Worksheet 1 | Shakespeare’s Sonnets

a) The two main types of sonnet are the _________ and the __________ sonnet.

b) Both types of sonnet are _________ lines long.

c) Sonnets are usually written in a metre called ________________.

d) In this metre the lines are divided into _____ feet. Each foot has two syllables with the _____ on the second syllable of each pair.

e) _________ sonnets (The type that Shakespeare uses) are divided into three _________ and a _________.

f) _________ are groups of four lines rhymed ABAB.

g) A __________ is a pair of rhyming lines which Shakespeare uses at the end of his sonnets to, often to sum up his themes, arguments and ideas.

h) Shakespeare’s sonnets often explore their themes through techniques such as _________ to compare one thing with another.

i) A _________ sonnet is divided into an octave and a sestet which often _________ with one another, presenting two different or opposing ideas. Shakespeare does not write this type of sonnet but some of his poems are influenced by this idea of opposition.

j) Lots of sonnets which follow on from one another are collectively called a sonnet ________.

1. Can you fill in the blanks in these sentences from the words in the box below? Each word can be used more than once.

five
Petrarchan
fourteen
couplet
Shakespearean
iambic pentameter
contrast
quatrains
sequence
metaphor
stress

________________________

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