

Name _____ **Sonnet**



Italian Sonnet

The Italian sonnet has the following characteristics:

- Its fourteen lines consist of a group of eight lines (called an octave) followed by a group of six lines (called a sestet).
- The typical rhyme scheme is: a b b a a b b a for the octave and c d d c d d, c d d e c e, or c d d c c d for the sestet.
- A problem/conflict is described in the octave and resolved in the sestet.

The Italian sonnet below, "London, 1802," was written by William Wordsworth. Identify the rhyme scheme, the problem, and the solution.

Rhyme Scheme

Milton! thou shouldst be living at this hour:	_____
England hath need of thee: she is a fen	_____
Of stagnant waters: altar, sword, and pen,	_____
Fireside, the heroic wealth of hall and bower,	_____
Have forfeited their ancient English dower	_____
Of inward happiness. We are selfish men;	_____
Oh! raise us up, return to us again;	_____
And give us manners, virtue, freedom, power.	_____
Thy soul was like a Star, and dwelt apart;	_____
Thou hadst a voice whose sound was like the sea:	_____
Pure as the naked heavens, majestic, free,	_____
So didst thou travel on life's common way,	_____
In cheerful godliness; and yet thy heart	_____
The lowliest duties on herself did lay.	_____

Problem/conflict: _____

Resolution: _____
