

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Echoing Fear

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The narrator hears the heartbeat because his guilt is overwhelming him, and his mind creates the noise.
2. The story shows that guilt can be stronger than punishment because the narrator is not caught by evidence—his own mind turns against him.
3. Some may argue that he would have stayed calm, while others might say his guilt would have found another way to make him confess.
4. Poe uses sound (the heartbeat) to build tension, and silence (the calm police officers) to make the narrator's paranoia worse.

