

## *The Pit and the Pendulum* Worksheet

**A – Instructions:** Using your own paper write the word and definition. Use the dictionary or the reference computer to look up the meaning of the word.

Acrid

Balm

Discordant

Eloquent

Encompass

Frivolous

Imperceptible

Insuperable

Lethargy

Lucid

Minions

Pertinacity

Pervading

Prostrate

Potent

Relapse

Resolution

Scimitar

Stealthily

Supposition

Treacherous

Voracity

**B – Instructions:** On a separate piece of paper answer the following questions. Express your answers using complete sentences.

1. Where is the narrator?
2. What are the first two dangers that he faces?
3. How does he manage to break free from his bonds?
4. Who or what seems to save him at the end?
5. Which aspect of the narrator's torture, physical or psychological, do you find more horrible? Why?
6. How do the details of Poe's **setting** build a sense or suspense or horror? Use details from the story.

**C - Instructions: *Inquisition Expose.*** Imagine that you are a reporter who has followed General Lasalle and his army into Toledo. On your own paper, write a newspaper story in which you describe the rescue of the narrator and the secret horrors in the dungeon of the Inquisition. (Include quotations from Poe's narrator.)