

Sonnet Bell Ringer/Notes

Sonnet Workshop

Notes

Please read the following poem, which is written as a *sonnet*. Once you are finished, please answer the questions beneath the poem.

A Summer Day

Finally, the sun awakes from sleeping!
Half a year moved gradually like a snail.
Spring's green has helped in Summer's upkeep.
And then, the season comes with a bell's wail.

My friends climb the ancient stairs on the tree,
Which leads us to one of our meeting spots.
A trusty treehouse where we can be free
To unpack our secrets, stories, and plots.

As days and months roll merrily away,
Eternal summer seems to never end.
As June rolls to July, we slowly pray,
That the will of August will somehow bend.

And yet, as soon as August's days run out,
School will soon come again, without a doubt.

1. How many stanzas are in this poem?
2. Draw a line between every syllable in the poem. Once you are done, tell me how many feet are in each line.
3. Label each rhyming pair of words at the end of end of each line with A, B, C, and so on.

4. Identify at least one form of figurative language and one sound device in this poem.

Sonnet Structure

1. How many lines are in a sonnet?
 - a. What is a *quatrain*, and how many of them are in a sonnet?
 - b. What is a *couplet*, and how many of them are in a sonnet?
2. What is the length of each line of a sonnet?
3. What is the rhyme scheme of a sonnet?

Sonnet Evaluation

You are now presented with a stanza of a sonnet a student is trying to work on. Based on what we learned in class, determine what is wrong with the current draft. Afterwards, we will revise this stanza.

The Eastern sun, shining with rays of yellow Smiles on the world, telling them to awake. The young man is pleased, not so with the old, Who yells at the sun, "Please give me a break!"

1. Count the number of syllables found in each line of this poem. What is wrong with this poem as it currently stands?
2. Look at the rhyme scheme found in this poem. Based on the rhyme scheme of a sonnet, what is wrong with this stanza?
3. You now have the opportunity to revise this poem. How would you change it to make sure this stanza follows the form of a sonnet? Make your changes below:

4. Rewrite this stanza one more time. This time, pick a word or phrase in the poem and replace it with a word or phrase of the same meaning in your native language. Make sure to follow sonnet structure.