Dark Romanticism Characteristics Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“The Masque of the Red Death”

The story contains a journey –

most often psychologically-driven –

involving sin, guilt, and insanity.

Nature is the source of moral lessons,

directly and symbolically presented.

Imagination and intuition are superior

to reason, logic, and science.

The stories focus on the tragic qualities

in life and in man.

Writers are fascinated with the exotic,

bizarre, strange, unknown, and supernatural.

Writers are fascinated with images, references,

and allusions to the past.

Writers are fascinated with extreme human

emotions as well as the psychological depths

of the human mind.

Often the stories include narrators or main

characters who are alone or separated from

society.

**Writing Prompt**:

Write a multi-paragraph essay in which you explain how Edgar Allan Poe’s short story, “The Masque of the Red Death,” is an example of Dark Romanticism. Include at least 3 characteristics (with details from the story) in your response.

Symbolism in “The Masque of the Red Death” Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Edgar Allan Poe's "The Masque of the Red Death" should be studied on two levels:

(1) the literal level - the literal level is a study of the events that actually take place in the story;

(2) an allegorical level - an allegory is a story in which the objects, characters, and events are symbolic of something grander in scale. The symbols work together to reveal a universal truth.

**Symbol Allegorical Meaning**

Prince Prospero

The Castle

The Red Death

The Masquerade Ball

The Ebony Clock

The Seven Rooms

Blue

Purple

Green

Orange

White

Violet

Black

**Writing Prompt**:

Write a multi-paragraph essay in which you explain how Edgar Allan Poe’s short story, “The Masque of the Red Death,” contains allegorical symbols that reveal a universal truth. Include at least 3 symbols (with details from the story) in your response.