SONNET 18

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate:
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,
And summer's lease hath all too short a date:
Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,
And often is his gold complexion dimm'd;
And every fair from fair sometime declines,
By chance, or nature's changing course, untrimm'd;
But thy eternal summer shall not fade
Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st;
Nor shall Death brag thou wander'st in his shade,
When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st;
So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.
2. Examine the structure of the poem and answer the questions below with the help of your teacher:

(i) Count the number of lines in the poem.

(ii) A poem of fourteen lines is called a ____________.

(iii) How would you divide the poem into four separate sections?

(iv) The four line sections of a sonnet are known as ____________.

(v) The two lines at the end of a sonnet are known as a ____________ ____________.

(vi) How many syllables are in each line?

(vii) There are ______ syllables in each line of a sonnet. This is known as ____________

(viii) Using the abab format, identify the rhyming scheme of the poem.

(ix) Identify the metaphor used by Shakespeare in Sonnet 18. Explain how this metaphor is used throughout the poem.

Write out (ii), (v) and (vii) in your copybooks.

3. Extension writing

Can you write a modern version of the poem?