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The Use of Symbolism in Edgar Allan Poe's The Raven

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Dedication

I would like to dedicate this modest work to those who gave their spirits and devoted their life to make me reach to this position.

To my mother and father for their support and patience.

This work is also dedicated to all my brothers and sisters.

In addition I dedicate this work to all my lovely friends without exception especially my best friend Redouane who encouraged me to the way it should be.

It is such a great pleasure to dedicate this humble work to all my teachers from primary school till university.

Acknowledgement

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Abstract

This study is an attempt to analyze the use of symbolism in Edgar Allan Poe's poem "The Raven" (1845). This work aims to shed the light on the symbols by identifying the various interpretations of the symbols by applying "Whitehead's theory".

This study is divided into four main chapters. The first chapter presents a general survey of symbolism and its major theories such as: Ferdinand De Saussure, Sigmund Freud, and Alfred Whitehead. The second chapter contains the literary analysis of Edgar Allan Poe: biography and style and a literary analysis about Poe's masterpiece "The Raven". The third chapter focuses mainly on the use of symbols and its interpretations in the poem. The fourth chapter is the pedagogical implications that provides methods on how this poem should be studied in literature.

The objective of the study is to show the motive behind the use of symbols in this work "The Raven".

Key words: Symbols, meaning, Symbolism, Gothic fiction

هذه الدراسة هي محاولة لتحليل إستعمال الرمزية في قصيدة الكاتب الأمريكي إدغار آلان بو "The Raven" (الغراب) 1845. هذه الدراسة تهدف إلى تسليط الضوء على الرموز المستعملة في القصيدة وذلك بمعرفة المعنى الحقيقي خلف الرموز عبر تطبيق نظرية وايتهاد.

هذا البحث مقسم إلى أربعة فصول رئيسية. يقدم الفصل الأول فكرة عامة حول الرمزية وأهم نظرياتها مثل: نظرية فرديناند دو سوسور, سيغموند فرويد و ألفريد وايتهاد. أما الفصل الثاني فيحمل الدراسة النقدية لإدغار آلان بو بالتطرق إلى حياة الكاتب وأسلوبه مع الأخذ بعين الإعتبار الدراسة النقدية لرائعة بو (الغراب). بالنسبة للفصل الثالث فيركز بصفة خاصة على إستعمال الرمزية وترجمتها في القصيدة. أما الفصل الرابع فيقتراح طرقاً وأساليب حول كيفية تدريس هذه القصيدة في الأدب.

الكلمات المفتاحية : الرموز ، المعنى ، الرمزية ، فن الرعب

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General Introduction

General Introduction

During the 19th century the American literature was dominated by Romanticism. The gothic fiction deals with horror and madness which was derived from Romanticism.

The author has his or her own way to deliver the message via using figures of speech such as: Simile, Metaphor, understatement, symbolism, etc. These figures of speech have different effect due to their impact on the literary text and the reader.

Edgar Allan Poe is known primarily for his mastery of the gothic fiction. He is a professional artist in horror, besides he overuses symbolism in most of his works such as: *The Black cat* (1843), *The Tell Tale Heart* (1843), *The Raven* (1845), etc. in order to enhance the sense of discomfort and horror.

The present study attempts to identify the use of symbolism in "The Raven" (1845). The latter is considered a masterpiece of Edgar Allan Poe, because it is well known for its particular structure and its musicality (H. Alkhatib, 2011). In this work, Poe attempted to make the poem having a melancholy mood by symbolizing the raven to describe the tough situation of the lost love.

The figurative language plays a significant role in the literary work. Symbolism is frequently used by many authors in order to make the reader understand and interpret the literary work. Since Edgar Allan Poe tends to use symbols in his writing, this study is an attempt to shed the light on the motives behind using such particular device. Symbolism is often used by writers to enhance their writing and it gives the text a deep meaning and richness.

Symbolism was used from the Shakespearian era for instance: (in *Macbeth* by Shakespeare). Shakespeare used both real and imaginary blood as a symbol of guilt for both *Macbeth* and *Lady Macbeth*. Some writers use symbols criticize society indirectly to avoid troubles that may fall upon the writer (Ibid).

Symbol "has a sensual form" and it conceals and at the same time shows the meaning that was given in particular time and place (Marketa Ševčíkova, 2008). The same symbol is understood differently in different cultures, countries, and eras. (Ibid).

Symbols have always been used by artist to "express their beliefs and preoccupations" of the world that has surrounded them (Marketa Ševčíková, 2008). Symbols allow writers to suggest different meanings that simple sentence could never convey.

Edgar Allan Poe is considered as a member of the Romantic Movement. This study is an attempt to take "The Raven" as a case of study to investigate the use of symbols.

The reader can not recognize the symbols that occurred in the text directly so that the reader may be enjoyed or entertained when he would interpret the meaning beyond the symbol itself.

The main objective is to make the reader recognize the importance of symbolism and the effect of using symbolism in literature.

This study adopts the analytical method because it explores the symbols in the poem in order to identify the effect behind using such literary device.

The reader of "*The Raven*" would realize that this poem conveys a deep suffering of the author to describe his tough situation via using symbols; so, the research in hand tries to provide an answer to the following question:

_ What are the effects of Poe's use of symbolism in "The Raven"?

To answer this question, the following hypotheses will be investigated

- 01- Edgar Allan Poe overuses symbols to give his work a meaning that goes beyond the symbol.
- 02- Symbolism is used in "*The Raven*" not just for Aesthetic reasons but rather to enhance the themes of despair and hopelessness.

Edgar Allan Poe has his unique way of writing via using different types of symbols in order to give the reader unexpected surprise and make strong impression on his mind.

This research is divided into four chapters: The Theoretical Part, The Historical Literary Background, The Practical Chapter, and The Pedagogical Implications. The Theoretical Part contains a general overview of figurative language dealing specifically with symbolism (definition, types, function, and symbolism in poetry). The Literary Background concerned with Poe's biography, style, philosophy, and the reason behind his works. The Practical

Chapter focuses on the implication of symbolism in the poem focuses on the use of symbolism in "*The Raven*". The Pedagogical Implications deals with the way this poem should be studied in literature.

Chapter One

Theoretical Part

Symbolism as a Figure of Speech

Introduction

The figurative language expresses ideas through language, and it gives the literary work a deep meaning to avoid the reader's boredom. The figures of speech are used by authors to convey meanings in a particular way in order to develop the meaning of the literary text.

Symbolism is one of the techniques used by authors to give the literary work different interpretations. Symbolism is not easily recognizable because in literature every symbol represents an important issue. Symbolism is used in literature to give the literary work a meaning that goes beyond the literal meaning.

Our language contains a great number of symbols that indicate certain meanings and it is accepted by the majority of critics for example:

- ✓ Black is used to represent death and evil.
- ✓ White stands for life and purity.
- ✓ Red symbolizes: blood, passion or danger.

This chapter is concerned with the figurative language in general and symbolism in specific by examining the main functions of symbolism in literature.

1.1. The Figurative Language

Broadly defined, a figure of speech is any way of saying something other than the ordinary way, and some rhetoricians have classified the figures of speech as many as 250 separate figures. (Arp & Perrine, A.P English Literature & Composition _Mrs. Rose Sound and Sense N D).

Figure of speech is a way of saying one thing with another meaning. The figurative language is the language that uses figures of speech, and its purpose is to add clarity and beauty to the literary work; the figurative language is the use of language in which the meaning differs completely from the actual literal meaning.

There are many figures of speech; every single figure of speech has its own unique function in literature.

Siswantoro (2002) divides figures of speech into nine kinds: Simile, metaphor, personification, apostrophe, hyperbola, antithesis, synecdoche, paradox and symbol.

1.2 Symbolism

The word symbol comes from the Greek word *Symbollon* which means (indication, identification sign) and originally it denotes a piece of skeleton, or some other object that serve for a personal identification. However, this expression has rather different denotations in present days. (Marketa Ševčíková, 2008).

Symbol is the use of object, word, person or image to represent an abstract meaning. "A symbol may be defined as something that means more than what is" (Perrine, 1974:628).

The symbol offers the possibility of transforming the word into something greater by giving a variety of meanings.

Symbols have a range of reference beyond itself, some symbols are "CONVENTIONAL" or "PUBLIC": thus "THE CROSS", THE RED, WHITE and BLUE and "THE GOOD SHEPHERD" are terms that refer to symbolic objects of the further significance is determinate within particular culture. (M.H ABRAMS,1999:311).

Conventional symbols have meanings that are widely recognized by society or culture, so that writers use conventional meanings. A literary or contextual symbol can be a setting, a character, an action, an object, a name or anything else in the work that maintains its literal meaning or significance while suggesting other meanings. (World Peace Symbol, Metaphor in Poetry symbol what does it mean).

Symbolism derived from the word symbol which means that one object is used to refer to something else. When the author objects to refer to something slightly different i.e. he is employing symbolism.

Symbolist Movement: Various poets of the Romantic period often used private symbols in their poetry, a symbolist prominent in the novels of Nathaniel Hawthorne and Herman Melville, the prose of Emerson and Thoreau, including the poetic theory and practice of Poe (M.H Abrams, 1999).

The French Symbolist School began with the writing of Charles Baudelaire (1851-1867) and Stéphane Mallarmé (1842-1867); Baudelaire's poems mainly focus on the themes of sex and death, besides he was inspired by the American writer Edgar Allan Poe (1809-1849) and he called him "twin soul".

At the end of the nineteenth century, symbolism lost its popularity in France (Habib, 2005).

The movement's popularity increased and spread all over Europe England, Russia even United States of America and South America.

Perrine (1974) asserts that the meaning of the literary symbol should be recognized according to its context; the reader should interpret the meaning of the symbol inside the text not outside it. The real meaning of the symbols is that symbols differ completely from their literal meaning.

Images, metaphor and symbols shade into each other and sometimes are difficult to distinguish. The reader may get lost while differentiating between symbols, metaphor and Allegory.

1.2.1 Metaphor as Symbolism

An image means only what is; the figurative term (metaphor) means something other than what it is, and symbol means what is and something more.

In literature the written word can have more than one meaning. The use of symbols and metaphor can be powerful tool to invoke the imagination and emotions of the reader.

To fully understand what is symbol and what is metaphor. The reader is supposed to differentiate between them. As mentioned earlier the symbol represents something invisible, whereas metaphor comes from the Greek word "metapherin" which means to transfer one meaning to another.

In order to understand the difference between symbol and metaphor in the literary work, the reader is supposed to look at both of them from multiple angles. So the reader always attempts to understand the meaning beyond the symbol by recognizing its value, because the value of symbol usually represents society and culture. The main difference between metaphor and symbol is that metaphor is direct substitution of one idea or object for another, while symbol is used to imply something else. Metaphors change their surface meanings but the inner meaning is unchanging. The surface meaning of symbol is less important than the inner meaning.

Metaphor and symbol can be included in many forms of art and literature. However, symbols are not used in rhetoric or discourse whereas metaphors are; Metaphors are used to provide an example that enhance the writer's point of view.

Symbols can be used in films, poems, and novels but only metaphors are used as narrative devices. (World Peace Symbol, Metaphor in Poetry symbol what does it mean).

The reader is supposed to take symbols at face value to understand what the author intended to mean, besides the reader should have knowledge and understanding in order to understand metaphor and symbols.

1.2.2 Symbolism and Allegory

Symbolism and Allegory are two main elements in poetry. Symbolism is the act of using a word, a place, a character or an object that means something beyond what is on literal meaning. However, Allegory does not work in that way; Allegory refers to a complex collection of symbols that work together in one coherent text. The Allegorical poem, story or play can be read either literally or as a symbolic statement about a political, spiritual or psychological truth. Allegory is the act of interpretation –way of understanding – rather genre. The act of interpreting a story as if each object in it had an allegory meaning called "Allegoresis".

Symbolism and Allegory add a deep meaning and interpretation to a poem, while on the surface meaning, a poem might simply be about appreciating nature or celebrating a particular person or idea, whereas reading a poem symbolically might reveal layers of meanings beyond the obvious surface levels. (Ann Trent, Element in Poetry, Definition of symbol).

1.2.3 Symbolism in Poetry

W.B Yeats explains symbols as follows:

"All sounds, all colors, all forms, either because of their preordained emerges or because of long association, evoke indefinable and yet precise emotions or as I prefer to think call down among us certain disembodied powers whose footsteps over our hearts we call emotions" (W.B Yeats, 1900, 33).

Symbolism in poetry is a sort shorthand used to convey a deep meaning more than the literal meaning. The poet usually attempts to choose the metrical verse of poetry which is based on his or her own experience. Symbols are used in poetry to avoid direct statements that would limit its scope.

The use of symbolism in poetry led to wide spread movement known as the symbolism movement in France, Russia and Belgium during the mid-19th century.

Symbolism in poetry could hide the true meaning of a poem when its intention is to address taboo subjects of the day.

Charles Baudelaire (1851- 1867) is considered one of the founders of the symbolism movement. He published his collection of poems "Les Fleurs Du Mal" or "The Flowers of Evil" in 1857, Paris, France.

Symbols in poetry are expressed in a wide variety of formats, from lyrical poems that can be sung or played on musical instruments until thought about it more deeply.

The genre also has to do with the traditional by focusing on the dark side of human nature, so that the use of symbolism is an attempt to reveal the aspects of human existence that are often carefully buried by all other expressions in human. (Ann Trent, Element in Poetry, Definition of symbol).

1.3 Theories of Symbolism

Symbolism differs in its definition according to the theorist's ideas and views about the term symbolism, so that different scholars and theorist devoted their time to provide theories of symbolism.

1.3.1 Ferdinand De Saussure's Theory

Ferdinand De Saussure is a Swiss linguist who led a study of semiotics in the nineteenth century, which is the study of signs, symbols and their meanings.

Saussure (1990) asserts that there are two main important elements of symbolism called "The signified" and "The signifier". The signified is the abstract concept in mind represented by the signifier which can be verbal or non-verbal, whereas the signifier is interpreted as the material of (physical) form of the sign; It is something which can be seen, heard, touched, smell, or tasted. (Todorvo, 1982).

For De Saussure symbols exist in our daily life that represents reality, and people use symbols via communication. Saussure states that language contains general ideas that are separated from reality; however symbols through language represents reality.

1.3.2 Frye's Theory of Symbolism

According to Frye a symbol is "Any unit of literary structure which can be isolated for critical attention" (Frye, 1957, 71). So Frye associated the appropriate kind of symbolism with each phase, therefore he defines the phase as the highest level of generality. The symbol used in the descriptive phase; as a motif in the literal phase; as image in the formal phase; as archetype in the mythical phase; and as monad in the anagogic phase.

Frye (1957) says about his *Anatomy of criticism* that the reader should take into account two major direction in the act of reading; the first direction is outward which means that the reader goes outside reading starting from the writers to the things they mean, the other direction is inward, in this direction the reader appreciates the meaning from the word itself; both of the cases deal with symbols. (Frye, 1957).

1.3.3 Sigmund Freud's Theory of Symbolism

Freud states two major theories: "The Freudian Narrow Position"(FN) and "The Freudian Broad" (FB).

The Freudian narrow position: the symbol is defined as super ordinate category. Thus, it is the view that "the symbolic" is universal because it is somehow fundamental to the thinking process, thus the symbol is very easy to recognize for instance: The Black colour represents sadness and The White colour represents happiness. (Petocz, 2003)

"I define symbol as any structure of significance in which a direct, primary, literal, meaning designates, in which is indirect, secondary and figurative and which can be apprehend only the first (Ricoeur, 1965, 245).

1.3.4 Whitehead's Theory of Symbolism

Alfred North Whitehead (1861-1947) asserts that symbolism controls man's thought, elicits consciousness, beliefs, emotions and usages, respecting other components of its experience. The symbol constitutes "the meaning" of the symbol, there is a transition from the symbol, the meaning will be called "symbolic reference" which the active synthetic element contributed by the nature of the recipient that requires a ground founded on some community between the nature of symbol and meaning for instance: The dove usually symbolizes peace, the dove is the symbol and peace is the symbolic reference (Whitehead, 1927).

There is a huge difference between symbolism and direct knowledge .Direct experience is a person's experience and symbolism is very fallible.

Whitehead (1927) pinpoints that there is a difference between symbolism and direct knowledge, the reader would get wrong interpretation of the symbol because the interpretation of symbol is always correct. Thus symbolism is very fallible. (Whitehead, 1927).

Conclusion

As mentioned earlier the theories of symbolism provide definitions of symbolism because symbolism is one of the stylistic devices that is used to convey certain messages indirectly in order to avoid the problems that may fall upon the author.

This chapter has also focused on Symbolism and its effect on literature. Symbolism gives the literary text an extra meaning that would lead to different interpretations.

Chapter Two

Historical background

Edgar Allan Poe Biography and style

Introduction

The American literature has passed through a lot of periods; this has led to the emergence of different literary movements. The Romantic period of English literature began in the late of the 18th century. This movement allows the writers to focus on nature, individual and imagination (Santee, 2010). Edgar Allan Poe is a romantic author who had a huge influence on American literature with his own works. Poe tends to write about horror fiction, but many readers appreciate his clever detective stories.

This chapter contains the literary background that includes; Society and the biography of Edgar Allan Poe, his life, and his literary works.

2.1 Romanticism

The Romantic era or The Romantic period was an artistic, literary and intellectual movement that originated in Europe toward the end of the 18th century as reaction to "The industrial Revolution" and a reaction against the rationalization of nature.

Romanticism as a movement involved a revolt against convention and authority and a search for freedom and personal, political and artistic life. The Romantics reacted against the rationalism of enlightenment culture and the impersonality of growing industrialism.

Romanticism emerged as response to the age of reason by focusing on the freedom of the individual and his emotions, on human imagination and on nature (Santee, 2010).

The American literary Romanticism was derived from the English Romantic poets, particularly Coleridge and Wordsworth, and from the German Romantic philosophy (Skipp, 1992). The American Romanticism based on emotions rather than reason, on feeling rather than logic, on imagination rather than reality and on individualism rather than social conformity; it deals with love, of nature, of freedom and of the individualism. The Americans especially writers and artists admired the American romanticism; thus it deals with the love of nature, freedom and the individualism; besides they attempt to show more how nature could reflect their deep feeling by relying mainly on symbolism and Allegory (Ibid). It is believed that the romantic authors are often called subjectivists, they write about reality in objective terms but about their subjective expressions of reality.

There are five principals of the Romantic Movement:

- ✓ Intuition the truth of the heart is more trustworthy than reason.
- ✓ To express deeply felt experience is more valuable than to elaborate universal principles.

- ✓ The individual is at the centre of life and God is the center of the individual.
- ✓ Nature considered as an inspiration for the Romanticism. Nature is an array of physical symbols from which knowledge of the supernatural can be intuited.
- ✓ They had a great ambition to reach to the idealism and to change what ought to be changed. (Claude Loraine, Landscape, Neo Classical view of Nature).

2.1.1 The Gothic Fiction

The word "Goth" derives originally from the Germanic tribes who made attacks on the Roman Empire between the 3th and 5th centuries AD. Since Rome and Greece were the seat of civilization, the people of Europe were considered Barbarians, indeed the words "Goth" and "Gothic" have become synonymous with Barbarism.

Centuries passed before "Gothic" means certain type of novels, so named because all these novels seem to take place in Gothic-styled architecture, castles, mansions and abbeys.

The Gothic romance is a type of novel characterized by sensational plots, romantic setting and horrifying themes. As literary term Gothic can be defined as the subgenre of the novel with eerie, supernatural or horrifying events.

"Gothic fiction is a literature of nightmare. Among its conventions are found dream landscapes and figures of the subconscious imagination. Its fictional form to amorphous fears and impulses common to all mankind using an amalgam of materials, some torn from the author's own subconscious mind and some the stuff of myth, folklore, fairy tale and romance. (Elizabeth Macandrew, 1979, 3).

The first English Gothic novel originated with the publication of Horace Walpole's "The Castle of Ortanto" (1765) which Walpole called Gothic story.

The Gothic fiction in the twentieth century deals with character, tone, plot which are treated realistically; it is influenced by the widespread of general knowledge of Psychology.

2.1.1.1 Characteristic of The Gothic Fiction

Most of the Gothic novels are tales of mystery and horror and its effect to chill the spine and curdle the blood by including a strong elements of supernatural. (The Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory, 1996).

A .Mystery

"Mystery is a work of fiction in which the evidence related to a mysterious events or crime so that the reader has the opportunity to solve the problem. The elements of mystery are horror and terror, crime or any situation involving enigma". (Merriam Webster, 1995, 793).

Edgar Allan Poe's short story "The Gold Bug" (1843) is a classic example of mystery. (The Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory, 1996).

B .Horror

According to The Dictionary of Literary terms and Literary Theory the word "horror" comes from the Latin word "horrere" to make the hair stand on end trouble and shudder. According to Merriam Webster Encyclopedia of literature horror story focuses on creating a feeling of fear via using supernatural elements and features such as: ghost, witches, or vampires that can address more realistic psychological fears.

Edgar Allan Poe as a master of the horror story by including fears that are related to death, afterlife, punishment, darkness, evil, violence and destruction.

C .Madness of The Character

Madness of the character is one of the main elements of the Gothic fiction. Thus the character changes his attitude which is influenced by evil thought or obsession. This kind of novels the character usually gets mad (male character) and the women are in distress. The female often faces events that leave them terrified, screaming and destroyed by the madness of the male character, which is a characteristic of the Gothic elements.

2.2 Edgar Allan Poe's Biography

Edgar Allan Poe was born on January, 19th, 1809 in Boston. Poe was the child of two actors David and Elizabeth Arnold Poe. He was orphaned young at the age of three. He was brought up by his foster parents, John and Frances Allan, in Richmond, in Virginia, schools of Ancient and Modern languages in 1826. His talent as a writer began to appear at an early age. In 1827 Poe left Richmond and went to Boston to seek his fortune as a writer and to create an independent life for himself. In 1834 Allan died but left nothing to Edgar. In 1835 after the Allan's death, Poe moved back to Richmond and become the editor of "The Southern Literary Messenger". This marked the beginning of his career as a literary critic. However, he was fired from "The Southern Literary Messenger" at the age of twenty-eight for drunkenness. In 1836 Poe married his first cousin Virginia Clemm. Edgar worked as a journalist, book reviewer and a magazine editor in Richmond, Philadelphia and New York to make his living. Poe invented the literary genres of science fiction, the detective story and the modern horror story. Poe was not in a very good health throughout his life due to the addiction of Alcohol. The death of his life took a large mental toll in Poe. His life ended in Baltimore, on his way from Richmond to New York while he was visiting his friends and likely became the victim of an election practice known as "Cooping". On October, 3rd, 1849, the local brought out gangs from opposing political parties, the Wings and the Democrats. These gangs abducted

foreigners and drunkenness, cooped them in cellars, drugged them with alcohol and laudanum and forced them to vote repeatedly for the same candidate until they were unable to walk.

Poe's longstanding alcoholic intolerance coupled years of years of poverty may have finally taken the life of the author revered by literary scholars as well as those who simply enjoy a good horror story, the master of the mystery and the macabre, Edgar Allan Poe. (David Keltz, 2011).

Edgar Allan Poe is associated with horror literature. Poe's horror stories are still read by many people because horror stories provides insights into the minds of the protagonist due to the conflict between sanity and insanity.

Poe's life was tragedy and his death is a mystery, he had a huge influence on the gothic genre which is the genre of horrifying themes. Most of Poe's works reflect his life, his works especially his gothic tales that have made Poe very famous.

Edgar Allan Poe has a dark style and has many supernatural connotations, this style can be seen in: "The Raven" (1845), "The Black Cat" (1843), "The Tell-Tale Heart" (1843). Edgar was a great American literary, author, poet, editor, and literary critic. Among Edgar's most famous works: "The Raven" (1845), "The Gold Bug" (1843), "William Wilson" (1839), "The Mystery Of Marie Roget" (1842), The Mystery Of Marie Roget often called subtitled a sequel to "The Murders In The Rue Morgue", "The Black Cat" (1843), "The Tell-Tale Heart" (1843), "Ligeia" (1838), "The Oval Portrait" (1842), "The Masque of the Red Death" (1842), "Hop-Frog" (1849). (Edgar Allan Poe, 1922).

2.3 Edgar Allan Poe and the Gothic Literature

In the nineteenth century the term "Gothic" was applied to any fiction that associates with terror or horror via including supernatural, the irrational, and a sense of foreboding and an atmosphere of gloom.

Edgar is considered the master of the gothic fiction. He also used the gothic tales at times to raise questions about the cultural concerns of his era. Poe tends to choose the setting in old place around an old castle or an old house usually abandoned and sometimes occupied in order to introduce the atmosphere of hysteria or the decorative grotesque appears in his stories characterized by the element of gothic such as: The atmosphere of mystery and insanity. Sometimes the plot is built around a mystery (supernatural).

Edgar attempted to make his short stories seem more interesting by including darkness, death, evil, madness and mystery to serve the elements of gothic fiction and by creating a suspense at the end to make the reader's heart beat faster. (Melissa McFarland, 2006).

Poe's works are associated with the themes that contain the themes of gothic fiction; the pervasive theme of death and decay. The presence of madness, insanity or other internal chaos. The character in Poe's work associated with death or being mourned for instance: In "Ligeia" (1838); the love of the narrator's life has passed away and he must try to get through his life without her. (Nicole Smith, 2011).

To understand the madness in Poe's love stories, love is the key. "Love the mysterious vital attraction which draws things (things) together" (Richard P. Benton, 1923, 2).

Lawrence is trying to emphasize that the lovers ought not to try to become one another, not lose their separate identities that there is a limit to love.

Poe's stories of darkness such as "The Tell –Tale Heart" (1843), the man goes mad due to the beating of his guilt, this romance story characterized with the love of imaginary over the logic. This literature has given the emergence of many other forms such as: suspense, ghost stories, horror, mystery and also Poe's detective stories (Ibid)

2.4 Edgar Allan Poe Philosophy and Style

For many people, Edgar has been synonymous with horror literature. Poe believed that strangeness is an essential part of beauty, his writing is often exotic. Poe represents many domed introspective aristocrats in his stories and poems.

2.4.1 Poe's Philosophy in Literature

Some critics believe that there is a strong relationship between Edgar Allan Poe and his works. Thus, his life and his works are parallel to each other. Poe utilized a variety of methods in his works to manipulate the public's reception of him as well as to receive personal or financial gain, among these methods the use of Daguerreotypes, Pseudonyms, Cryptograms and falsified documents (Leane R. Miller, 2007). In this stories that handle the female protagonist for instance: Berenice (1835), "Morella" (1835) and "Ligeia" (1838). Edgar usually attributes brilliant minds to female characters but by the end of the story, he kills them, as if to indicate the superior position of the narrator so that he says "The death,

then, a beautiful woman is, unquestionably, the most poetical topic in the world" (Edgar Allan Poe, 1846, 4).

Poe used also such manipulative devices as the doppelganger as in "William Wilson" (1839) and doubling in "The fall of the house of Usher" (1839) because he began to feel the inferiority of the other successful authors so that he attempts to focus on his superior intellect via using different methods to manipulate the public's perception of him . He attempts to create a larger than life image of himself and magnify his status as an author or as an intellectual , therefore many critics tends to discuss his life by analyzing his works . Poe used the elements of light and shadow to control features within his fiction such as: ambience, character developments and symbols relating to light and dark.

Poe attracts his readers through the doubling of the characters that creates the presence of a doppelganger (i.e. mysterious double) which is the most apparent in "William Wilson" (1839): "Let me call myself, for the present, William Wilson" (William Wilson, 1839, 749). This statement gives the narrator an assumed name. Poe also creates the detective story as a new genre, to escape his ingenuity through analytical reasoning for example: "The Murders in the rue Morgue" (1841), "The mystery of Marie Roget" (1842) and "The Purloined letter" (1844- 1845).

Poe's biography has pretty much a big influence in his works that may help the reader to interpret and appreciate his works. (Leane R, 2007).

Edgar was influenced by many authors including Robert Frost, Rudyard Kipling and William Faulkner. The detective story "The murders in the Rue Morgue" (1841) featuring the character C. August Dupin inspired Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's famous Sherlock Holmes mysteries. The French author Charles Baudelaire (1851_1867) translated Poe's prose and he was inspired by Poe's fiction. Edgar's short stories had a big influence on many gothic authors as: H. P Lovecraft and Ambrose Bierce. Poe's literary works are widespread in popular culture. (Stephen Peithman, 1986).

2.4.2 Poe's Style

Edgar Allan Poe (1809 -1849) was an American author, poet, editor and literary critic. He is known for tales of mystery and the macabre; He is the inventor of the detective story and contributor to science fiction. Poe's writing in general, his characters are tortured by nameless fears and longings (Ibid). Because he had a little influence on other poets following his way

of constructing poems (Skipp, 1922). He had a difficult life characterized by tragedy and alcohol addiction. He was one of the earliest writers to use short story form and wrote many chilling horror stories in the romantic tradition (Ibid).

Poe's short stories such as: "The Tell-Tale Heart" (1843) and "The Mask of The Red Death" (1842) are frightening and containing horrifying themes, so the reader may refuse to reread it again, perhaps from a fear that the satisfying terror of the first reading (Ibid). His short stories are shorter to make the reader remember it, and it is decorated with symbols which has been made familiar since Poe's time in order to make the story seems obvious. (Hitchcock, 1960).

It is believed that most of his short stories contain autobiographical elements that reflect parts of his life and biography; it seems that the main character shares the same characteristic or the experiences of the author himself, therefore, much of the criticism focus on the autobiographical elements by shedding the light on his stories (Ibid). One of his successful poem "The Raven" (1845) rather than short stories considered a good example of autobiographical elements which is completely different from his short stories, and there were a number of events and influences on him at the time when he wrote "The Raven". Edgar's works are considered as a mirror that represents his misery life, and his Gothic tales have made Poe very famous.

2.4.2.1 Structure of Love Narrative in Poe

Poe's love stories are less readable than other, perhaps more conventional narratives of love. Poe's love stories are strange and not what most people would expect or enjoy, but the reader will interpret these plots and themes even though he has never been through love situations.

The structure of Poe's narrative of love features a sequence of barriers concerning with marriage and eventually culminating in that of death that is to say that marriage in Poe's tales must be followed by death.

The male lovers in Poe's tales are always irrational whereas the female lovers in Poe have different identities. The troubled psyches considered as the greatest barrier to love in Poe's tales because the lovers struggle with reason and identity: for the reason is the way that the lover should take to seek for the puzzles to express their identity. However, this project is always characterized with fail in Poe's Arabesques. The female is ideal in Poe's tales often

seeks embodiment, but she will be passed away because of death, death often engineered or speed along by the male lover. The male lover usually is confused with an emotional state in which happiness and sadness are mixed together. Since passion = death = disembodiment = reembodiment / remarriage = reunification. (Leane R, 2007).

Conclusion

Edgar Allan Poe is deemed to be the greatest geniuses in American literature. Poe exemplifies the gothic fiction better than any other writer. In the nineteenth century Poe's short stories were landmarks of American literature. Thus, his horror stories contains horrifying events. The Gothic fiction derives from Romantic Movement. Edgar Allan Poe considered as a master of horror fiction and many readers enjoy his detective stories.

This chapter provides a background of the American author Edgar Allan Poe by focusing on the biographical information involving his unique way of writing and its effects on the poem.

Chapter Three

Practical Part

Corpus Analysis: The Use of Symbolism in The Raven

Introduction

"*The Raven*" (1845) is the most famous poem, because Edgar Allan Poe wrote an essay entitled "The Philosophy of composition" (1846) in which he explains the step by step process this poem is constructed. Poe mentioned every single detail in order to make the reader appreciate this poem including the way the narrator unconsciously arranges his questions to expect an answers from the raven.

Since Poe belongs to the Gothic fiction so it is obvious that every single sentence conveys a deep meaning in order to gain the effect of horrifying events. Poe tends to use symbolism as a contribution to draw the image of terrifying themes that create different interpretations, in addition this chapter focuses on the analysis of the poem in hand and the depiction of rhetorical devices of Poe's masterpiece.

This chapter investigates the use of symbols in the poem and clarify the effect and the interpretation of every single symbol by applying "North Whitehead theory".

3.1 The General Literary Analysis of "The Raven"

"The Raven" (1845) is the most famous poem, because Edgar Allan Poe wrote an essay entitled "The Philosophy of composition" (1846) in which he explains the step by step process this poem is constructed.

3.1.1 The Analysis of the Poem

3.1.1.1 Plot Summary

The unnamed narrator who is sitting in his empty house in a cold night in December, reading "Forgotten lore" to forget his lost love "Lenore", Suddenly he hears a tapping at the door excites his soul into burning but he tells to himself that it is merely a visitor and he was eagerly waiting for the morning because he can not find release in his sorrow over the death of "Lenore". The rustling curtains frighten him but he assumes that it must be a late visitor, then he goes forward to the door in order to ask forgiveness from the visitor for being late because he had been napping. However, when he opens the door, he finds nothing only darkness except the word "Lenore", an echo of his own words. While returning to his room, he again hears a tapping and his reason that it was probably the wind outside his window. When he goes to investigate the tapping a raven flies into his chamber and perches upon a "Bust of Pallas" above his door. He amused by the raven and demands to it to tell him its

name but the raven's answer is "Nevermore". It surprised him that it can talk. He remarks to himself that his "friend" the raven will fly out of his life just like other friends have flown before, then the bird says "Nevermore". The narrator says that the raven must have learned that word from unhappy master whose ill luck caused him to repeat the word frequently. The raven sits in front of the ominous raven to learn more about it. The speaker continues to stare at the raven as, the narrator sits in the chair that Lenore will never again occupy. He, then feels that the angels have approached and the narrator is confused by the association of the raven with angels, he becomes angry and calls the raven "thing of evil "and" prophet ". He asks the raven if he will be reunited with Lenore in heaven but the raven replies "Nevermore". He shrieks and demands to leave but the raven only answers "Nevermore" and it does not leave The Bust of Pallas and the raven is still sitting. The narrator's final admission that his soul stacked beneath the raven's shadow and shall be lifted "Nevermore".

3.1.1.2 The Setting

The setting is very important in introducing such works, especially of Edgar Allan Poe. The time and the place of "The Raven" in which the actions take place. The poem begins at midnight in a cold day in December in the last moment of a day in the final month of the year. Internally and externally, it is a time of death and decay since December is associated with the forces of darkness even the "dying" fireplace embers of darkness reflect the moribund atmosphere. The setting reflects the inner emotions of the narrator because he sees dreary and lonely mourning the death of his beloved, this bad situation leads him to dream a bad dreams. The setting is contained and claustrophobic (a single room or chamber). The narrator mirrors the time and locale. "Weak and weary", he seems stacked in his richly furnished prison and he was waiting for the mourning to get rid from the darkness, but all he can do is mourning his dead love therefore, he was waiting for the light and life.

In the Raven the setting, it is an atmosphere of mystery and suspense, thus Poe attempted to build the plot around mystery and gloomy.

3.1.3 Themes

a) Forgotten Lore

In the first stanza the narrator is sitting late at night reading "forgotten lore" which can be interpreted as an old book. Thus the narrator is somebody who reads a lot, somebody who is interested in things that it is useful. He is fatigued "weak and weary", what he is studying may

be symbolic: it is not around anymore. The narrator goes directly to his old book "Forgotten Lore" as an escape from his sorrow Lenore , "Vainly I had sought to borrow from my books surcease of sorrow , sorrow for the lost Lenore" (The Raven, line 9) but it does not work, he cannot get over his grief by reading "Forgotten Lore" .

When the raven enters, it perches on the bust of Pallas (generally the bust of Athena, goddess of wisdom) which goes hand with hand with the speaker weary scholar type. Even Poe mentioned that the narrator is a young student in his essay "The Philosophy of Composition" (1846).

In the 12 – 13 stanzas the narrator is confused by the mystery of the raven and he pushes a chair over it to learn more about it. The narrator's reason that the bird used to belong to "Unhappy master" a man who ran into a bad luck which is why the raven picked up the word "Nevermore" and it is the only word the raven can say "stock and store" (The Raven, line 62).

Since the narrator is a scholar, he was eager to solve this mystery, so that he was pondering about the raven.

b) Alienation and Loneliness

This is the result of the narrator's loss of Lenore, the name of Lenore is repeated over and over again in order to make the reader aware of the speaker's sense of love "Nothing more" is also repeated at the end of six stanzas to indicate the lack of something for instance:

Tis the wind and nothing more

This I whispered and an echo murmured back the word Lenore

Merely this and nothing more (The Raven, line 35-36)

"Nothing more" refers that Lenore no more around, she is dead. However this word "nothing more" soon is replaced by the word "Nevermore" that indicate the loss of Lenore for the rest of the speaker's life.

Poe attempts to show the sense of isolation in every single detail via using words such as: "rapping, tapping and muttered", these kind of words show that the house is empty except for the speaker: no family, no servants even no barking dogs i.e. the silence is all over the house "And the stillness gave no token" (stanza 5). So that the noise at the window or at the door likely rings through the empty house. These kinds of words convey emptiness and loneliness.

c) Terror

In the third stanza, the speaker is scared from the noise while being alone late at night

"And the silken sad uncertain rustling of each purple curtain

Thrilled filled me with fantastic terror never felt before

So that now still the beating of my heart I stood repeating..." (The Raven, line 13-14-15)

The use of Alliteration and Onomatopoeias to create suspense and to build tension.

d) Love

This theme is present but it is hidden under the sadness of the narrator. The speaker in The Raven loves woman named "Lenore". Lenore is described by many words in order to show her real value on the narrator's heart "rare, radiant, maiden, angel" so that he could not forget about her and he hopes at least to meet her in heaven. His love to Lenore means a lot to him therefore, he can not get over his grief. Since he loves her that much, he cannot move on. However, the narrator never directly uses the word love.

"Tell this soul with sorrow laden if within the distant Aiden

It shall clasp a sainted maiden whom the angels name Lenore" (The Raven, line 93-94)

Here, the narrator wonders whether he will ever see or hold Lenore even in heaven. It is natural response to grief, on the other hand in the next stanza.

"Be that word our sign of parting bird or fiend I shrieked upstarting

Get thee back in the tempest and the night's plutonian shore

Leave no black plume as a token of that lie thy soul hath spoken" (The Raven, 97-98-99)

The narrator's response is that his heart is broken because of the loss of his love "Lenore".

e) Lost Love , Lenore

Lenore is described as a: rare, radiant, maiden which she represents the world of light. She is dead, she is not around anymore.

"Whom the angels name Lenore, nameless here for evermore" (The Raven, line 11-12). When he hears the knocking at his door, he thinks that she may still be around and when he opens the door he finds only darkness and he whispers her name as if to call out to her and her name is whispered back from an echo.

The narrator reasons that his "friend" the raven will fly out of his life just like others have flown before, as if to say that every body in my life is supposed to go away so why should I care about the raven.

In the 14th stanza the speaker wishes for nepenthe: a drug of forgetting (Odyssey) to give him respite in order to forget completely about his lost love. Therefore, nepenthe would give him respite from his grief, then he asks the raven if there is "Balm and Gilead" to stop his pain and suffering but the raven replies "Nevermore" as if to say there is no cure for grief.

f) Humor

In the 8th stanza the raven makes the speaker smile a little because it seemed so "Grave and Stern".

"Then this ebony bird beguiling my sad fancy into smiling" (The Raven, line 43)

When the raven says "Nevermore" for the first time, the narrator reacts what a funny name but he would recognize that it is the only word the raven can say.

g) Madness

The narrator has a different life and he finds himself talking to a bird and it is mentioned in the 8th stanza. It appears that the narrator could not find someone to share his grief only a raven. Still, it is entirely possible as Poe attempted to show that the narrator has had enough grief so that he wants to be heard even if it is from a raven.

h) Loss of Hope

In the last two stanzas the narrator tells the raven to leave but it does not. The raven is still sitting on the Bust of Pallas throwing his shadow on the floor and the narrator explains that his soul is trapped beneath the raven's shadow i.e. he will always live in the shadow of his grief and time will not heal his despair. He will never get over his grief.

3.1.4 Characters

3.1.4.1 The Narrator

The protagonist is the speaker, a young student who mourns the death of his beloved. He is reading "Forgotten Lore" to get rid of his sorrow. The young student's feeling change from amusement, to admiration, to hopefulness, then culminate in anger to sink in despair.

"Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered weak and weary

Over many quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore "(The Raven line, 1-2)

The narrator is introduced frustrated. He wants to change his life but at the end of the story the narrator gets mad and he could not get over his sorrow. The narrator is suffering from loneliness after the death of his lover. The narrator has to overcome his grief while he is sitting in his chamber which is filled with Lenore's memories. The narrator is isolated, he has no connection with the outside world or any human interaction but rather, he is trying to escape from his sorrow and pain. At the beginning of the poem, it appears that the narrator is tired after pondering at the books. After a moment, the narrator wants to forget his sorrow with drug "nepenthe". Since the narrator is aware about the rapping, he is reminded of his lover. At first, he is frightening from the raven because he could not distinguish the real from the unreal but he finds the raven amusing "Then this ebony bird beguiling my sad fancy into smiling" (The Raven, line 43). The narrator is controlled by melancholy, therefore he asks the raven if there life after death, eventually he realizes that he can not get rid of his obsession and sorrow. (John Wrango, 2008)

3.1.4.2 The Raven

Although it is a bird but the raven plays a significant role in the poem. The raven stands to represent the memories of Lenore in order to emphasize the devil image. The raven is considered as an oracle that perches at the Bust of Pallas. The devil bird replies to every single question by the word "Nevermore". The narrator got angry and his soul stacked at the raven's shadow.

The speaker called the raven "thing of evil "and" prophet ".

"And the raven never flitting still is sitting still is sitting on the pallid Bust of Pallas gust above my chamber door

And his eyes have all the seeming of a demon's that is dreaming
And the lamplight o'er streaming throws his shadow on the floor
And my soul from out that shadow that lies floating on the floor
Shall be lifted Nevermore (The Raven, 104-105-106-107-108).

3.1.4.3 Lenore

Lenore is introduced as a beautiful woman "For the rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore, nameless here forevermore". (The Raven, line 17).

Although she is dead but because of her the speaker describes his tough situation and she is the lover of the speaker. She does not participate in any actions in the entire poem, but the speaker has suffered a lot after the loss of his beloved.

3.2 Rhetorical Devices

3.2.1 Schemes

3.2.1.1 Phoneme Level

a) Alliteration

It is the repetition of the same letter at the beginning of words.

"Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered weak and wearry

Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore

While I nodded nearly napping suddenly there came a tapping"

"For the rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore

Tis some visitor entreating, entrance at my chamber door".

Poe uses Alliteration for the sake of creating a rhythmic pattern of the poem.

a) Rhyme

The repetition of the same sound. It is usually called "head rhyme" or "internal rhyme". When it is repeated at the end of words especially in verse is called "end rhyme" or ordinary rhyme.

B) “The Raven” Rhyme Scheme Key

Rhyme Scheme

Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered weak and weary,	a
Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore,	b
While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,	c
As of some one gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door.	b
—‘Tis some visitor, I muttered, —tapping at my chamber door—	b
Only this, and nothing more.	b

b) Assonance

The repetition of the vowel sounds without repeating the consonant sound.

"For we cannot help agreeing that no living human being

Ever yet was blessed with seeing bird above his chamber door"

"For the rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore"

c) Consonance

The repetition of the consonant sound.

"Doubting dreaming dreams no mortal ever dared to dream before"

The repetition of the sound "d"

The repetition of the "s" sound called "sibilance" such as:

"And the silken sad uncertain rustling of each purple curtain"

e) Onomatopoeia

The use of words to imitate sounds, when the sound of the word matches the sound of the thing.

"Suddenly I hear a tapping"

"And the silken sad uncertain rustling of each purple curtain"

The use of the "s" sound to match the sound of the curtain .

"Open here I flung the shutter with many flirt and flutter"

3.2.1.2 Word Level

a) Anadiplosis

It is a technique which emphasize releasing the concluding words or the phrases at the beginning of the next or the following structures to gain special effect.

"Vainly I had sought to borrow, from my books surcease of sorrow, sorrow for the lost Lenore"

"As of someone gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door"

"Quaff quaff this kind of nepenthe and forget this lost Lenore,

Respite respite and nepenthe from the memories of Lenore"

The previous examples are meant to focus on the tough situation of the speaker rather than the word itself.

a) Anaphora

It is rhetorical technique which repeat a word or a group of words for emphasis:

"Quath the Raven nevermore"

"Prophet said I thing of evil"

"Whom the angels name Lenore"

The use of Anaphora is to make the reader recognize that this repetition plays a significant in the literary work.

b) Epistrophe

It is a figure of speech in which the sentence or clauses ends with the same word as in:

"Not the least obeisance made he, not a minute stopped or stayed he

"Wretch I cried by God hath lanth thee, by these angels hath senth thee"

The use of Epistrophe to create a rhythmical sound.

a) Gradacio

It is a rhetorical technique that includes arranging words, phrases or clauses in ascending order and sometimes it is called Climax as in:

"Followed fast and faster till his songs one burden bore"

"Whether tempter and sent or whether temptest tossed here ashore"

The effect of using Gradacio is to suspense that serve the horrifying themes.

b) Symploce

The repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning and repetition of a word at the end to gain a special effect.

"Respite respite and nepenthe and forget this lost Lenore"

"Quaf oh quaf this kind nepenthe and forget this lost Lenore"

c) Synonym

The repetition of words that have the same meaning or closed meanings to stress a given idea and for emphasizing a given meaning for example:

"Suddenly there came a tapping, as of someone gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door"

"For the rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore"

"What this grim, ungainly ghastly gaunt and ominous bird of yore"

In this poem Poe uses this device to address a certain meanings

3.2.1.3 Sentence Level

a) Hyperbaton

It is a figure of speech in which words are sometimes transposed from their original usual order (inversion) such as:

"Doubtless said I what it utters ..."

"Prophet said I a thing of evil prophet still a bird or evil"

"Not the least obeisance made he, not a minute stopped or stayed he"

b) Parallelism

It is the repetition of some phrases or construction of identical or syntactic elements usually placed side by side, and balancing each other. It is a technique frequently used in poetry as in:

"Nothing further then he uttered not a feather then he fluttered

Till I scarcely more than he muttered, other friends have flown before"

"Leave no black plume as a token of that lie soul hath spoken"

Leave my loneliness unbroken quit the bust above my door"

c) Polysyndeton

It is the use of many conjunctions or it is the repetition of the same conjunction. It is the opposite of asyndeton.

"Not the least obeisance made he, not a minute stopped or stayed he"

3.2.2 Tropes

a) Apostrophe

It is a figure of speech is used to address to someone who is not present. The poet addresses directly to something nonhuman, dead or abstract persons as if present or capable of understanding.

"On the cushion velvet lining with the lamplight gloating o'er"

The poet addresses the cushion to show that Lenore used to sit on that cushion, but she is no longer with him so that the narrator uses the word "Nevermore".

a) Euphemism

It is a figure of speech. The substitution of harsh, undesirable, too direct, unpleasant or offensive by indirect one such as:

"Whom the angels name Lenore, nameless here for evermore"

The underlined expression indicates that she is dead.

b) Hyperbole

It is a figure of speech that contains an obvious exaggeration for emphasis:

"Long I stood there wondering, fearing, doubting, dreaming no mortal ever dared to dream before" (The Raven, line, 31- 32).

Poe uses this device to indicate that his life became only dark after the death of his beloved as if he is fighting to resist Lenore's memories.

c) Irony

It is a saying in which an expression has completely different meaning, what is said does not always mean exactly the literal words or ideas of the speaker or the writer.

"Then this ebony bird beguiling my sad fancy into smiling" (The Raven, line 43).

d) Metaphor

It is a figure of speech that two things are compared without using connectors: like, as

"Not a minute stopped or stayed he, but with a mien of lord or lady perched above my chamber door" (The Raven, line 39_40).

In this irony Poe states that the bird looks like a human as if to say that the raven has an appearance of lord or lady without using connectors: like, as

e) Oxymoron

It is the use of contradiction. It is a combination of contradictory terms or verbal units.

"And the only word there spoken was the whispered word Lenore" (The Raven, line 28)

a) Paronomasia

It is a figure of speech which implies playing with words. The use of the same written form or of a similar pronunciation.

"Nothing further then he uttered, not a feather than he fluttered" (The Raven, line 57)

The use of such figures of speech for rhythmical effect to address the bad mood the poet.

b) Simile

It is an explicit in which two things are compared together by using connectors such as: like or as

"Spoke only one word as if his soul in that one word he did outpour" (The Raven, line 55-56)

Poe explains that the raven keeps repeating the word nevermore as if the bird living for that word.

"On the morrow he will leave as my hopes have flown before" (The Raven, line 59).

This simile explains that he gets used to loss every body close to his heart thus, he assumes the leaving of the raven will be soon.

c) Understatement

It is a figure of speech in which expression or statement used to reduce the importance of what is meant, it is the opposite of Hyperbole.

"And the only word there spoken was the whispered word Lenore"

Merely this and nothing more" (The Raven, line 28-29)

3.3 Symbolic Situations

The study of symbolic situations depends on the dictionary of symbolism entitled "Common Archetypes and symbols in literature /Ap Lang Gonzo"

3.3.1 Psychological Situation of the Narrator

The poem deals with the Psychological side of the narrator, specifically the subconscious and the conscious aspects of the mind. In terms of the events that are happening to the narrator himself but rather his mind. Perhaps the raven also described the deranged and depressed mind. The poem begins with a dark tone "Midnight Dreary" which means that the narrator is in situation between sleep and wakefulness "While I nodded nearly napping ..." (The Raven, line4). The narrator is reading "Forgotten lore" which is could be suppressed memories. Since the narrator is pondering over them could mean that he is trying to find the truth of his mind and he is trying to reveal something may be bathers him for too long.

The chamber door can be symbolic of the mind itself and the visitor could be the thoughts trying to be suppressed by the narrator, Then, the narrator opens the door he finds only darkness, this could be the narrator attempts to open the door of his subconscious but he could not because he is in state of dreaming. The Raven can be symbolic of depressing thoughts in the narrator`s mind and the bird perched upon the narrator`s chamber door. Thus, the chamber is the symbol of the mind, the door can be the symbol of the conscious mind. Therefore, the bird is flying from the depths of the narrator`s subconscious and is trying to reveal its truth to the conscious mind. The idea that the bird can only say nevermore is an evidence that the narrator can never be happy any more. In the last stanza the subconscious seems to want to break through the conscious level but the narrator could not do that because the narrator does not have the power to suppress his subconscious anymore, eventually the narrator realizes that his thoughts are painful and will never leave him as stated by the last line (And my soul from that shadow that lies floating on the floor shall be lifted nevermore) (Rannia Hanna, War of the mind in Edgar Allan Poe`s The Raven).

3.3.2 The Use of Initiation

This situation refers to a moment, usually psychological. In this situation the individual or the hero comes to maturity and he gains awareness into the nature of the circumstances and understands his responsibility in order to resolve the dilemma. Typically, the hero receives a message or signal that he must be responsible to solve his problems whenever it takes. Usually the hero will deny at first but the initiation he will take responsibility.

Concerning this situation the narrator has a tough moment after the death of his beloved, so he sits in his chamber mourning his wife, then he hears a tapping excites his soul into

burning when he goes to investigate a raven flies into his chamber, the narrator receives a raven "message" typically the narrator takes responsibility to solve the mystery of the raven in order to get over his grief.

3.3.3 Light and Darkness

The poem contains a contradiction between light that suggests hope whereas darkness implies the unknown, ignorance or despair.

Poe divides the characters and imagery into two conflicting aspects of light and dark. Mainly, everything in the poem reflects one word or the other for instance Lenore is described as rare and radiant which is connected with the world of light since she has joined with the angels. The raven and the dreary December night are connected with the world of darkness .In the other hand , the raven and the dreary December are associated with darkness besides , both midnight and December stand to represent the melancholy tone . Moreover, when the narrator opens the door he finds only darkness. In fact, he sees Lenore in which she must remain absent. This darkness reflect both the devil bird and the shadow that the speaker's soul is trapped in. Saying "Darkness and nothing more" does not mean nothing is there at all maybe nothingness. The absent of Lenore expands to an absence that shadows the human inability to know. The lamplight is considered as another image of light, because the speaker uses the lamplight to light his chamber in order to eliminate the darkness outside. The lamplight evokes the creative imagination and it is a tool of darkness and it throws light upon the floor not the animating light but rather ,it is associated with hope and the poetic imagination since the shadow of the raven is associated with the darkness because the shadow holds the speaker's soul and the shadow encompasses the raven . The lamplight shines where Lenore used to sit on the cushion. The darkness and Lenore also merges the aesthetic with metaphysical and the Psychological implications of the poem. The darkness represents hopeless mourning for the absent woman. These images of light and darkness go further to represent life and death.

(Rannia Hanna, War of the mind in Edgar Allan Poe`s The Raven).

3.3.4 The Supernatural Intervention

In this situation the God intervene on the side of the hero or against him but in the poem in hand the intervention of the poem is against the narrator.

The bird is introduced as "Ungainly ghaſt and ominous bird of yore" (The Raven, line 65) "ſtately Raven of the ſaintly days of yore" (The Raven, line 38) and "With a mien of lord or lady" (The Raven, line 40) . The ſpeaker is amused by the raven at firſt but a few lines later he deſcribes the raven as "ungainly fowl" (The Raven, line 49). The Raven ſpeaks only one word that create a melancholic tone "As is his ſoul in that one word he did outpour" (The Raven, line 56). In line 80 _81 the narrator is confused by the aſſociation of the raven with angels and he calls the raven "thing of evil and prophet" and yet a liar not becauſe it ſpeaks only one word. The bird ſeems like prophet becauſe it can preſume and it represents darkneſs and the ſubſtantive prophecy. The raven appears as reality or fate, perched like truth or wiſdom on the buſt of Pallas. In line 825 and 100 the bird is like a viſitor or viſitation that represents welcomed relief and loneliness. The bird's answer "nevermore" means that the narrator will not overcome his grief and the depressed memories of Lenore will never leave for the reſt of his life.(Rannia Hanna, War of the mind in Edgar Allan Poe's The Raven).

3.3.5 The Use of The Nature

Since Edgar Allan Poe related to The Romanticism in general and The Gothic in ſpecific. It is obvious that this poem has to do with the uſe of the nature. The narrator faces a lot of ſcary things in his crazy night which are relevant to the natural world. He imagines that he is ſurrounded by hostile natural forces all around him juſt waiting to break in. The dark night implies the unknown and the deſpair of the narrator's ſituation, beſides the ſound of the wind makes him ſcared. The wind uſually ſtands to represent a meſſenger from the afterlife that maybe heal his broken ſoul. Then, the nature does break in by taking the ſhape of the ungainly and talkative bird which is the big central confrontation of the poem and it creates the idea of conflict between man and nature right to the front. The raven tortures the narrator by answering every ſingle queſtion by the word nevermore ſo, the nature acts againſt the narrator. Poe could be right to chooſe the raven to ſymbolize the nature becauſe the ravens can be train to ſpeak and ſometimes they are conſidered oracles in literature. The reader, therefore may believe the talkative bird eſpecially when it perches on the buſt of Pallas which means that the raven ſpeaks from wiſdom. In this poem, Poe does not ſhow the ghooſt of Lenore becauſe if he does he would create another conflict with the raven. Poe attempts to uſe the terrifying ſide of the nature in order to address the themes of the Gothic fiction. The terrifying ſide of the nature can be ſeen in the devil bird (the raven), the darkneſs all around the chamber and the wind etc for the ſake of creating horror and terror in the narrator's mind. In fact, the uſe of the raven and the reſt of the natural world do not intend to hurt or deſtroy

the narrator completely but rather, it is only to create madness and terror that makes the raven appear evil. When the narrator hears a bird talk normally, he is supposed to run screaming from the chamber. However, the narrator wants to solve the mystery of the raven whether it is some kind of demon or maybe a prophet. Religion plays an important role in the poem because the narrator ponders deep issues about the raven such as the afterlife and the existence of God. The narrator suspects that the raven is an evil spirit because the raven could not heal his sorrow, in fact it causes much pain to his soul. Heaven provides hope in the poem and the narrator's believe that he may see or hold Lenore in the afterlife.

3.4 Symbolism in Characters

3.4.1 The Raven as a Symbol

In a poem entitled "*The Raven*", it is obvious to look at the raven as a symbol. Concerning the raven, the raven is the largest member of the crow family and the largest perching bird in the world where they can be seen picking at the main gold remains of the dead. The ravens are also smart they can be train to speak and sometimes are considered oracles in literature including this poem. A mythological legend holds that the ravens were once all white but because the raven could not keep a secret Apollo punish the raven by turning its bright feathers black. (Adams, 53) from Wikipedia the free encyclopedia.

Poe chooses the raven as symbol because he was inspired by (*Barnaby Rudge: A Tale of the Riots of Eighty* by Charles Dickens).

In This Poem, the raven is associated with loneliness, death and prophecy. The raven usually a bad omens that represents death and darkness, in many cultures the raven is a sign that something wrong or something bad will happen.

The raven symbolizes the narrator's grief and the memories of Lenore because the thoughts of Lenore would be with him forever, therefore the raven can be symbolic of dark and depression thoughts in the narrator's mind.

The Raven is described as a king or queen and he acting like "lord or lady" (*The Raven*, line 45), the raven refers to the old world of kings, queen and knights. When the raven says "nevermore" for the first time for the first time the narrator is amused by the raven's answer but it starts to seem like prophecy. The narrator realizes that the raven is predicting about his future that is to say that the narrator could not decide whether the raven is a bird or a devil but

rather, he is totally persuaded that it knows what it is talking about. In line 105 the raven throws his shadow over the room which terrifies the narrator so that his soul is stacked in the raven's shadow.

The fact that the raven perched on the bust of Pallas, the chamber is a symbol of the mind, while the door can be symbolic of the conscious mind. Therefore, the bird is flying from the depths of the narrator's subconscious and trying to reveal its truth to the conscious mind. The narrator states that the raven comes from (Night's Plutonian Shore) So that the raven can be viewed as coming from the narrator's mind. Since the raven talks and the narrator is not finding it that strange can be evidence that the narrator is dreaming about the memories of Lenore. The narrator's reasons that the raven learned the word (nevermore) from unhappy master and it is the only word the raven can say. Hence, the bird is again a symbolic of the narrator's thoughts. The bird is described having (Firy eyes) which are reminiscent of dreams that is why the narrator describes the bird (thing of evil m fiend and prophet).

By applying whitehead's theory, the raven is the symbol and the symbolic reference is the depressed memories of Lenore.

In the other hand, Poe chooses the raven as a bird of bad omen because it is more suitable for the melancholy mood. The use of the raven –the devil bird- and the narrator's beliefs that it's a messenger from the afterlife emphasized the devil image. Poe asserts in his essay (The Philosophy of Composition) that the raven is meant to symbolize "Mournful and never-ending remembrance"(Edgar Allan Poe, 1846, 8)

3.4.2 Lenore as a Symbol

Lenore is the absent and missing woman, in fact, she is lost and beloved so that she becomes like truth or beauty. Therefore, Lenore represents the happiness of the narrator and the change that comes and yet the loneliness that follows. The narrator does not give a description of Lenore. The reader actually does not really know what she looks like and what kind of relationship between Lenore and the narrator (girlfriend, wife, sister, etc). Still, the reader can recognize that the narrator really misses her by using some adjectives to show her real value "For the rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore nameless here for evermore" (The Raven, line 17) If the narrator had an idea how Lenore died, he would gain an insight of the narrator's feeling. The lack of details regarding Lenore make her likely a symbol. Thus, she may represent beauty, idealized love and hope in a better world perhaps symbolic

of heaven because she is described an angelic description. Lenore may represent truth because the narrator could not forget about her.

This particular lady is the main focus of the narrator's obsessive thoughts because the narrator could not think about any thing just his lost love Lenore. Hence, she may represent an idea or memory but she never really becomes a real character.

The narrator mentions Lenore's name in lines 10_11. The reader would realize that she is lost and he does not make any effort to figure out that she is dead. The narrator says that only the angels know her name. Furthermore, in line 28 Lenore's name is whispered but the narrator does not where it coming from. Again, in line 29 the narrator understands that it is just an echo whispered back. Poe makes the reader can feel the presence of Lenore in all over the poem. In lines 77_78 the narrator is in a moment of receiving thoughts that take him back to Lenore. Basically, he feels her presence when she used to press in the cushion when she was alive. Usually in case to remember someone died by remembering his laugh, his smile but not necessarily the way that she pressed on the chair maybe to show that the narrator is out of control due to his grief. The narrator's memories are considered as a curse so that all he wants a relief from his grief "Quaff this kind nepenthe and forget this lost Lenore" (The Raven, line 83). In lines 94-95 she is described "sainted , rare and radiant" to show that Lenore is not like anybody else she is an ideal , and she is a symbol of what the narrator thinks perfect , untouchable woman . She is not human and she becomes an angel.

By applying Whitehead's theory Lenore is the symbol and the truth of beauty and idealized love is the symbolic reference.

3.5 Symbolism in Objects

3.5.1 The Title

Symbolism in the raven begins with the title. The Raven conveys a meaning and a themes of the poem so that the poet delivers its importance in the entire poem. Thus, the reader may wonder why this poem called "The Raven" and not "The Disturbed man" or "Nevermore". The black bird is associated with death and sometimes it is called the messenger of death because the raven are usually picking at the main gold of the dead. Poe attempts to make a connection between the raven and the themes that are presented in the poem. By the end of the poem the raven does not leave the bust of Pallas to show that the narrator can not get over his grief and he will not be happy ever after.

3.5.2 Forgotten Lore

The narrator reads forgotten lore which is maybe about black magic since December is associated with the forces of darkness. The narrator is trying to find the truth of his mind about his lost Lenore perhaps he attempts to figure something out, something tortured him and he could not resist his grief so, this forgotten lore could be suppressed memories. The narrator never says what this forgotten lore but it could be interpreted as an obscure or ancient text in order to make the reader recognize what kind of people is the main character. The main character is somebody who is fatigued (weak and weary) still, he reads late at night and what he is studying maybe symbolic: it is not around anymore (forgotten). The narrator goes to his old book as an escape from his sorrow for Lenore but it does not work (Vainly I had sought to borrow from my books surcease of sorrow, sorrow for the lost Lenore) (The Raven, line 8_9)

Regarding Whitehead's theory forgotten lore is the symbol and the memories of the lost Lenore is the symbolic reference.

3.5.3 The Chamber

This poem deals with the Psychological side of the narrator specifically the subconscious and the conscious aspects of the mind. The narrator is on situation between sleep and wakefulness (While I nodded nearly napping suddenly there came a tapping) (The Raven, line 3) so, at least he is aware of what is happening around him, the chamber is the soul of the mind while the door and the window are the symbols of thoughts of reality crossing into the thoughts of dream world. The visitor could be the thoughts are trying to be suppressed by the narrator during the day. The door refers to the chamber in order to the poem a gothic atmosphere. The rustling of the curtain creates an excitement around the symbolic opening of the door to dark (the other world). The window, however, is described as (lattice) and it is an old term to address the gothic setting besides, it is the opening through the raven that eventually appears in the chamber. Perhaps the window also can be symbolic of the eyes not physical ones but rather, the mind's eye, when the narrator opens the window, he finds a raven. The tapping at the chamber door excites the beating of the narrator's heart which can be seen as in:

(Back into the chamber turning all my soul within me burning

Soon again I heard a tapping somewhat louder than before

Surely said I something at my window lattice let me what thereat and this mystery explore

Let my heart be still a moment and this mystery explore

Tis the wind and nothing more) (The Raven, line 31 -36)

The chamber where the narrator sits and pondered is meant to symbolize the loneliness of the narrator and the sorrow he feels due to the loss of Lenore. The use of the chamber helps to create an effect of beauty in the poem and the tempest outside represents the isolation of the narrator which is a contrast between calmness inside the chamber and mysterious and darkness outside.

The chamber is a symbol of the mind, while the door can be symbolic of the conscious mind so that the raven comes from the deep thoughts of the narrator's subconscious and he is trying to reveal its truth to the conscious mind hence, the narrator mentions that the bird comes from (Night's Plutonian Shore).

By Applying Whitehead's theory, the chamber is the symbol and the symbolic reference is the mind of the narrator which is full of depressed memories.

3.5.4 The Bust of Pallas

It is also known (The statue of Athena) which is the Goddess of wisdom and war. When the raven flies first into the chamber, it perches on the bust of Pallas. hence, the raven gives the narrator wisdom over the war that is going on inside the narrator's mind. The narrator is fighting to forget his lost Lenore but the raven makes him realize that he can not forget her easily, therefore he has to move on despite his grief.

If the bust of Pallas does not exist in the poem, the raven itself could not be a symbol could not be considered as a symbol. In fact, the raven perches on the bust of Pallas is viewed by the narrator to be visioning. The significance of the raven's color and the bust of Pallas is to serve the themes of life and death (Upon the bust of Pallas just above my chamber door) (The Raven, line 42). The reader may wonder why did the raven perches on the goddess of wisdom, maybe because it would make the narrator believes that the bird speaks for wisdom and not just repeating as he said (stock and store) and to signify the scholarship of the narrator.

The use of the bust of Pallas is to show that the narrator is cultivated by mentioning his scholar type so that he decides to solve the mystery of the raven.

By applying Whitehead's theory, the bust of Pallas is the symbol where as wisdom is the symbolic reference.

3.5.5 Nepenthe

Nepenthe is considered as allusion to a mythological drug and it is a drug of forgetting mentioned as Odysseus in order to give the narrator respite from his grief for Lenore or it would make him forget Lenore. It is obvious that the narrator gets used to this drug to handle his grief and may remove his pain and suffering. Nepenthe occurs in lines 81-82 and the narrator assumes that the room is filling with some perfume and he believes that God helps him to forget about his misery life, this is symbolized as ancient drug used for relief.

By applying Whitehead's theory, nepenthe is the symbol and the comfortable situation is the symbolic reference.

3.5.6 Night's Plutonian Shore

It is a mysterious image that contains all the negative aspects that is associated with death, hence this phrase contains three parts:

Plutonian is Pluto the God of Roman, the God of the underworld so, the adjective Plutonian is associated with all the scary things of the underworld such as death, darkness, afterlife etc.

Shore is the underworld combined with night, it is maybe a metaphor that allows the reader to see the night as a vast ocean against the limit of the chamber. This Phrase "Night's Plutonian shore" emphasize the ideas of darkness and night to show Poe's unique style. At first, this phrase is used when the narrator asks the raven to tell him its name " Tell me what thy lordly name is on the night's Plutonian shore " (The Raven , line 47) . Thus, it associates the raven with night as to say that the raven is the king of night so that the raven is associated with night, hence the narrator demands the raven to leave.

The use of Whitehead theory, Night's Plutonian Shore is the symbol whereas the symbolic reference is night and nothingness.

3.5.7 Midnight and December

Poe chooses the time to make the reader aware that the narrator has no absolutely no one to spend time with. Midnight is the darkest part of the night. The time plays a significant role in the poem, it does not mean the number of the clock but rather, it is the time for the bird's arrival. Both midnight and December are used to serve the melancholy tone because midnight refers to dark and it is the end of light and life as well. Basically, people who sit late at night starts to have bad dreams and nightmares besides, December is the low point or dying time of the year because this month is associated with the forces of darkness. Kenneth Silverman connected the use of December with the death of Edgar Allan Poe's mother (Silverman, 1992, 241).

Both midnight and December symbolizes the end of something new or a change to happen. The midnight in December is maybe New Year, Eve, a date where most people are connected with change.

By applying Whitehead's theory, midnight in December is the symbol and the symbolic reference is death.

3.5.8 Nevermore

The word "nevermore" has a great effect on the poem. This single word is not only an answer that is refusal answer but it is a name, the bird has a melancholic name that signifies the negative side of the raven. Nevermore becomes an idea in the poem. Nevermore is associated with misery because the word itself forms an Oxymoron indicating both absence and desire So, (never) becomes no longer gone and the finality of death and (more) becomes the desire of Lenore, if death can be seen negative and life as positive, therefore, nevermore affects the theme of life and death. At first, the raven answers nevermore means that my name is nevermore that is to say that you will nevermore find relief from grief, you will never more clasp your sainted maiden. The first answer, "nevermore" as name can be seen in "little meaning little relevancy bore" (The Raven, line 50) to express the relationship between the naming and meaning the reason why the narrator realizes "What it utters is it only stock and store" (The Raven, line 62). The narrator is confused because of the signification of the word "nevermore" is determined by the previous questions, in other words the word "nevermore" would not be meaningful without a context and interpretation. "Nevermore" is an answer to the request rather than an answer to the question itself. Furthermore, the narrator does not

simply pose questions but he begs the raven to make him feel at ease: "Tell this soul" "Tell me truly I implore". The use of the word "nevermore" is combined with different phrases and it is associated with death forever.

By applying Whitehead's theory, nevermore is the symbol whereas the symbolic reference is that the narrator will not be happy anymore and time will not heal his pain and suffering. The narrator will be enslaved by the memories of Lenore.

Conclusion

This chapter is an attempt to analyze the use of symbolism in Poe's "The Raven" and the motives behind using such rhetorical device to show Poe's unique style. Poe uses symbols to deliver his message in order to serve the elements of the Gothic fiction. This poem does not only contain never-ending remembrance but rather, the symbols are relevant to each other. This masterpiece provides more than tragedy because it offers the reader an impressively memorable portrait. Poe must be recognized due to his unique way of writing.

Chapter Four

Pedagogical Implications

Introduction

The Raven is Poe's masterpiece besides, it is the most famous poem in the American literature, and hence, this poem needs to be studied in literature. Therefore, this chapter contains the tips and the methods to teach this poem in literature. Furthermore, this chapter would help the students to get a deeper understanding and appreciation. Moreover, this chapter indicates how this poem may have different interpretations.

4.1 Active Reading Strategies

Active reading is a useful way of reading that makes the reader focused and interested. It makes the reader aware about what he is going to read, and what is he reading and what he just read. There are some steps must be used to be an active reader.

4.1.1 Rereading

Before the process of reading the reader is supposed to ask himself some simple questions that may allow him to comprehend the literary text for instance: Why am I reading this? What am I going to get from it? The title has an important role so that the reader should think about what it might convey to the reader. Skim over the pages to seek for subheadings, captions, sidebars or illustrations that may lead to get an idea about the text.

4.1.2 During Reading

During the process of reading, the reader should highlight, underline and take notes. This process could help the reader to transmit the main information to his brain, in order to be reviewed later. The reader must make an effort by focusing on the information, images and impression that are relevant to the text by applying the six Active Reading strategies that are summarized as follows:

A .Questioning

This strategy involves asking questions that comes to the reader's mind which help the reader to comprehend the literary text. If the previous questions are answered, the reader would think about new ones.

B. Predicting

The reader is able to predict by using what has happened to guess what will happen next. This strategy has to do with the understanding of the reader: the types of characters, where the plot is going on and what the author will do next. Predicting should be from the beginning of reading because this prediction in the process of reading would help the reader to get a deep meaning.

C. Clarifying

It deals with solving answers to the questions are raised and it is an attempt to clarify the confusion about the text. If the reader finds a difficulty to understand something, it is better to go back and reread the passage again in order to get the main idea then try to clarify the author's point of view.

D. Connection

The reader makes a connection between the text and his own experiences by comparing what you read to something you have read, seen or experienced. When the reader goes back to his mind from time to time to wonder whether this information exists in his mind or not. This process makes his reading more meaningful.

E. Summarizing

In This strategy the reader reviews all the collected information so far. The reader would get a new ideas from the text that has changed his thoughts completely about a certain idea.

F. Evaluating

The reader would make his own critical judgments about the text from his perspective of reading by giving evidences from the text in order to get a valid accurate conclusion.

4.1.3 After Reading

After finishing the process of reading, it is useful to try to remember the main points and the relevant details and making your impressions on what you have read. (Julie A Schumacher, 2005)

4.1.4 Reading and Appreciating Poetry

A. Read the Poem more than once

Reading the poem more than once could be necessary, simply to make connection between the reader and the poem. The poem should be read over and over again to be hung on the wall of one's mind.

B. The Use of Dictionary

The use of dictionary would help the reader to learn the meanings of the words of which it is composed in order to build a good vocabulary via the study of poetry.

C. The Best way to read the Poem

Poetry is written to be heard hence, the meaning of the poem has to do with the sound because every single word plays a significant role in the entire poem. Reading a poem is completely different from reading a newspaper: The reader reads a newspaper as rapid as possible whereas reading a poem as slowly as possible is very useful, in addition the best way to read a poem is to read it aloud or a lip-reading.

D. Recognize the Meaning of the Poem

The reader takes into consideration the sounds of the poem and the meaning of the poem. The reader should make an effort to get the context continuously to reach the full implications and suggestions. Several reading maybe necessary but in the first reading the reader is supposed to determine the subjects of the verbs and the antecedents of the pronouns.

F. Practice reading the poem aloud

Read the poem aloud allows the audiences to like it too, especially if the reader reads it affectionately but not affectedly. However, it is not necessary to put emotion while reading it because the emotions are already there just waiting a fair chance to get out. The poem will express itself it is read naturally and sensitively.

Reading the poem too fast is quite different from read it slow. Reading the poem should be slow that each word is clear and distinct and the meaning has time to sink in, because the reader has the advantage more than anybody else. A poem has to do a few exceptions, the

poem is written in sentences just like prose and the punctuation is a signal as how it should be read by giving all the grammatical pause so that it should not be read as if it were prose.

(Arp & Perrine, A.P English Literature & Composition _Mr Rose Sound and Sense N D).

4.2 Edgar Allan Poe Lecture Notes

Since this chapter provides a methods to teach (The Raven) so that it is appropriate to start a lecture about Edgar Allan Poe regarding his early life and career that may allow the students to understand Poe`s masterpiece.

A. Early life

- ✓ Edgar Allan Poe was born in Boston, on January, 19, 1809 the second son of travelling actors David Poe JR and Elizabeth Arnold Hopkins Poe.
- ✓ Poe was orphaned young after his mother`s death and his father left the family in 1811.
- ✓ Poe was taken to the house of John Allan, a wealthy merchant in Richmond, Virginia.
- ✓ John Allan and his wife did raise Allan as if he is their own son. The Allans baptized him with the middle name Allan, so he becomes Edgar Allan Poe.
- ✓ In 1815, Poe moved to London. Poe attended two boarding schools and he earned high grades in Latin and became acquainted with William Shakespeare and other British authors.
- ✓ After his failed in business in 1820, Allans resettled his family in Richmond.

B. Poe`s Career

- ✓ Poe was one first the first American writer to make a living out of writing alone which explains his difficult life and career.
- ✓ Poe worked for some time as an editor for "The Southern Literary Messenger" in Richmond, Virginia but he left the magazine in 1839.
- ✓ In his time, Poe was an author, poet, editor and literary critic.
- ✓ Poe's was known for the tales of the mystery and the macabre and most of his fictional works are about the Gothic fiction so that he is considered the master of this genre.
- ✓ Poe is the inventor of the detective fiction genre. He earned a nickname "The Man with the Tomahawk" for his biting literary criticism.
- ✓ Some critics considered Poe as the writer of The Southern sensibilities because he was influenced by the South as it is existed before The Civil War.

C. Poe's Death

- ✓ On October, 3, 1849 Poe was found in a bad situation in a local tavern where his clothes were dingy which lead many people assume that his original clothes were stolen.
- ✓ Poe was taken to Washington College Hospital where he was out of his consciousness for days but he never recovered enough to explain his condition.
- ✓ On October, 7, 1849 Poe prayed (Lord, help my poor soul) and died. His cause of death was ascribed (Congestion of the brain) although no autopsy was performed.
- ✓ Poe died at the 40 years old.

Some people assume that Poe's death include the following: beating, epilepsy, dipsomania (a uncontrolled thirst for alcohol), heart, toxic disorder, hypoglycemia, diabetes, alcohol dehydrogenase, porphyria, delirium tremens, rabies, murder, carbon monoxide poisoning.(Stephen Peithman, 1986)

4.3 The Tips to Interpret the Raven

A. The reader is supposed to focus on specific words that are said by each character. While the raven repeats the word nevermore. The narrator asks the raven a variety of questions. Firstly, he is amused by the raven, then he is confused by the mystery of the raven. Finally, the narrator descends into madness. This poem can be interpreted that the narrator descends into madness because of the imagination of the raven that represents the narrator's grief and the depressed memories of Lenore's.

B. Concerning the setting of the poem, the narrator is cultivated who is able to afford a study which can be seen by the use of the bust of Pallas - the Goddess of wisdom - the narrator reads an old book as an escape from his pain in order to show the narrator's scholar type. The use of the raven and the questions that are raised by the man considered as a strong battle between scholarly intelligence and deep emotions which is characterized by the earlier works of the Romantic era of literature.

C. The reader ought to recognize the selection of the raven because the ravens throughout literary history are associated with bad omens and being mentioned in Genesis as a bird of bad luck.

D. Consider the context in which the poem was written. Poe wrote the poem about a man who could not defeat the devil bird even though he is intelligent scholar. The bird could only repeat one word "nevermore", The Gothic literature has to do with the power of the nature,

human emotions and the fascination of the neoclassical. Poe's writing lies firmly within this context, and it can be interpreted as a seminal work of the American literature.

E. The reader has the ability to focus on the themes. The Raven is a simple poem that holds a different interpretations. However, each reader has his own interpretation which makes the literary work more appreciable and valuable more than the non literary work. (Emile Heskey, How to interpret The Raven)

4.4 Teaching Poe`s The Raven

The Raven is appreciated world wide and student will have the opportunity to explore its emotional depth that affects the Gothic fiction.

4.4.1 Tips of Teach *The Raven* in Classroom

At the beginning of the class, the teacher is supposed to make a point by asking: what was the hardest point that may face the students? This question is raised to collect responses to asses which points to address later.

Next, the teacher distributes Poe`s life and poems quiz and the students are supposed to write their own interpretation by asking each reader to share his interpretation. The class should have a few minutes to discuss the differences in interpretations by creating an interaction atmosphere among students. Thus, summarize the main ideas on the board, it might be helpful to remind the students the definition of symbols to recognize the use of concrete objects such as: the raven, bust of Pallas to represent the abstract ideas, then the students are allowed to identify concrete objects that represent abstract ideas. Still, the connections between the symbols and what it represents are not necessarily that easy to recognize. If the students have troubles while identifying symbolism in The Raven, the teacher may interfere to explain the confusion. On one hand, students copy or summarize the important passages from the text, on the other hand they explain the significance of the passage by drawing connections to the previous reading or experiences and discuss how the idea might be applied in the real life. Since tends to use symbols in most of his works, the students should shed the light on the passages that contain symbols. This suggestion may help the students to check their understanding periodically either by reading the entries or by talking to students about their writing.

Students should take into consideration that interpretation of arts and literature can be different from one to another and it depends on how well the reader support his thinking by giving specific evidence. However, the reader should not focus on the value of the text whether (good or bad) but rather, to explain his or her responses and interpretation.

Drawing activities provide an opportunity to invite the student's intelligence by asking them how they interpret the symbols in (The Raven).The ultimate goal is to inspire the student's spatial intelligence.

Eventually the teacher seek out the advice for planning the art of succession because artists considered as a good example for learning to analyze formal artistic elements. (Edwards. C, 2002)

4.4.2 Key Vocabulary

Since the literary work is a poem it must have a difficult words so that the teacher should make an effort to explain the key terms and the difficult words in order to make the students understand and interpret the poem the way it should be. So, here some key vocabulary that may help the students in the process of understanding The Raven.

- ✓ Surcease (n): an ending
- ✓ Beguiling (v): influencing through charm and trickery
- ✓ Craven (n): a crowd
- ✓ Ungainly (adj): awkward, clumsy
- ✓ Discourse (n): communication of thoughts by words ; talk
- ✓ Wretch (n): a deplorably unfortunate or unhappy person
- ✓ Respite (n): an interval of relief from anything distressing
- ✓ Nepenthe (n): a drink having the power to bring forgottenfulness of sorrow
- ✓ Quaff (v): to drink deeply
- ✓ Obeissance (n): a motion that demonstrates respect
- ✓ Entreating (v):asking entretly , begging
- ✓ Mien (n): appearance or look
- ✓ Decorum (n):degnified manner ; politeness
- ✓ Countenance (n): appearance , expression especially of the face
- ✓ Undaunted (adj): unfraid ; courageous

4.4.3 Reading Comprehension Questions

This assignment is considered as a test in order to ensure the student's understanding of the poem.

- 1. What does the narrator first think of the raven?**
 - a. He is scared
 - b. He is intrigued
 - c. He is angry that it will not leave
 - d. He is Lenore that it takes his mind of Lenore
- 2. What does the reader know is true about the narrator?**
 - a. He is insane
 - b. He was once engaged to Lenore
 - c. He is afraid of ghosts
 - d. He has had friends leave him
- 3. What does the narrator order the raven to do in the second two last stanzas?**
 - a. Leave
 - b. Speak
 - c. Stay
 - d. Bring Lenore back
- 4. Which of the following does the narrator ask the raven?**
 - a. Will you leave me tomorrow?
 - b. Who sent you?
 - c. Will I be reunited with Lenore?
 - d. Are you a bird or devil?
- 5. What is the narrator doing to forget his sorrow over losing Lenore?**
 - a. Napping
 - b. Reading
 - c. Drinking
 - d. Nothing
- 6. How does the narrator first explain how the raven can talk?**
 - a. The raven must be a spirit
 - b. The raven is prophet
 - c. He must have misunderstood the raven
 - d. A previous owner taught it to speak

7. The phrase "The lamplight gloated o'er" is an example of what kind of figurative language?

- a. Personification
- b. Metaphor
- c. Hyperbole
- d. Simile

8. Which of the following statements best expresses the central idea of the raven?

- a. The raven will never leave the chamber
- b. The poet's will grieve Lenore's death forever
- c. The poet will never sleep again
- d. A talking raven is a symbol of madness

9. The first line of each stanza

- a. Rhymes with the last line of the stanza
- b. Rhymes with the third line of the stanza
- c. Contains a rhyme with the last word of the line
- d. Always ends with the word " nevermore"

10. What happened to the narrator's love, Lenore?

- a. She was killed
- b. She left him
- c. She committed suicide
- d. She died of unknown causes

Answers Key

- 1. B
- 2. D
- 3. A
- 4. C
- 5. B
- 6. D
- 7. A
- 8. B
- 9. C
- 10. D

(www.studysynchlesonplantheraven.com)

Conclusion

The Raven is distinct and model poem that Poe has ever written so that this chapter is an attempt to provide a methods and tips that may help the students to understand and interpret Poe's masterpiece.

In this chapter the EFL students may get a sort of idea how this poem needs to be studied in a way that would make students active and motivated to appreciate Poe's masterpiece.

General Conclusion

General Conclusion

"The Raven" (1845) is Poe's masterpiece, Edgar Allan Poe expresses the struggle between hope and despair. Thus, the narrator begins weak and weary, he becomes regretful and grief-stricken before passing into frenzy and finally madness. The Raven reflects the Psychological side and the hard of Edgar Allan Poe.

The present study is an attempt to give an overall survey of symbolism in "The Raven" (1845). A symbol is usually defined as an object, character or an action that convey meanings beyond what is expected from the literal meaning (Huck & Brown, 1995)

This study aims to help EFL learners to be aware of the meanings of symbolism which lead to different interpretations.

The Raven is full of stylistic devices. However, symbolism is the most prominent device in the poem. Symbolism plays a significant role in the poem that suggests different interpretations the most prominent symbol is the raven, from the title it is clear that the raven is considered as a symbol in this poem. All the symbols that have been used by the author is meant to describe the characters, places, emotions and actions.

The investigation of symbolism in Poe's The Raven has passed via applying Whitehead's theory of symbolism.

Since Poe is deemed to be the master of the Gothic fiction, it is obvious to notice the use of gothic and dark words such as: melancholy, terror, horror, darkness, hesitating, fearing, stillness etc.

Poe usually tends to involve the reader in most of his works by applying the first point of view to make the story as it were real. Poe uses "I", "my" to make an interaction with the reader.

The Raven is full of symbols, the present study focused mainly on the major ones by explaining their meanings that convey an extra-meaning beyond the literal meaning. Hence, symbolism is very important device in literature and it is used more than the sake of aesthetic.

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