

Sonnet: What to Write About?

A sonnet is a form of poem with the following characteristics:

- It is fourteen lines long.
- The first line should state a theme, i.e., tell the reader what the poem is about.
- Each of the fourteen lines is ten syllables long.
- The fourteen lines are divided into three stanzas of four lines each, followed by a final two-line couplet.
- Sonnets also have a special rhyme scheme. The last words in the first and third lines of each four-line stanza rhyme with each other, and the last words in the second and fourth lines of each four-line stanza rhyme with each other. (ABAB)
- The last words in the final couplet rhyme with each other.

The first step is to decide what you want to write about. Anything can be the subject for a sonnet. Brainstorm a few topics. Then think up a possible first line to go with each one. Remember, each line of a sonnet is ten syllables long.



Theme or Topic	First Line