

## Key Learning

- The sonnet is one of the most common traditional poetic forms. William Shakespeare wrote some of the most famous sonnets.

## Sonnet Rules

- A sonnet is fourteen lines long.
- The fourteen lines are divided into three groups, or “stanzas,” of four lines each, followed by a final two-line “couplet.”
- Each of the fourteen lines is ten syllables long.
- Each of the three stanzas has an ABAB rhyme scheme. This means that the first and third lines of each stanza rhyme with each other, and the second and fourth lines rhyme with each other.
- The final couplet has an AA rhyme scheme, meaning that those two lines rhyme with one another.
- The last line should state what the sonnet is about.

## What should I already know?

A simple structure of different poems.

## Key Vocabulary

|          |             |         |
|----------|-------------|---------|
| sonnet   | Shakespeare | couplet |
| quatrain | stanza      |         |

## My Dog Is Not the Smartest Dog Alive

My dog is not the smartest dog alive.  
He says that submarines know how to dance.  
He seems to think that two plus two is five.  
He's sure Japan's the capital of France.

My dog declares that tigers grow on trees.  
He tells me that he's twenty-nine feet tall.  
He argues only antelopes eat cheese,  
then adds that ants are good at basketball.

He swears the sun is made of candy bars.  
It seems to me my dog is pretty dense.  
He says he's seen bananas play guitars.  
He talks a lot but doesn't make much sense.

Although I love my dog with all my heart,  
I have to say, he isn't very smart.



Sonnet from [poetry4kids.com](http://poetry4kids.com)

