

Workshop 6: Poe: The Master of Horror**Reading 1 Project: “The Fall of the House of Usher”
In Your Own Words**

Do you think that some of the classics need updating?

Project: Pick a partner. Choose a part from “The Fall of the House of Usher.” Rewrite a few lines of dialogue in everyday language.

Procedure**1. Choose a part of the story.**

Turn to “The Fall of the House of Usher” on page 136 of your *rBook*. Choose a part you and your partner both like. Find the original text that includes dialogue. Then think about how kids in your school might express the same ideas. Here’s an example:

Original: “So good to see you, friend. I’m very grateful that you came.”

Now: “Hey, it’s awesome to see you! Thanks for coming.”

2. Role play. Read the part of the story out loud. Then talk about what’s going on in the scene.

- Try reading the text and speaking the dialogue to each other in everyday language.
- Take turns playing the parts of Usher and the narrator. Decide who will read the text that isn’t dialogue.

3. Write.

Rewrite the scene using your own words. Use your favorite ideas from the role playing.

4. Present.

Practice reading your parts aloud a few times. Then read for your class or group. First, read the original text. Then read your own.