**“The Cask of Amontillado” Questions**

*Directions: Answer the following questions. To receive credit, you must write complete, thoughtful sentences.*

1. Hyperbole is the use of exaggeration to make a point. Look at the first paragraph. What phrase used by the narrator is an example of hyperbole? Write down the full sentence that includes the hyperbolic element. Does this line make you more sympathetic or less toward the narrator/murderer? Why?

2. Fortunato, who has been out drinking and enjoying Carnival, is wearing a clown’s hat. Symbolically, why is this an interesting–and appropriate–costume choice by the writer, Edgar Allan Poe?

3. To whom, do you suppose, is Montresor telling this story? Upon what evidence do you base your assumption?

4. Name three of the many clever things Montresor does to lure Fortunato into his trap.

5. Poe uses several elements of foreshadowing. Write down (or paraphrase) two lines that foreshadow the grisly event at the end of the tale.

6. Verbal irony occurs when a character says the opposite of what they feel or mean. Locate and write down a line that includes verbal irony.

7. This is the Montresor family’s coat of arms. Symbolically, why is this an appropriate image for our narrator?

8. At the end of the story, what makes Montresor feel sick?

9. Montresor acts as judge, jury, and executioner of Fortunato. Is there any crime/offense that Fortunato could have unwittingly committed that would make Montresor’s rage seem reasonable to you? Do you think individuals are ever justified in taking justice into their own hands? Explain your thoughts.

10. Poe is a master at creating an eerie, suspenseful mood in his stories. Dig back into the text of this story and write down two lines that help establish this mood. Yes, I want you to write down the full line.