

Name:  
Poetry Analysis Packet

Class:

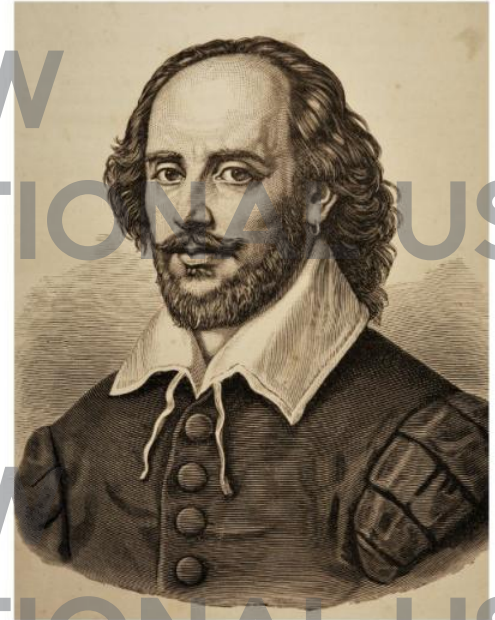
Poem 1: Sonnet V by Shakespeare

Those hours that with gentle work did frame  
The lovely gaze where every eye doth dwell  
Will play the tyrants to the very same  
And that unfair which fairly doth excel;

For never-resting time leads summer on  
To hideous winter and confounds him there,  
Sap checked with frost and lustry leaves quite gone,  
Beauty o'er-snowed and bareness everywhere.

Then, were not summer's **distillation** left  
A liquid prisoner pent in walls of glass,  
Beauty's effect with beauty were **bereft**,  
Nor it nor no remembrance what it was.

But flowers **distilled**, though they with winter meet,  
Leese\* but their show; their substance still lives sweet.



\*leese: to lose

1. Define **bereft** as it is used in the poem.

2. Define **distillation** and **distilled** as they are used in the poem.

3. What do "those hours" symbolize?

4. What message about time and beauty does the speaker make in the first quatrain?

5. What extended metaphor does the speaker employ in the second quatrain?

6. List one example of alliteration in this poem.

7. What is the connotation of the word “prisoner”? How does it impact the tone of the poem?

8. What is the message of the third quatrain?

9. How many syllables are in each line of the sonnet?

10. What is theme of the final couplet? How does the tone change?

**Poem 2: "Fire and Ice" by Robert Frost**

Some say the world will end in fire,  
Some say in ice.  
From what I've tasted of desire  
I hold with those who favor fire.

But if it had to perish twice,  
I think I know enough of hate  
To say that for destruction ice  
Is also great  
And would suffice.



1. What is the topic of the poem?

2. What does ice symbolize? What does fire symbolize?

3. How are ice and fire similar to each other though they are a clear juxtaposition?

4. Which two lines show an example of anaphora? What is the effect or purpose?

5. What does the speaker believe about fire? Do you agree or disagree?

6. What is the rhyme scheme of the poem?

**Poem 3: "I'm happiest when most away" by Emily Brontë**

I'm happiest when most away  
I can bear my soul from its home of clay  
On a windy night when the moon is bright  
And the eye can wander through worlds of light

When I am not and none beside —  
Nor earth nor sea nor cloudless sky —  
But only spirit wandering wide  
Through infinite immensity

1. How does the speaker view herself and how she interacts with others?



2. What does the speaker mean when she says "away"?

3. What does the phrase "home of clay" mean as used in the first stanza?

4. What is the overall tone of the poem? What is the mood? What evidence supports your answer?

5. What is the theme of the poem?

6. Do you think solitude is always a bad thing? Why or why not?

**Poem 4: "The Tyger" by William Blake**

Tyger Tyger, burning bright,  
In the forests of the night;  
What immortal hand or eye,  
Could frame thy fearful symmetry?

In what distant deeps or skies.  
Burnt the fire of thine eyes?  
On what wings dare he aspire?  
What the hand, dare seize the fire?

And what shoulder, & what art,  
Could twist the sinews of thy heart?  
And when thy heart began to beat,  
What dread hand? & what dread feet?

What the hammer? what the chain,  
In what furnace was thy brain?  
What the anvil? what dread grasp,  
Dare its deadly terrors clasp!

When the stars threw down their spears  
And water'd heaven with their tears:  
Did he smile his work to see?  
Did he who made the Lamb make thee?

Tyger Tyger burning bright,  
In the forests of the night:  
What immortal hand or eye,  
Dare frame thy fearful symmetry?

1. Who is the speaker of the poem addressing?

2. Where does the creature come from?

3. What does the speaker mean by "fearful symmetry"? How is it a paradox?

4. Why is the hand or eye immortal?

5. Why do you think this poem might be controversial?





6. How does the last stanza differ from the first stanza?

7. How does the author construct the poem so that the readers understand the speaker’s bewilderment? What is the author ultimately questioning?

8. Provide an example from the poem of each of the following:

Alliteration	
Repetition	
Personification	
Assonance	
Metaphor	
Symbolism	
Imagery	
Refrain	
Rhyme	

Poem 5: “When I have Fears That I May Cease to Be” by John Keats

When I have fears that I may cease to be  
Before my pen has **gleaned** my **teeming** brain,  
Before high-pilèd books, in charactery,  
Hold like rich garners the full ripened grain;

When I behold, upon the night’s starred face,  
Huge cloudy symbols of a high romance,  
And think that I may never live to trace  
Their shadows with the magic hand of chance;

And when I feel, fair creature of an hour,  
That I shall never look upon thee more,  
Never have relish in the faery power  
Of unreflecting love—then on the shore

Of the wide world I stand alone, and think  
Till love and fame to nothingness do sink.

glean: to collect gradually and patiently  
teeming: to be full and overflowing with

1. Provide an example from the poem of each of the following:

alliteration	
consonance	
simile	
personification	
imagery	
iambic pentameter	

2. What type of poem is this?

3. What is the tone of the poem? How do you know?

4. What does Keats compare his mind to? What is the purpose?

5. Why does Keats use repetition of the word "never"?

6. What scares the author? Why might it be ironic?

7. What is the meaning of the final couplet?



## Poem 6: "If" by Rudyard Kipling

If you can keep your head when all about you  
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;  
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,  
But make allowance for their doubting too;  
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,  
Or, being lied about, don't deal in lies,  
Or, being hated, don't give way to hating,  
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise;  
If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;  
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;  
If you can meet with triumph and disaster  
And treat those two impostors just the same;  
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken  
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,  
Or watch the things you gave your life to broken,  
And stoop and build 'em up with wornout tools;

If you can make one heap of all your winnings  
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,  
And lose, and start again at your beginnings  
And never breathe a word about your loss;  
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew  
To serve your turn long after they are gone,  
And so hold on when there is nothing in you  
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on";

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,  
Or walk with kings—nor lose the common touch;  
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you;  
If all men count with you, but none too much;  
If you can fill the unforgiving minute  
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run—  
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,  
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!



1. What is the overall mood of the poem? How does the poem make you feel?

2. What is the meaning of the phrase "keep your head" as seen in the first stanza?

3. How does Kipling make this poem personal?

4. What is being personified in the second stanza? What advice is the speaker giving to the reader here?

5. What is the meaning of the phrase “unforgiving minute” as seen in the last stanza?

6. How does the speaker feel about the “son” he is talking to? How do you know?

7. In your opinion, what is the best piece of advice from this poem? Why?

8. Provide an example from the poem of each of the following devices:

anaphora	
enjambment	
caesura	

9. Why is the poem titled “If”?

10. What is the theme of the poem?