

METER CHEAT SHEET

SONNET 18 PARAPHRASE

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day? Shall I compare you to a summer's day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate: You are more lovely and more constant:
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May, Rough winds shake the beloved buds of May
And summer's lease hath all too short a date: And summer is far too short:
Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines, At times the sun is too hot,
And often is his gold complexion dimm'd; Or often goes behind the clouds;
And every fair from fair sometime declines, And everything beautiful sometime will lose its beauty,
By chance or nature's changing course untrimm'd; By misfortune or by nature's planned out course.
But thy eternal summer shall not fade But your youth shall not fade,
Nor lose possession of that fair thou owest; Nor will you lose the beauty that you possess;
Nor shall Death brag thou wander'st in his shade, Nor will death claim you for his own,
When in eternal lines to time thou growest: Because in my eternal verse you will live forever.
So long as men can breathe or eyes can see, So long as there are people on this earth,
So long lives this and this gives life to thee. So long will this poem live on, making you immortal.

Stress x / x / x / x / x /
Syllable Thou art more love- ly and more temp- pe- rate

stressed (/) and unstressed (x) syllables

Iambic pentameter: (Iambic) unstressed + stressed (Two Syllables)
(Pentameter) 5 stressed syllables per line

Shakespeare- 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**:
Some**time** too **hot** the **eye** of **heaven** **shines**,
And **often** **is** his **gold** complexion **dimm'd**;
And **every** **fair** from **fair** some**time** **declines**,
By **chance** or **nature's** **changing** **course** untrimm'd;
But **thy** eternal **summer** **shall** not **fade**
Nor **lose** possession **of** that **fair** thou **owest**;
Nor **shall** Death **brag** thou **wander'st** **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**.