

Beatty  
English

## Original Sonnet Assignment

Worth 30 Summative points

Due to turnitin.com AND as a hard copy to class on \_\_\_\_\_

*After learning about, reading, and analyzing Shakespearean sonnets, it is now your chance to try your hand at writing within this classic poetic structure.*

You will write an **original sonnet** that does the following:

- Contains 14 lines (3 quatrains and 1 concluding couplet)
- ABAB CDCD EFEF GG rhyme scheme
- Each line must contain 10 syllables (try to write in iambic pentameter - if you are having trouble with stressed/unstressed syllables, at least stick to the 10-syllable count per line)
- Must contain at least two figurative language devices
  - Metaphor, extended metaphor, simile, personification, hyperbole, allusion, alliteration, onomatopoeia, oxymoron
- Must contain imagery
- Can be about any topic as long as it is school appropriate. If you are unsure whether your topic is acceptable or not, please talk to me.

*Having trouble coming up with an idea for your poem? Try this:*

1. *Think of something you absolutely LOVE, something that is just perfect in your eyes. Favorite food, favorite artist, favorite sport, favorite musical instrument, favorite anything.*
2. *Imagine that you have to explain to someone WHY you love this thing so much, trying to convince them to believe it's the absolute best of its class. **Then, write three quatrains that accomplish this goal.***
3. *Now, you have to leave your audience with something they'll remember, something that will make them HAVE TO AGREE WITH YOU because it's so brilliant, clever, and well-written. **Then write a concluding couplet that accomplishes this goal.***

Still having trouble getting started? Questions about the sonnet format? Any questions at all? Come see me; I am happy to help.

Extra Credit Opportunity - up to ten points possible:

- Write a **free verse poem** (no predetermined rhyme scheme or meter). For full credit, your poem should include:
  - At least 15 lines
  - Contain at least 2 figurative language devices
  - Contain imagery
- Submit your free verse poem with your sonnet, both to turnitin.com and as a hard copy. **Late assignments are not eligible for extra credit points.**