

Write Your Own Shakespearean Sonnet

A Sonnet comes from the Italian word “little song” and expresses an emotion, rather than telling a story. A Shakespearean sonnet is a **14 lined poem**, using the **rhyme scheme abab cdcd efef gg** and using a type of line poetry called **iambic pentameter**. It has three (3) **quatrains** and one (1) **couplet**. Iambic Pentameter is a metric line of poetry that has stressed and unstressed syllables. The da-DUM of a human heart beat is the most common example of this rhythm. A standard line of iambic pentameter is five iambic feet in a row. Sonnets usually have an aspect of symbolism, hence something that represents something else. Please reference my PowerPoint on my website for further explanation of these definitions.

Da DUM da DUM da DUM da DUM da DUM = 10 syllables per line

Example:

Sample Shakespearean Sonnet

My world before you came was black and white A
 No shades of gray, no varied hues to see B
 But then each day was wonderful and bright! A
Because you brought the color back to me B

Look there! A sky so vast and deeply blue, C
Green grass that gleams as brightly as a jewel D
 With golden-yellow flowers peeking through C
 Reflection in your eyes, pure crystal pools. D

But then you left, one stormy winter’s day E
 And took with you the gift you had bestowed F
 All yellows, blues, and greens faded away. E
 My eyes were left to see in black-white mode. F

Yet maybe when the spring returns once more, G
 I might recall the vibrant days of yore. G

Sonnet Rubric: _____/50 points

Please review the rubric to ensure your sonnet meets all the requirements

Content: Your sonnet has a distinct emotion and theme that is evident throughout the entire sonnet.	10
Format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Your sonnet is made up of 14 lines (3 quatrains and one couplet) ○ Your rhyme scheme is abab cdcd efef gg ○ Your sonnet is written in iambic pentameter- about 10 syllables per line 	15
Figurative language: You have 2 examples of figurative language underline (simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification, alliteration, onomatopoeia, etc.)	10
Spelling and grammar: No convention errors in the final draft of your sonnet	5
Presentation of Sonnet: You look up at audience, have rhythm and rhyme in your speech, inflection in voice, and fluency.	10

Insult Like Shakespeare- Extra Credit

With a partner, create a dialogue that uses Shakespearean language to present at Shakespeare Day on Thursday April 20th. Your dialogue **MUST** have topic of conversation—it cannot just be gibberish with no rhyme or reason.

Requirements:

1. Use eight (8) different Shakespearean insults, found on the poster in my room.
2. Have a certain topic of conversation for the dialogue
3. Fluency- practice the dialogue several times so that there are no awkward pauses in your conversation/ argument. (You do not need to memorize)
4. There is movement, inflection in voice, and stage presence.
5. You use various Shakespearean words that we have frequently seen in Twelfth Night- thou, thine, haste, art, etc.

10 points EXTRA CREDIT!