***The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* (1820)**

**by Washington Irving**

**Before Reading, complete the vocabulary (parts of speech and definitions):**

1. Inveterate—ADJ—settled or confirmed in a habit; established
2. Propensity—N—a natural inclination or tendency
3. Reverberate—V—re-echo or resound
4. Pervade—V—to spread through all parts
5. Gambol—V—to skip playfully
6. Spectre—N—a ghost or apparition
7. Laud—V—to praise
8. Menace—N—something that threatens harm, injury or evil
9. Chastisement—N—a strong reprimand
10. Onerous—ADJ—burdensome; oppressive
11. Magnanimously—ADV/ADJ—noble; easily forgiving
12. Pedagogue—N—a teacher
13. Erudition—N- knowledge acquired through intense study or research
14. Harbinger—N—anything that foreshadows a future event; an omen
15. Portentous—ADJ—momentous; ominously significant

**Vocabulary in Context**

1. Many superstitious people consider a broken mirror to be a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of bad luck.
   1. Erudition
   2. Harbinger
   3. Onerous
2. Despite the ghost hunters’ best efforts, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ never did manifest on camera.
   1. Harbinger
   2. Spectre
   3. pedagogue
3. The effects of Allie’s death still \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Holden’s daily life and relationships.
   1. Laud
   2. Inveterate
   3. Reverberate
4. I’ve been told that I would make a great actor because of my \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to exaggerate.
   1. Erudition
   2. Propensity
   3. Portentous
5. Over Christmas, I plan to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ briefly at my alma mater, Michigan State, before heading to Chicago.
   1. Laud
   2. Sojourn
   3. Menace

**Answer the following questions DURING Reading:**

1. Where is TarryTown located? **A small market town near the eastern shore of the Hudson River**
2. How did Sleepy Hollow get its name? **“a drowsy dreamy influence” seems to hang over the land; local haunts and superstitions (legend of the Indian chief’s spell)**
3. What is the local legend surrounding the headless horseman? **The ghost of a Hessian trooper, whose head was “carried away by a cannonball” during the Rev. War**
4. Describe Ichabod Crane’s physical appearance. **Tall, exceedingly lank, narrow shoulders, big feet and hands, small head, huge ears, and a long “snipe” nose**
5. What is Ichabod’s profession? **He is a school teacher** How does he earn extra money? **He gives children singing lessons**
6. What does the following quotation reveal about his character? “He ever bore in mind the golden maxim, “spare the rod and spoil the child.” **He was stern and strict; he did not believe in spoiling children; he was in favor of corporal punishment**
7. Why does Ichabod carry all his possessions with him and in a “cotton handkerchief”? **He lived in the school house and relied on the families of his students to feed him**
8. What does Ichabod’s reading of Cotton Mather’s *History of New England Witchcraft* reveal about his character? **He is superstitious; believes in ghosts, specters, and witches; likes to be scared or is easily frighted**
9. According to the exposition, what will directly lead to Ichabod’s downfall? **“a woman”**
10. In what ways is Ichabod Crane a good example of a dark romantic hero? **He is an outcast, oddball; he is the anti-hero in terms of his physical appearance; he is not strong or brave; he is physically isolated and the victim of people’s ridicule**

**Consider, AFTER READING, the romantic characteristics evident in text: (refer to class notes)**