

## Shakespearean Sonnet Requirements:

- **MUST** be 14 Lines.
- **MUST** have 3 Quatrains (set of 4 lines) and 1 Couplet (2 lines)
- **MUST** follow the rhyme scheme ABAB CDCDEFEFGG
- **MUST** be about love (or related subjects: envy, heartbreak, friendship, family, passions, favorite things)
- **EXTRA CREDIT:** Must be in IAMBIC PENTAMETER (10 syllables per line)

I. Your **First Stanza** should introduce the **SPEAKER** and **AUDIENCE**, explain the **OCCASION** or situation, and make the **SUBJECT** of the poem clear.

II. Your **Second and Third Stanza** should develop the **TONE** of the poem... what are the feelings involved? Convey these feelings using figurative language: metaphors, similes, personification. **EX: "I love you like music needs a beat"**

III. Your Rhyming Couplet at the end should resolve the poem, or provide a dramatic twist to the story. Make sure your **PURPOSE** is clear. The couplet is probably the most important two lines of the sonnet... so make them good! **THE CLINCHER!**

### Sonnet 18

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.

### Sample Sonnet (Inspired by Sonnet 18):

Shall I compare thee to a nacho chip?  
Thou art more crunchy -- though without the cheese:  
Rough winds do blow when I forget the dip,  
For nachos are so very hard to please:  
Sometimes too hot, so I must let them cool,  
And often is their gold complexion dimm'd,  
But only when I make them like a fool,  
By chance they burn like candles yet untrimm'd:  
But thy eternal crunchiness won't fade,  
Nor burn like all my failed attempts to bake,  
Nor shall you be like these -- so poorly made,  
Which in eternal snacking I forsake.  
So long as men can breathe and tongue can taste,  
Your nacho-likeness will not be erased.

**\*\*\*Use Template on the back of this sheet. HAVE FUN!\*\*\***

**First Stanza:**

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A

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B

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A

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B

**Second Stanza:**

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C

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D

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C

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D

**Third Stanza:**

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E

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F

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E

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F

**Rhyming Couplet:**

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G

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G