

Name _____

Caesura



Listening for Caesura

A caesura is a break or pause in the middle of a line of verse. Sometimes it is marked with | | in the middle of the line. Usually, though, it is not marked; it is just expressed by the reader or the singer. In Latin, the word caesura means "cut."

Caesurae often appear on song lyrics. In fact, you have probably heard a singer express a caesura many times before.

DIRECTIONS: Your teacher will play the first verse of "The Star Spangled Banner" twice. Listen carefully to the singer.

1. Can you hear any caesurae? _____
2. How many caesurae do you hear in the first verse? _____
3. Write out the first verse of the song on the lines below. Mark with a | | where you hear a caesura.
