Name: Period:

***The Motifs of Edgar Allen Poe:* LITERARY ANALYSIS -- Documented Sentence Outline**

**Introduction:** Grab your reader! Things to consider: background on Poe, why he wrote things he chose to write about, aspects of Gothic Romanticism that connect to your motifs/universal theme, etc. . . Everything you discuss in your introduction should build up to your thesis, making your thesis the *last* sentence in your introduction.

**Thesis:** Remember, the thesis statement is the MOST IMPORTANT SENTENCE in your paper.  It lets the reader know the main idea of the paper and answers the question, “What am I trying to prove?”  This is a complete sentence that identifies the **texts,**  **author**, **motifs**  you’re writing about, and the **universal idea / significance**  revealed through these motifs.

**Body Paragraphs:** You may want to group your body paragraphs according to the motif, work, or theme. Group your paragraphs according to what would *most* effective and fluid. All body paragraphs should help PROVE your thesis and should provide a combination of summary *and* analysis.

**Topic Sentence:** Write one sentence revealing the specific topic of your paragraph.

**State:** Give your opinion, thought, or idea regarding your topic (YOURS but maintain third person).

**Prove**: Back up your opinion by using textual evidence both from Poe’s works and from your scholarly secondary sources. (Use a combination of paraphrases and direct quotes, all of which require parenthetical documentation.  **Example: quote/paraphrases (Poe 16).**

**Explain:** Give a few sentences as to how your proof and statement work together to support your thesis—answer the “So what?” or “What importance is this proof to your paper?”

**Thesis Statement:**

1. **TOPIC SENTENCE:**
2. **Example/Event #1:**
3. **QUOTE (+ P.D.):**
4. **SIGNIFICANCE:**
5. **Example/Event #2**
6. **QUOTE (+ P.D.):**
7. **SIGNIFICANCE**
8. **Example/Event #3**
9. **QUOTE (+ P.D.)**
10. **SIGNIFICANCE:**
11. **TOPIC SENTENCE:**
12. **Example/Event #1:**
13. **QUOTE (+ P.D.):**
14. **SIGNIFICANCE:**
15. **Example/Event #2:**
16. **QUOTE (+ P.D.):**
17. **SIGNIFICANCE:**
18. **Example/Event #3:**
19. **QUOTE (+ P.D.):**
20. **SIGNIFICANCE:**
21. **TOPIC SENTENCE:**
22. **Example/Event #1:**
23. **QUOTE (+ P.D.):**
24. **SIGNIFICANCE:**
25. **Example/Event #2:**
26. **QUOTE (+ P.D.):**
27. **SIGNIFICANCE:**
28. **Example/Event #3:**
29. **QUOTE (+ P.D.):**
30. **SIGNIFICANCE:**
31. **TOPIC SENTENCE**
32. **Example/Event #1:**
33. **QUOTE (+ P.D.):**
34. **SIGNIFICANCE:**
35. **Example/Event #2:**
36. **QUOTE (+ P.D.):**
37. **SIGNIFICANCE:**
38. **Example/Event #3:**
39. **QUOTE (+ P.D.):**
40. **SIGNIFICANCE:**

**Etc. . .**

**Remember, this is just a blueprint of an outline. Your actual paper must be THREE- FIVE PAGES. Use extra space if needed:**