

## The Masque of the Red Death (page 454)

### Literary Analysis SkillBuilder

#### Allegory

"The Masque of the Red Death" can be read as an **allegory**, a literary work in which most of the people, objects, and events represent abstract qualities, such as kindness or greed. An allegory has a second level of meaning in addition to its literal meaning. Some allegories are intended to teach moral lessons. Use the chart below to analyze allegorical elements in Poe's story. Give a possible meaning for the listed elements and explain how Poe uses each one to convey a moral lesson.

Person, Object, Event	Possible Meaning	Possible Moral of Story
<b>The prince</b>		
<b>The abbey</b>		
<b>The series of seven rooms</b>		
<b>The clock</b>		
<b>The stranger</b>		

**Follow Up:** Compare your chart with that of a partner; defend your interpretations of allegorical elements in Poe's story.