

# The Tell-Tale Heart Study Sheet

1. heart      The sound of this drives the narrator mad.
2. eye      The old man's "vulture-like" feature that terrifies the narrator.
3. guilt      This emotion overwhelms the narrator at the end of the story.
4. Police      These people arrive at the narrator's house to investigate a noise.
5. watch      The narrator compares the heartbeat to this ticking object.
6. madness      The narrator insists he is not suffering from this, though his actions suggest otherwise.
7. lantern      This object is used by the narrator to spy on the old man at night.
8. Old Man      The victim of the narrator's obsession.
9. floorboards      Where the narrator hides the body under after the murder.
10. scream      A loud noise heard by a neighbor, prompting a visit from the police.
11. midnight      The time when the narrator creeps into the old man's room.
12. Evil Eye      The narrator's name for the old man's eye.
13. bedroom      The setting of the murder in the story.
14. Narrator      The character who tells the story.
15. fear      The emotion that grips the old man when he senses someone in his room.
16. shadows      These add to the eerie atmosphere of the story.
17. time      The narrator constantly mentions this concept, emphasizing its slow passage.
18. sanity      The narrator attempts to prove that he possesses this.
19. confession      What the narrator ultimately makes to the police at the end.
20. obsession      The narrator's intense fixation on the old man's eye is an example of this.
21. knife      The weapon the narrator uses to kill the old man.
22. isolation      The feeling of being cut off from others, experienced by both the narrator and the old man.
23. horror      A common theme in Poe's works, including this story.
24. truth      Despite the narrator's efforts, this comes out in the end.