**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mr. Fegley**

**English: Gothic Literature**

**Study Guide**

Gothic Literary tradition came to be in part from the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of the Middle Ages.

Gargoyles—carvings of small deformed creatures squatting at the corners and crevices of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—were supposed to ward off \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but they often look more like demonic spirits themselves.

Romanticism developed as a reaction against the rationalism of the Age of Reason. For some Romantic writers, the imagination led to the threshold of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ —the shadowy region where the fantastic, the demonic and the insane reside. **Romantic** writers celebrated the beauties of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Gothic** writers were peering into the darkness at the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The Gothic Tradition was firmly established in Europe before American writers had made names for themselves. By the 19th century, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and to a lesser extent \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were using the Gothic elements in their writing.

**Edgar Allan Poe**

His stories have:

Settings that featuring: Dark, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Decaying \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Characters that are: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—insane, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—beautiful and dead (or dying)

Plots that include: Murder, Live burials, Physical and mental torture, Retribution from beyond the grave

**Nathanial Hawthorne**

He also used Gothic elements in his work to express what he felt were essential \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Instead of looking at the mind for its dysfunction, Hawthorne examined the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ under conditions of fear, vanity, mistrust, and betrayal.

**Grotesque: adjective**

1. odd or unnatural in shape, appearance, or character; fantastically ugly or absurd; bizarre. 2. fantastic in the shaping and combination of forms, as in decorative work combining incongruous human and animal figures with scrolls, foliage, etc.

**Arabesque: noun**

1. Fine Arts. a sinuous, spiraling, undulating, or serpentine line or linear motif.

2. a pose in ballet in which the dancer stands on one leg with one arm extended in front and the other leg and arm extended behind.

3. a short, fanciful musical piece, typically for piano.

4. any ornament or ornamental object, as a rug or mosaic, in which flowers, foliage, fruits, vases, animals, and figures are represented in a fancifully combined pattern.