

Name: _____

Sonnet Title: _____

“I Am Shakespeare” Rubric

Write an original sonnet with the following elements:

- 14 lines
- Iambic Pentameter – five feet per line
- Shakespearean rhyme scheme – three quatrains and a couplet (*abab cdcd efef gg*)
- A minimum of two figures of speech: simile, metaphor, personification, and imagery
- Must have a tone shift, or turn, occurs in lines 9-14 or a summary in the couplet
- Must have a unifying theme such as Shakespeare’s, Ex.: Love (frustrated), lover’s beauty, how death can’t be avoided, the importance of pro-creation, rivalry, or a topic from the student’s own life/world

Sonnet Grading Rubric

Category	20 points each	15 points each	10 points each	5 points each
Format: Iambic Pentameter & Structure	Flawless use of iambic pentameter (14 lines, ten syllables per line) Except for intentional, meaningful variation.	1-2 errors	3 errors	4 or more errors
Rhyme Scheme	Follows the rhyme scheme: <i>abab cdcd efef gg</i>	1 error in rhyme	2 errors in rhyme	3 or more errors in rhyme
Rhyming Couplet	Contains a clear turn (VOLTA) a but or a satisfying summary	Contains a turn or volta or a summary	May contain a turn or volta or a summary	Does NOT contain a turn or volta or summary
Content	Clear subject, speaker, tone and message. Very creative – uses imagery and creative use of metaphor, simile & personification	Clear subject & message. Demonstrates use of speaker and tone. Creative and imaginative	Contains a subject and message. Speaker and tone may be unclear. Creative and imaginative	No subject or message. Does not demonstrate use of speaker and tone. Lacks creativity & imagination
Figures of Speech	Two clear and suitable examples of any of these: simile, metaphor, imagery and/or personification	Two examples of any of these: simile, metaphor, imagery and/or personification	One example of any of these: simile, metaphor, imagery and/or personification	No examples of figures of speech

Total Score: _____/100