

# Expository Essay Notes

**My prompt:** Discuss the use of symbols in “Annabel Lee” and what they represent.

First, I need to ask myself \_\_\_\_\_ and then I write my \_\_\_\_\_.

**Thesis:** In “Annabel Lee,” Edgar Allen Poe uses the symbols of the sea, the angels, and the wind to tell a story of a man losing the love of his life.

What will each body paragraph be about?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## Introduction

<b>Hook:</b>	<b>Example:</b> When one loses a loved one, it is normal to go through many phases of grief, including anger, blame, and depression.
<b>Introduction of topic:</b>	<b>Example:</b> Edgar Allan Poe lost many people he loved to tuberculosis, but perhaps the greatest loss was his first wife, Virginia Clem. After her death, Poe wrote a poem for her that expressed his love for her and his sadness at her being taken from him.
<b>Thesis:</b>	<b>Example:</b> In “Annabel Lee,” Edgar Allen Poe uses the symbols of the sea, the angels, and the wind to tell a story of a man losing the love of his life.

## Body Paragraph

<b>Claim:</b>	<b>Example:</b> There are many images in “Annabel Lee” but the ones that is repeated the most if the sea. In this poem, the sea represents the loneliness that the narrator feels at the death of Annabel Lee.
<b>Cite:</b>	<b>Example:</b> In “Annabel Lee,” the narrator describes the love of his life and how she is taken away from him. Not wanting to lose her even though she is already gone, he lays by her grave. Poe writes, “And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side Of my darling-my darling-my life and my bride, In her sepulchre by the sea In her tomb by the sounding sea” (Poe 1).
<b>Clarify:</b>	<b>Example:</b> One can see that the narrator is devastated by this loss. As he lays by her tomb, the reader can imagine the vast ocean next to him, representing loneliness and emptiness. In the beginning, the sea was where their kingdom was but now that Annabel Lee is gone, the narrator is left there alone. Therefore, the sea symbolizes the emptiness he feels now that she is gone.

## Conclusion

<b>Restate topic:</b>	<b>Example:</b> Edgar Allan Poe’s “Annabel Lee” uses several symbols to tell a story.
<b>Summarize main points:</b>	<b>Example:</b> In the poem, the sea represents the loneliness and emptiness he feels at her loss while the angels represent anger and death because he portrays them as Annabel’s killers. The wind serves as a symbol for the disease of tuberculosis, a disease that killed many people Poe was close to.
<b>Final impression:</b>	<b>Example:</b> Each symbol comes together to tell the tale of a man who is experiencing the many phases of grief after losing the love of his life.