

# WRITE YOUR OWN SONNET!

Poet's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 ABABCDCEFEFEGG
- **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!

## 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!\*\*\*

You can work on your rough draft on this sheet, but your final draft should be on a separate piece of paper.

**First Stanza:**

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**Second Stanza:**

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**Third Stanza:**

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**Rhyming Couplet:**

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