

## Literature Ex. – Poetry Analysis

Ex. 1 > Read the sonnet below. Count the **number of syllables** in each line and find the meter. *There is an example for you.*

### Sonnet XVII by William Shakespeare

1 Who will believe my verse in time to <b>come</b> ,	<u>10</u>	<u>A</u>
2 If it were filled with your most high <b>deserts</b> ?	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
3 Though yet Heaven knows, it is but as a <b>tomb</b>	<u>          </u>	<u>A</u>
4 Which hides your life, and shows not half your <b>parts</b> .	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
5 If I could write the beauty of your <b>eyes</b> ,	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
6 And in fresh numbers number all your <b>graces</b>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
7 The age to come would say, This poet <b>lies</b> ,	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
8 Such heavenly touches ne'er touched earthly <b>faces</b> .'	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
9 So should my papers, yellowed with their <b>age</b> ,	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
10 Be scorned like old men of less truth than <b>tongue</b>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
11 And your true rights be termed a poet's <b>rage</b>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
12 And stretched meter of an antique <b>song</b> :	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
13 But were some child of yours alive that <b>time</b>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
14 You should like twice - in it, and in my <b>rhyme</b> .	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

Ex. 2 > **Identifying the rhyme scheme!** Based on the previous sonnet, arrange in pairs the words in bold whose rhyme is similar. Write the letters (B-G) on the red lines above. There is an example for you.

Ex. 3 > **Division of poetry!** Based on the following chart, decide which stanzas compose the Sonnet XVII. The rhyme scheme may give you some clues.

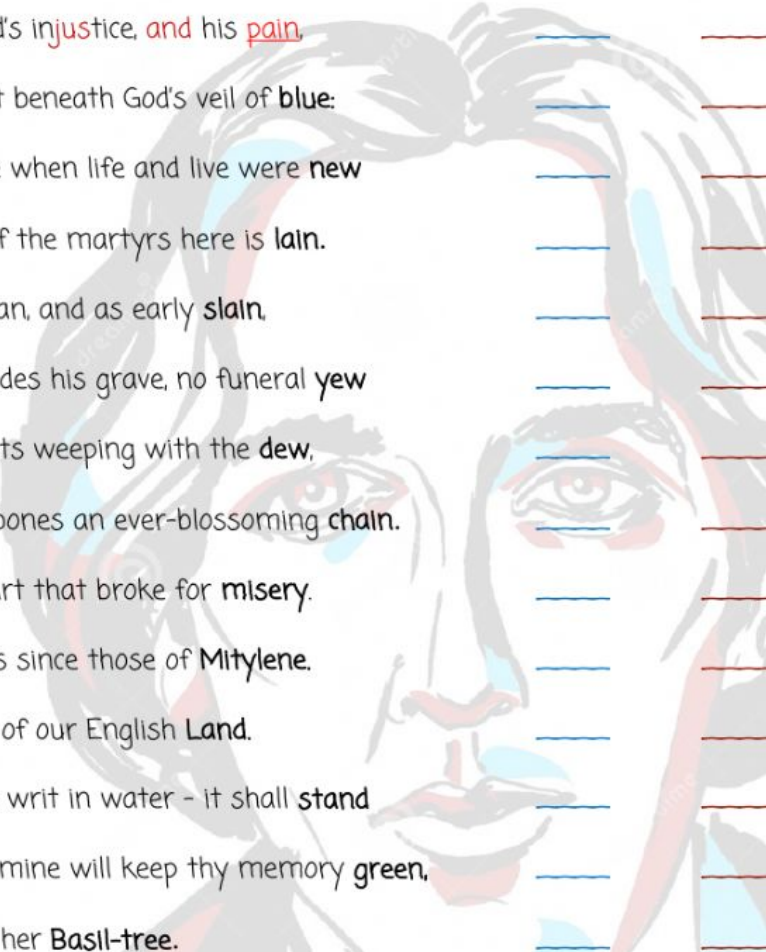
<u>      </u> Couplet: two-line stanza	<u>      </u> Sestet: six-line stanza
<u>      </u> Triplet: three-line stanza	<u>      </u> Septet: seven-line stanza
<u>      </u> Quatrain: four-line stanza	<u>      </u> Octave: eight-line stanza
<u>      </u> Quintet: five-line stanza	

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**Ex. 4 > Read the following Petrarchan sonnet. Count the number of syllables in each line and find its rhyme scheme (A-E).**

## The Grave of Keats by Oscar Wilde

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- 1 Rid of the world's injustice, and his pain. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 He rests at last beneath God's veil of blue. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Taken from life when life and live were new. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 The youngest of the martyrs here is lain. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Fair as Sebastian, and as early slain. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 No cypress shades his grave, no funeral yew. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 But gentle violets weeping with the dew. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 Weave on his bones an ever-blossoming chain. \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 O proudest heart that broke for misery. \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 O sweetest lips since those of Mitylene. \_\_\_\_\_
- 11 O poet-painter of our English Land. \_\_\_\_\_
- 12 Thy name was writ in water - it shall stand. \_\_\_\_\_
- 13 And tears like mine will keep thy memory green. \_\_\_\_\_
- 14 As Isabella did her Basil-tree. \_\_\_\_\_

**Ex. 5 > Division of poetry! Decide which stanzas compose the previous Petrarchan sonnet.**

- \_\_\_ Couplet: two-line stanza
- \_\_\_ Triplet: three-line stanza
- \_\_\_ Quatrain: four-line stanza
- \_\_\_ Quintet: five-line stanza

- \_\_\_ Sestet: six-line stanza
- \_\_\_ Septet: seven-line stanza
- \_\_\_ Octave: eight-line stanza

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