

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Mind's Descent

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Some might believe he was fully insane, while others might argue that he was aware of his choices but could not control himself.
2. Poe describes the narrator's fear, guilt, and paranoia in detail, making the reader feel his descent into madness.
3. Without alcohol, he might not have become violent or paranoid, showing that addiction played a major role in his downfall.
4. The story teaches that guilt, violence, and addiction can destroy a person's life, and trying to hide from one's actions only leads to worse consequences.

