

SHALL I COMPARE THEE TO...

Write an Original Sonnet

Directions: Compose a sonnet in which you compare an unnamed person to an inanimate object, much like Shakespeare’s Sonnet 18 compares an unnamed person to a summer’s day. Your sonnet should follow the conventions of the form:

- 14 lines
- 3 quatrains, 1 couplet
- abab cdcd efef gg rhyme scheme
- 10 syllables per line (try to use iambic pentameter!)

EXAMPLE:

Inanimate Object:	<i>cheese</i>	
Brainstorm a list of descriptions/characteristics for this object:	<i>Aged</i> <i>Orange/Yellow</i> <i>Sharp in flavor (sharp can also refer to intelligence)</i> <i>Melt(y)</i> <i>Needs to be refrigerated</i> <i>Snack</i>	<i>Kinds of cheese:</i> <i>Gouda</i> <i>Brie</i> <i>Mascarpone</i> <i>Mozzarella</i> <i>Cottage cheese</i> <i>Cheddar</i> <i>Colby Jack</i> <i>Fondue</i>
Example sonnet: Highlight quatrain 1, quatrain 2, quatrain 3, and the couplet, and mark the rhyme scheme.	<p><i>Shall I compare thee to a block of cheese? A</i></p> <p><i>You are more aged and you are more sharp. B</i></p> <p><i>You're more dear than a gouda or a brie, A</i></p> <p><i>About you I'd never complain or <u>carp</u>. B</i></p> <p><i>Are you a parmesan—or a cheddar? C</i></p> <p><i>Your fair hair's a beaut'ous shade of yellow. D</i></p> <p><i>Regardless of what type, I know you're better C</i></p> <p><i>Than this or that or any other fellow. D</i></p> <p><i>You make me melt like a pot of fondue. E</i></p> <p><i>You're sweeter than a bowl of mascarpone. F</i></p> <p><i>I'll never want to throw or discard you. E</i></p> <p><i>You are my one and only cheese alone. F</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>When it does come to reaching for a snack, G</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>I'll always look to you—my colby jack! G</i></p>	



YOUR TURN!

Inanimate Object:	
Brainstorm a list of descriptions/characteristics for this object:	
Write your sonnet: Highlight quatrain 1, quatrain 2, quatrain 3, and the couplet, and mark the rhyme scheme.	