

Analysis of Poetry > Sonnets

01. Be able to state major differences and similarities between **Plath** and **Eliot** which were discussed in class.
See demo Week 11: Eliot: “Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” p 679
See demo Week 12: Plath: “Daddy” p 406
02. Although Plath is considered as a Confessionalist, she utilizes similar methods of Modernism in her poems.
See pages 5 and 6 in Week 12 demo for **Sylvia Plath**.
 - what is relevant regarding how Plath and Eliot treat their personae?
 - how similar are the two figures? — and how different? Be able to state at least two examples for each character.
03. Be able to distinguish major differences and similarities between **Ginsberg** and **Blake**.
Remember both are using a strategy termed as **social protests** or **poems of witness**.
See demo Week 12: Blake: “London” p 1020
See demo Week 13: Ginsberg: “A Supermarket in California” p 999
 - state what the poets concerns are.
 - state two types of situations the poets individually present to the reader.
04. Be able to show examples of how all four poets utilize **intertextuality**.
Individually they promote this technique in slightly different ways. Be able to identify examples.
05. What defines a sonnet? What is a **blank sonnet**?
See Week 13: **History of the Sonnet** demo.
 - page 4 of demo: shows the basic characteristics of a sonnet.
 - know the terms supplied here; be able to use them correctly in your defense
 - page 6: be able to explain the possible differences between themes within an **octave** and a **sestet**.
 - identify who is credited with developing the **Italian form**
 - page 7-8: be able to show at least three specific qualities for defending your views; all of these bullet points are what traditionally were employed in sonnets for over three hundred years, and are still used even today.
 - who brought the **English form** into existence?
 - page 16: Identify how **Spenser** experimented with the sonnet.
06. Be able to tell the differences between an English sonnet and an Italian sonnet.
See Week 14: **Review of Three Popular Sonnet Forms**— diagram of rhyme schemes.
 - What’s a **volta**? Where is the volta?
 - What is crucial about the ending couplet for the English form?
07. Know all of the **Poets-speakers** and their **Beloveds** by name.
 - what characteristics exist for Laura, Elizabeth, the Young Man, and the Dark Lady?
 - what type of relationship exists between the various Poets and their Beloveds?
 - what are the major differences between Laura and the Dark Lady?
08. Be able to determine elements which make up poetry:
 - rhyme schemes and iambic meter
 - metaphor, simile, personification, alliteration, allusion, slant rhyme, expected rhyme
09. Remember: Elizabethan = Renaissance England