

Write Your Own Sonnet

The best way to gain appreciation for the sonnet form is to write one. Anyone who has tried knows that it is not easy to maintain the meter and rhyme scheme while also creating verse that flows smoothly and makes sense.

Choose someone or something you love/care deeply about – whether a friend, a family member, or even a pet; maybe a sport/activity, your special place, your favorite – and write a Shakespearean sonnet expressing your feelings and thoughts.

Requirements:

- Iambic pentameter for EVERY line
- Correct rhyme scheme
- Content – clear subject & story, speaker, tone, and message
- Quatrains/couplets – 3 quatrains/1 couplet
- Presentation – Must be artistic -- decorate, use scrapbook paper, etc.
- ***MUST STAPLE THIS RUBRIC TO SONNET**

Sonnet Grading Rubric – 40 points

	5 points	4 points	3 points	2 points	1 point
Iambic Pentameter	Flawless use of iambic pentameter	1-2 errors	3 errors	4 errors	More than 4 errors
Rhyme Scheme	abab cdcd efef gg	1 error in rhyme	2 errors	3 errors	4 or more errors
Quatrains & Couplets	3 Quatrains 1 Couplet	1 error	2 errors	3 errors	4 or more errors
Artistic Presentation	Very original, Very attractive, Neat	Original, Attractive, Neat	Somewhat original and attractive, lacking in neatness	Not original, lacking in neatness	On plain white paper, sloppy
	20 points	15 points	10 points	5 points	1 point
Content	Clear subject, speaker, tone, and message	Demonstrates use of speaker and tone.	Contains a subject, and message. Speaker and tone may be unclear.	May not contain a subject or message. Does not demonstrate use of a speaker. Tone is unclear	Does not contain a subject or message. Does not demonstrate use of a speaker. Tone lacks control.