Learning Target: I can provide an objective summary of a text.

1. Write an objective summary of “The Tell-Tale Heart.”
Learning Target: I can analyze how differences in the point of view of the characters produces suspense.

2. Determine whether the narrator of “The Tell-Tale Heart” is reliable or unreliable. When does the narrator tell the truth and when does he not? Cite 2 pieces of textual evidence to support your answer.

3. Reread the part of the story where the narrator opens the old man’s bedroom door, causing the older man to sit up in his bed and cry out, “Who’s there?”

Would this section of the story be more suspenseful, equally suspenseful, or less suspenseful if it were narrated by the old man? Explain your answer with clear reasoning.
"The Tell-Tale Heart"
After Reading Discussion Questions

Learning Target: I can analyze how specific dialogue and plot events reveal a character, provoke a decision, or propel the action in a story.

4. As we learned when reading "The Cask of Amontillado," the presence of dialogue in a story is very important because it reveals important information about the characters and plot. However, the absence of dialogue is also very important.

"The Tell-Tale Heart" has only ONE instance of dialogue: the last paragraph of the story. What purpose does this piece of dialogue serve in the story? Why did Poe not include any other examples of dialogue in the text?
“The Tell-Tale Heart”
After Reading Discussion Questions

Learning Target: I can analyze how specific dialogue and plot events reveal a character, provoke a decision, or propel the action in a story.

5. Identify one plot event in the story that reveals aspects of a character and explain what character traits are revealed.

6. Identify one plot event in the story that provokes a decision. Explain what decision is provoked and how that event leads to the decision.
Learn Target: I can determine a theme of a text.
I can analyze the development of a theme over the course of a text, including its relationship to characters, setting, and plot.

1. Determine a theme in “The Tell-Tale Heart.” Analyze how the characters, setting, and plot develop the theme you chose.

2. Which element--characters, setting, or plot--develops the theme most clearly? Explain your answer.
3. Look at the second paragraph on the first page. What is the narrator’s tone toward himself and his actions? Cite 2 word choices used by the narrator that support your answer.

4. Identify the mood Poe creates throughout this story. Cite 2 pieces of textual evidence to support your answer.
Learning Target: I can determine the meaning of figurative words and phrases.

5. Identify a symbol used in “The Tell-Tale Heart.” Explain what this symbol represents in the story.