“The Tell-Tale Heart”/ Edgar Allan Poe Test

I. Vocabulary - Fill in the blank with the correct vocabulary word from the word bank.

Acute vexed sagacity refrained wary suavity

Audacity vehemently gesticulations derision

1. The killer had a/an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ sense of hearing.
2. The narrator had the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to bring the police officers into the room where the dead body was placed under the floor boards.
3. The reason the narrator killed the old man is because he was so \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by his eye.
4. When the murderer became nervous, he used rapid hand movements or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
5. The killer felt the eye watched him with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or ridicule.
6. The killer used \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , or good judgment, in waiting until just the right moment to strike the old man.
7. When waiting in the dark room, the killer \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from using his lantern until just the right moment.
8. The murderer should have been more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ around the police officers.
9. He pulled the heavy bed on top of the old man \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in order to kill him.
10. When he treated the old man kindly and showed smoothness around him, the killer was acting with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

II. Edgar Allan Poe- Answer the following multiple choice questions in reference to the famous author.

1. In 1845, Poe became popular for this poem:

A. “Annabel Lee”

B. “Bells”

C. “The Raven”

D. “The Tell-Tale Heart”

1. Poe’s life is *best* described as:

A. a charmed life within a wealthy family in Virginia

B. a difficult life plagued by the death of the women he loved and poverty

C. the life of fame and fortune after writing “The Cask of Amontillado”

D. a life of an unsuccessful writer

13. Which of the following is *not* true:

1. Edgar Allan Poe’s mother and wife both died of tuberculosis (TB)
2. Edgar Allan Poe’s death is a mystery
3. Edgar Allan Poe enlisted in the army
4. Edgar Allan Poe graduated from Virginia Tech

14. Write one fact that you know about Edgar Allan Poe that has not already been mentioned.

III. “The Tell-Tale Heart” Reading Comprehension and Literary Elements

15. When Poe wrote, “the hinges creaked,” he was using \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. style

B. plot

C. metaphor

D. imagery

16. When Poe wrote, “much such a sound as a watch makes when enveloped in cotton,” he was using this type of figurative language.

A. metaphor

B. simile

C. alliteration

D. repetition

17. An example of alliteration would be:

A. “He is a pig”

B. “the hinges creaked”

C. “hideous heart”

D. vulture eye

18. Repetition is:

A. the repeated consonant sounds occurring at the beginning of words

B. a comparison of two unlike things using “like” or “as”

C. where words or certain phrases are repeated for emphasis

D. language that appeals to the senses

19. When topics that are usually treated seriously such as death, terror, or sickness are treated humorous way, this is called:

A. grim humor

B. sarcasm

C. irony

D. funny

20. “The Tell-Tale Heart” is this genre (kind) of literature:

A. grim humor

B. horror

C. non-fiction

D. poetry

21. What is the “low, dull, quick, sound, such as a watch makes when enveloped in cotton?”

A. a watch that is hidden in a drawer

B. the sound of the old man breathing

C. the sound of a heart beating

D. none of the above

The following questions are short answer and should be answered fully, with as many details as possible. **Answers must be in complete sentences.** (3 points each)

22. What are some of the elements of Edgar Allan Poe’s style of writing? Give examples.

23. Why does the main character admit what he has done?

24. What did you like/ dislike about the way the author wrote “The Tell-Tale Heart”? Give 2 examples or reasons.