

Name _____

Terms you need to know:

sonnet	blank verse
Shakespearean/ English/ Elizabethan sonnet form	courtly love
rhyme scheme	satire
iambic pentameter	Petrarch
iamb	
pentameter	

What is Shakespearean sonnet form? What makes a poem a Shakespearean *sonnet*?

1. Must have ___ lines
2. Must have a specific rhyme scheme =
3. Must have a specific rhythm, called _____
4. Usually it's about _____.

Rhyme scheme – What is it? Figure these out:

*The sun did not shine.
It was too wet to play.
So we sat in that house
All that cold, cold wet day.*

*I walk a lonely road,
The only one that I have ever known.
Don't know where it goes,
But it's home to me and I walk alone.*

*Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower,
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.*

♥♥♥♥♥ Rhythm – It's the beat. Sonnets require a specific beat – called *iambic pentameter*
iamb =
pentameter =

Show the iambs:

*Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate.
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,
And summer's lease hath all too short a date:..*

IF the iambic pentameter is **unrhymed**, it's called_____.

Example from R + J:

❖ *He jests at scars that never felt a wound* (Rom. 2.2.1).

Satire meets Courtly Love. Shakespeare takes on Petrarch and the status quo.

Here's a translated excerpt from Petrarch:

The way she walked was not the way of mortals
But of angelic forms, and when she spoke
More than an earthly voice it was that sang:
A godly spirit and a living sun
Was what I saw, ...
---Petrarch, "Canzoniere 90." Trans. Mark Musa.

Here's a sonnet that was popular early in Shakespeare's career (right around the time R + J was written):

My Lady's hair is threads of beaten gold.
Her eyes the brightest stars the heavens hold;
Her cheeks, red roses, such as seld have been;
Her pretty lips of red vermilion dye;
Her hand of ivory the purest white;
Her blush AURORA, or the morning sky.
Her breast displays two silver fountains bright;
The spheres, her voice; her grace, the Graces three;
Her body is the saint that I adore;
Her smiles and favours, sweet as honey be.
Her feet, fair THETIS praiseth evermore.
But Ah, the worst and last is yet behind:
For of a griffin she doth bear the mind!
---Bartholomew Griffin. "From Fidessa." Published 1596

Now here's a sonnet written by Shakespeare: What contrasts do you see? What point is Shakespeare making here?

*My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun;
Coral is far more red than her lips' red;
If snow be white, why then her breasts are dun;
If hairs be wires, black wires grow on her head.
I have seen roses damask'd, red and white,
But no such roses see I in her cheeks;
And in some perfumes is there more delight
Than in the breath that from my mistress reeks.
I love to hear her speak, yet well I know
That music hath a far more pleasing sound;
I grant I never saw a goddess go;
My mistress, when she walks, treads on the ground:
And yet, by heaven, I think my love as rare
As any she belied with false compare.*