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Sonnet 18 (Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?)

By William Shakespeare

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:

Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,

And often is his gold complexion dimm'd;

And every fair from fair sometime declines,

By chance, or nature's changing course, untrimm'd;

But thy eternal summer shall not fade

Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st;

Nor shall Death brag thou wander'st in his shade,

When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st;

So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,

So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.

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Sonnet 18 (Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?)

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Directions: Work to paraphrase the poem into its literal meaning, identify the examples of figurative language and/or poetic devices, and determine the tone of the poem and the poem's theme.

How to analyze figurative language:

- 1. **Identify and state the type of figurative language** is being used. (Simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, or alliteration)
- 2. Explain **why it is an example of that device**. If it is a comparison, include both the tenor and the vehicle. The tenor is the subject of the comparison, the vehicle is the image or idea that represents the subject.
- 3. Explain **the idea the writer is expressing through the language**. Don't just define the term, explain how and why it is used.

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?	Lines 1-4 (Vocabulary): Define the following:
Thou art more lovely and more temperate:	Temperate:
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May, And summer's lease hath all too short a date:	Lease:
Label the rhyme scheme:	Art (not the subject):
Line 1: Type of figurative language:	Line 1: Who is "thee"? What are two possible options?
Tenor: Vehicle:	
Line 4: (Figurative Language) Type of figurative language:	Whole Stanza: Why do you think the speaker chose summer to make the comparison?
Why is "summer's lease" too short?	

Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,	Lines 5-8 (Vocabulary): Define the following:	
And often is his gold complexion dimm'd;	Complexion:	
And every fair from fair sometime declines,	Dimm'd (or dimmed):	
By chance, or nature's changing course,	Fair:	
untrimm'd;		
Label the rhyme scheme:	Untrimm'd (or untrimmed):	
Lines 5-6 (Figurative Language):	Lines 6-7 (Figurative Language):	
Type of figurative language:	An anaphora is repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning of successive clauses. Identify the anaphora in these lines.	
Effect:	What effect does it create?	
Line 8: (Connotations) "Untrimm'd" is also a sailing term. Untrimmed sails on a ship are those which have not been adjusted to properly catch the wind. How does this give "untrimm'd" an opposite meaning from the obvious (made ugly by natural changes)?	Line 8 (Figurative Language): Identify an example of alliteration in this line. What effect does it create?	
	what effect does it create?	

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What is the tone of the poem up to this point?

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But thy eternal summer shall not fade	Lines 9-12: Where does the Volta occur? How do you know?
Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st;	
Nor shall Death brag thou wander'st in his shade,	How does the speaker's mood change?
When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st;	and the specimen of mood onlyinger
Label the rhyme scheme:	
Line 10 (Connotations): Does the word "ow'st" mean owns or owes? Explain your opinion and the meaning of each in context.	Line 11: (Figurative Language) What is the figurative language used?
	What is the effect of the device?
Lines 9-12: Notice that the word <i>eternal</i> appears twice in this quatrain. Circle them above.	Line 12 (Figurative Language): Identify the metaphor in this line.
	Tenor: Vehicle:
What tone does the repetition of this word create?	Meaning:
So long as men can breathe or eyes can see	Lines 13-14 (Figurative Language):

So long as men can breathe or eyes can see, So long lives this, and this gives life to thee. Label the rhyme scheme:	Identify the anaphora . What effect does it create?
Line 14 (Figurative Language): Identify the alliteration in this line. What effect does it create?	Line 14 (Figurative Language): Identify the personification.

	Name:	Period:
The poem overall		
Who or what is the subject of this poer	m?	
Who is the speaker of the poem? Rem	ember, the speaker of the poem is not al	ways the poet.
Who is the speaker speaking to (the au	udience) in the poem? How do you knov	v?
Pick two tone adjectives to describe to	he speaker's attitude towards the subj	ect.
Identify the poem's central theme . What suggesting about life or love?	hat is the purpose of the poem overall? V	Vhat is Shakespeare
	Psalm 23:4: "Even though I walk through me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfo ourpose?	
Do you think the speaker is right when breathing? Explain.	he implies the poem keeps living as long	g as humans keep
One a scale of 1-10, with 10 being the h	nighest, how strong of a love poem is this	s? Explain.