask of Amontillado." Explain why they qualify as foreshadowing.
- Describe the **mood** of the short story. **Explain** the elements that contribute to this mood.
- a. Define **aphorism**.
b. Montresor delivers the following aphorism: "A wrong is unredressed when retribution overtakes its redressor. It is equally unredressed when the avenger fails to make himself felt as such to him who has done the wrong." What does Montresor mean by this statement?

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Name: _____ Date: _____

GUIDED READING QUESTIONS

Edgar Allan Poe, "Cask of Amontillado"

Comprehension Questions (cont'd)

- Define **verbal irony**.
- Identify **one example** of verbal irony in "The Cask of Amontillado."
- What **purpose** does alcohol serve in this story?
- In the first line of the story, Montresor states that "a thousand injuries of Fortunato I have borne as best I could." What is the **significance** of this statement?
- Montresor insists that Fortunato is deserving of **retribution**. Why do you think he chooses to take matters into his own hands instead of **appealing to the legal system**?
- Consider the **verb tense** in which the story is written. Why might this be significant?

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Name: _____ Date: _____

EDGAR ALLAN POE, "CASK OF AMONTILLADO"

Guided Reading Questions

Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions below using **full sentences**. Include **supporting evidence** from the text. If you are referencing a page number, be sure to include a page number.

- Why does Montresor **smile** towards Fortunato?
- Why does Montresor **smile** towards Fortunato?
Montresor smiles towards Fortunato because he has devised a plan to kill him. He smiles now at "the thought of his immolation" (3). Fortunato does not doubt his "good will" (3).
- What do Fortunato and Montresor **share in common**?
Both men are wine connoisseurs: "In the matter of old wine, our respect I did not differ from him materially: I was skillful myself, and bought largely whenever I could" (3).
- When Montresor first encounters Fortunato in the story, how is Fortunato **characterized**? **Describe** his disposition.
- When Montresor first mentions the Amontillado, what **impression** is he giving to Fortunato?
Fortunato is drunk. He is also dressed foolishly with a "conical cap and bells" (3-4). Fortunato greets Montresor with "warmth" because he is intoxicated. Fortunato is the "clown" of the party.
- Who is **Luchresi**?
- Where** is Montresor's Amontillado located? **Describe** the location.
- When approaching the Amontillado, **why** does Montresor suggest that Fortunato turn around?
- As Fortunato and Montresor drink the Medoc, what do they **acknowledge**?
- What is the **image and motto** of Montresor's coat of arms?
- Fortunato asks Montresor for a **sign**. **Why**? What sign does he receive?
- After Fortunato claims Luchresi to be an ignoramus, what does Montresor do?

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Name: _____ Date: _____

GUIDED READING QUESTIONS

Edgar Allan Poe, "Cask of Amontillado"

Instructions: Answer the following questions below using **full sentences**. Wherever possible, include **supporting evidence** from the text. If you are referencing direct quotations, be sure to include a page number.

Comprehension Questions

- Why does Montresor **smile** towards Fortunato?
- What do Fortunato and Montresor **share in common**?
- When Montresor first encounters Fortunato in the story, how is Fortunato **characterized**? **Describe** his disposition.
- When Montresor first mentions the Amontillado, what **impression** is he giving to Fortunato?
- Who is **Luchresi**?
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Analyze Key Literary Elements

Engage students in literary analysis through exploring various themes, characterization, and literary devices

1. When Montresor and Fortunato first encounter one another in the story, we are given a description of Fortunato's appearance. Shortly after, Montresor changes his clothing to enter the vaults. **Compare and contrast** their physical appearances.

2. a. Define foreshadowing.
b. Identify three examples of foreshadowing in "The Cask of Amontillado." Explain why they qualify as foreshadowing.

3. Describe the **mood** of the short story. **Explain** the elements that contribute to this mood.

- Explore literary devices such as **verbal irony**, **foreshadowing**, and **mood**.
- Examine the **setting** and think critically about **themes** presented in "The Cask of Amontillado."

Answer Keys Included!

See what others are saying...

Here's what teachers like you are loving about these **Reading Questions!**

 **Extremely Satisfied**

The activities in this unit included higher-level thinking questions and really took my students' comprehension to a new level. I highly recommend this resource!

– Jodie J.

 **Extremely Satisfied**

My students loved this resource after working on this story; they were both engaged and motivated to finish their work!

– Evan T.