**Analysis of William Shakespeare’s sonnet 18**

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?

Thou art more lovely and more temperate:

Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,

And summer's lease hath all too short a date:

Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,

And often is his gold complexion dimmed;

And every fair from fair sometime declines,

By chance or nature's changing course untrimmed;

But thy eternal summer shall not fade

Nor lose possession of that fair thou owest;

Nor shall Death brag thou wanderest in his shade,

When in eternal lines to time thou growest:

So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,

So long lives this, and this gives life to thee

**Answers**

1. Identifying the genre: the poem is a **sonnet** by William Shakespeare.
2. Identity the final rhyme scheme (stanza form): ABAB CDCD EFEF GG
3. Scan one line and find the meter:

When in /eter nal/ lines to/ time thou /gro west

U \_ / U \_ / U \_/ U \_ / U \_

The line scanned, like other lines in the poem consists of five feet, each feet is combines two syllables, the first one is unstressed and the second one stressed. Thus, the meter in this poem is **iambic pentameter**.

1. Figures of speech:
2. Simile: "Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?" (Line 1) - The speaker uses a simile to introduce the idea of comparing the beloved to a summer's day.

2. Metaphor: "Thou art more lovely and more temperate" (Line 2) - The speaker employs a metaphor to describe the beloved, suggesting that they are more beautiful and moderate than a summer's day.

3. Personification: "And summer's lease hath all too short a date" (Line 4) - Summer's lease, or its time, is personified as having a short duration.

4. Metonymy: "And every fair from fair sometime declines" (Line 8) - The term "fair" is used metonymically to refer to beauty or attractiveness in general.

5. Hyperbole: "But thy eternal summer shall not fade" (Line 9) - The speaker employs hyperbole to emphasize that the beloved's beauty will never diminish.

6. Personification: "Nor shall Death brag thou wanderest in his shade" (Line 11) Death is personified as being able to boast or take pride in the beloved's demise.

7. Metaphor: "When in eternal lines to time thou growest" (Line 12) - The speaker uses a metaphor to compare the poem (the eternal lines) to a means of preserving the beloved's beauty and memory.

8. Apostrophe: "So long as men can breathe or eyes can see" (Line 13) - The speaker addresses an absent audience or personified concept (men) as a way of expressing the enduring nature of the poem's message.

1. The general theme of the poem: the poem speaks about the eternal love to he feels for his lover and how his poem will always keep that love alive, even after his death because his words will always be read by other people till the end of the world.