

“The Masque of the Red Death” by Edgar Allan Poe (text page 78)

Build Vocabulary

Spelling Strategy The word ending *-que* indicates a word of French origin; this suffix is pronounced as /k/. For example, the word *masque* has the same pronunciation as *mask*.

Using the Suffix *-tion*

A. DIRECTIONS: The suffix *-tion* means “the act or quality of.” Complete each sentence with one of the following *-tion* words.

fascination	devastation	celebration	isolation
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1. Prince Prospero lived in _____, hiding from the plague-ridden world outside the abbey’s walls.
2. He had a _____ with the bizarre.
3. He mistakenly believed that the plague’s _____ could not reach him.
4. The masque was more an attempt to ward off death than a _____.

Using the Word Bank

august	arabesque	disapprobation
habiliments	cessation	piquancy

B. DIRECTIONS: Match each word in the left column with its definition in the right column. Write the letter of the definition on the line next to the word it defines.

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| ___ 1. august | a. a pleasantly sharp quality |
| ___ 2. piquancy | b. clothing |
| ___ 3. arabesque | c. stopping, either forever or for some time |
| ___ 4. disapprobation | d. elaborately designed |
| ___ 5. habiliments | e. imposing and magnificent |
| ___ 6. cessation | f. disapproval |

Recognizing Antonyms

C. DIRECTIONS: Choose the word that is most nearly the *opposite* of the word in CAPITAL LETTERS. Write the letter on the line next to the capitalized word.

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| ___ 1. AUGUST: | ___ 2. CESSATION: |
| a. grand | a. interrupted |
| b. awesome | b. discontinuation |
| c. approachable | c. arrest |
| d. royal | d. fluidity |
| e. vain | e. halting |