

## The Tell Tale Heart – a summary: the answers

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P	The narrator starts by saying how much he loved the old man.	1
D	He explains that it was the old man's eye that repulsed him.	2
U	The narrator describes how he planned the murder.	3
I	Each night, the narrator went to the old man's door and opened it a tiny bit.	4
A	On the eighth night the old man hears and sits up in bed.	5
W	For an hour the murderer waits, not moving.	6
O	The old man groans in mortal terror.	7
E	The narrator opens the lantern so that a 'single dim ray' falls upon the old man's eye.	8
Q	The narrator hears the old man's heart beating.	9
K	The murderer leaps into the room, drags the man to the floor and throws the bed upon him.	10
AA	He still hears the man's heart beating for some time.	11
S	The murderer dismembers the corpse.	12
G	He puts the old man's body beneath the floorboards.	13
B	The police knock at the door because a neighbor heard a scream.	14
M	The narrator tells the police he shrieked in a dream.	15
Z	He takes them all over the house to search.	16
T	The narrator is so confident he brings chairs to the room for the police to sit on.	17
J	He places his own upon the spot beneath which lies the old man's body.	18
Y	The police are convinced by the murderer's manner.	19
R	However, he becomes pale and wishes the police would leave.	20
F	He gets a headache and feels a ringing in his ears which becomes more and more distinct.	21
L	He becomes aware that the ringing is not within his ears.	22
X	The narrator becomes paler and talks more fluently to cover up his discomfort.	23
N	However, the noise continues to increase although the officers do not seem to hear it.	24
V	The murderer begins to pace the floor.	25
H	He becomes increasingly agitated by the noise.	26
C	Eventually, the murderer throws aside the chair and admits his guilt because he can no longer bear the beating noise of the old man's heart.	27