

NAME:

DATE:

CLASS:

The Cask of Amontillado

Literary Analysis: PLOT, FORESHADOWING, & SUSPENSE

PART I.

Plot is the sequence of events in a narrative. It is structured around a conflict, or problem. One technique used to keep readers interested in the plot is **foreshadowing**, which adds **suspense** to the story.

DIRECTIONS: Read the following passage, which is the opening paragraph of “The Cask of Amontillado.” **CIRCLE** the details Poe includes that suggest something about the narrator’s personality and his plans, then describe what the narrator plans to do, and how he can possibly get away without being punished in **3-4 lines** below?

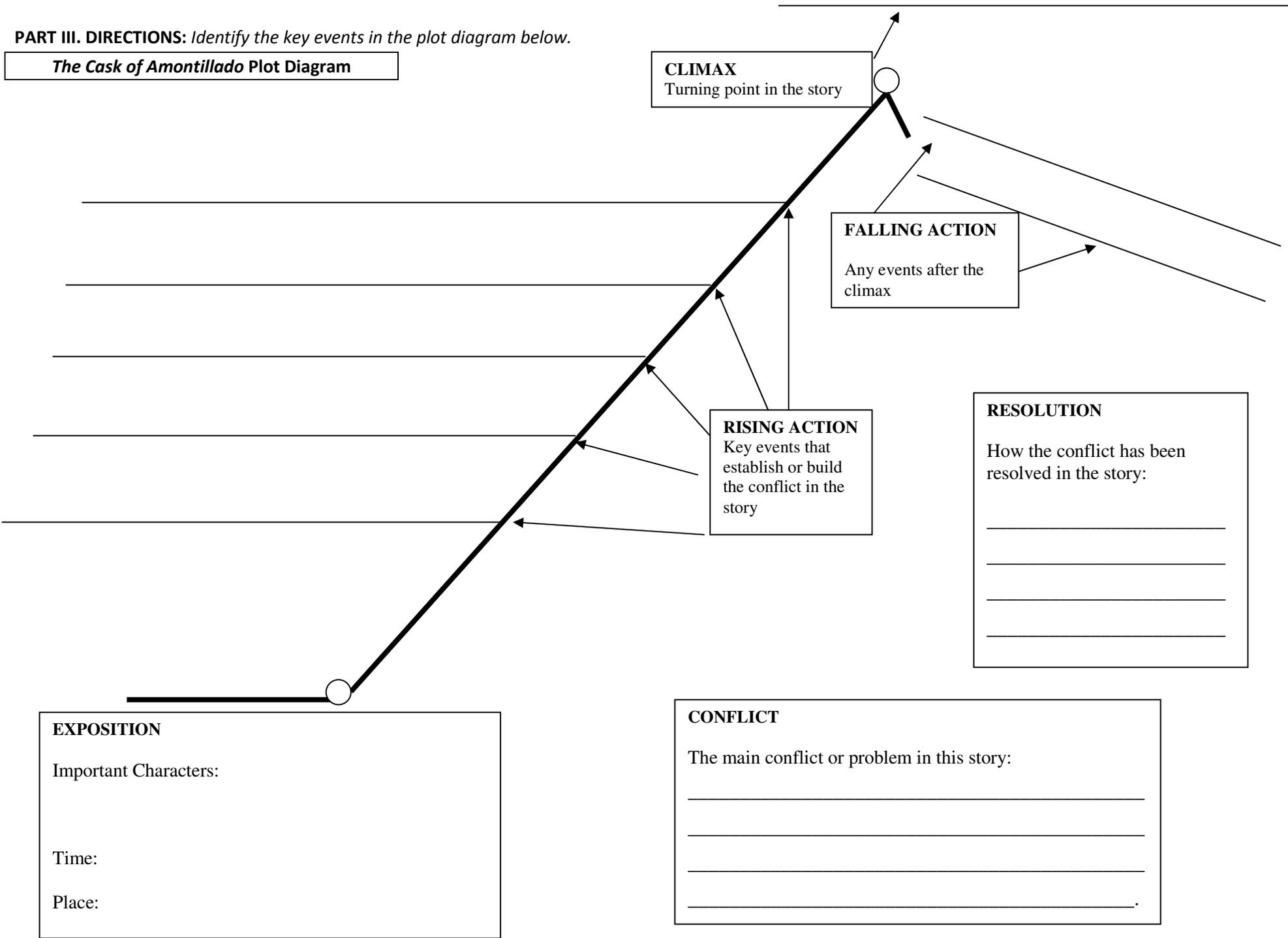
The thousand injuries of Fortunato I had borne as I best could, but when he ventured upon insult I vowed revenge. You, who so well know the nature of my soul, will not suppose, however, that I gave utterance to a threat. At length I would be avenged; this was a point definitely settled—but the very definitiveness with which it was resolved precluded the idea of risk. I must not only punish but punish with impunity.

PART II. DIRECTIONS: Identify two clues the author gives that foreshadow the story’s ending and directly quote them from the text in the chart below.

CLUE (in your own words)	DIRECT QUOTE, pg.#
<p>Clue # 1</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Clue # 2</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

PART III. DIRECTIONS: *Identify the key events in the plot diagram below.*

The Cask of Amontillado Plot Diagram



CLIMAX
Turning point in the story

FALLING ACTION
Any events after the climax

RISING ACTION
Key events that establish or build the conflict in the story

RESOLUTION
How the conflict has been resolved in the story:

EXPOSITION
Important Characters:

Time:

Place:

CONFLICT
The main conflict or problem in this story:

_____.

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The Cask of Amontillado

Open-Book Quiz

DIRECTIONS: Identify the letter of the choice that best answers the question.

1. In “The Cask of Amontillado,” who is the narrator, the person who tells the story?

- A. Luchesi
- B. Montresor
- C. Fortunato
- D. Amontillado

2. Which word best describes the mood, or atmosphere, of Poe’s story?

- A. humorous
- B. silly
- C. serious
- D. suspenseful

3. According to the following sentence from “The Cask of Amontillado,” what has Fortunato done to Montresor?

The thousand injuries of Fortunato I had borne as I best could, but when he ventured upon insult I vowed revenge.

- A. He has stabbed him.
- B. He has robbed him.
- C. He has insulted him.
- D. He has stolen his wife.

4. What can you predict from the following sentence spoken by Montresor?

At length I would be avenged; this was a point definitely settled. . . .

- A. Montresor will not do anything.
- B. Montresor will apologize.
- C. Montresor will carry out his revenge.
- D. Montresor will be murdered.

5. In “The Cask of Amontillado,” why does Fortunato go into the vaults?

- A. to meet Montresor’s ancestors
- B. to find some peace and quiet
- C. to attend a meeting of masons
- D. to prove his wine expertise

6. Why does Montresor tell his servants not to leave his house?

- A. He knows they will do the opposite.
- B. He is afraid of being robbed.
- C. He wants them to enjoy the carnival.
- D. He is punishing them.

7. In “The Cask of Amontillado,” which event is the climax of the plot?

- A. Montresor meets Fortunato on the street.
- B. Montresor brings Fortunato home.
- C. Montresor walls up Fortunato.
- D. Montresor confesses his crime.

8. Which statement proves that Montresor succeeded?

- A. I looked at him in surprise.
- B. The vaults are insufferably damp.
- C. For half a century, no mortal has disturbed them.
- D. The wine sparkled in his eyes and the bells jingled.