**The Cask of Amontillado Vocabulary Words**

**Accost** - to approach and speak to first; to confront in a challenging or aggressive way.

**Amontillado** [uh MON te YAH doh] - dry, amber wine. The word Amontillado is derived from Montilla, the name of a Spanish town. The suffix ado means in the style of. Thus, Amontillado is a wine in the style of the kind made in Montilla, Spain.

**Aperture** – opening of something, hole. Arms - the official symbols of a family, state, etc.

**Avenge** (verb) - to get revenge for; to punish an injuring party or wrongdoer

**Carnival** - festival just before Lent. It is called Mardi Gras in some western countries. The word carnival is derived from the Latin words carne (meat) and vale (farewell). Thus, it literally means “farewell to meat.” During Lent, Roman Catholics do not eat meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays thereafter, until Easter.

**Cask** - a large wooden barrel, typically used for wine; literally a casket

**Catacombs** - underground burial places, lined with bones.

**Circumscribing** - encircling, surrounding; tracing a line around.

**Connoisseurship** - expert knowledge in some particular field, often in matters of art or fine food or art. Crypt - a cellar or vault or underground burial chamber (especially beneath a church). **Fetter** - shackle, chain, bond.

**Flambeau** - torch; plural, flambeaux.

**Gemmary** – knowledge of precious stones.

**Gesticulation** - a deliberate and vigorous gesture or motion.

**Hearken** - listen carefully.

**Immolate** - kill a person as a sacrifice.

**Imposture** - deception, fraud.

**Implore** – to beg earnestly for.

**Impunity -** freedom from punishment; exempt from punishment.

***In pace requiescat*** - Latin for "May he rest in peace". Used in Mass and during Last Rites to forgive a person for their sins before death.

**Médoc** - red wine from the Bordeaux region of France.

**Motley** - apparel of many vivid colors; jester’s costume.

***Nemo me impune lacessit*** [NAY moh MAY im POO nay lah CHESS it] - Latin for "No one injures me with impunity". This sentence appeared on coins of James I of England.

**Nitre** - Potassium nitrate.

**Palazzo** - palace; splendid home.

**Pipe** - cask holding 126 gallons.

**Puncheon** - cask holding 84 gallons.

**Rampart** - a fortification wall; a bulwark or defense.

**Rapier** [RAY pe er] – a two-edged sword.

**Repose** - to rest; lie; place; relaxation, peace of mind, calmness

**Rheum** [ROOM] - watery discharge in the eyes.

**Roquelaure** [rok uh LAHR or rok LAHR] - knee-length, often fur-trimmed cloak named after Duc de Roquelaure (1656-1738).

**Sconce** - bracket on a wall for holding a candle or a torch.

**Subside** – to become less agitated or active.

**Virtuouso** - someone who is dazzlingly skilled in any field.