

**Compare** 'The Tell-Tale Heart' with 'The Pit and the Pendulum'.  
**Explore** the similarities and differences, which exist between the two stories. **Explain** your findings, with detailed reference to the text.

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Give a brief account of who Poe was and some details about his life. Explain what kind of stories he wrote and how his life influenced his writing.

Give a very brief outline of the plot of both stories, to show you have read them and to help your reader understand your essay. Explain that although they are very different, they have some similarities.

**P**  
Write a paragraph analysing the opening of 'The Tell-Tale Heart'. Try to explain how it gives clues about the rest of the story.

**E**  
Give an example in quotation marks.

**A**  
Write in detail about certain words and the expectations they create.

**P**  
Write a paragraph about the opening of 'The Pit and the Pendulum'. Try to explain how it gives clues about the rest of the story. Also explain how it is similar or different from 'The Tell-Tale Heart'.

**E**  
Give an example in quotation marks.

**A**  
Write in detail about certain words and the expectations they create.

**P**  
Write about the character of the narrator in 'The Tell-Tale Heart'. Explain what kind of person he seems to be and how he deals with the situation he is in. Explain what kind of person he wants the reader to think he is.

**E**  
Give an example in quotation marks.

**A**  
Write in detail about the language and how it gives an idea of the narrator.

**Follow the above instructions for 'The Pit and the Pendulum'.**

Also, explain any similarities and differences between the two narrators.  
If you can, make some comparisons with Poe himself.

P

E

A

Explore how suspense is created in 'The Tell-Tale Heart'. Look at the effect of:

Time

Dark

Sounds

Horror

Discuss each one in detail and as you do, compare it with 'The Pit and the Pendulum'. Remember to use a quotation to illustrate what you mean and explore the words in detail, to show how an effect is achieved.

P

E

A

Write about the ending of The Tell-Tale Heart. Explain what it means and say how the reader now feels about the narrator.

Give an example in quotation marks.

Explain how the words give this impression.

**Do the same for 'The Pit and the Pendulum'. Make sure you point out any similarities and differences.**

Finally, explain which story you thought was the better story and give reasons for your decision. **DO NOT SAY BECAUSE IT WAS EASIER TO READ!!!!.**

**Remember to:**

**Use a dictionary.**

**Check your paragraphs and punctuation.**

**Proof read your work carefully.**