

English Literature Test

Shakespeare the Poet-Read and analyse these poems

XII - WHEN I DO COUNT THE CLOCK THAT TELLS THE TIME

translation help

<p>When I do count the clock that tells the time, And see the brave day sunk in hideous night; When I behold the violet past prime, And sable curls, all silvered o'er with white; When lofty trees I see barren of leaves, Which erst from heat did canopy the herd, And summer's green all girded up in sheaves, Borne on the bier with white and bristly beard, Then of thy beauty do I question make, That thou among the wastes of time must go, Since sweets and beauties do themselves forsake And die as fast as they see others grow; And nothing 'gainst Time's scythe can make defence Save breed, to brave him when he takes thee hence, erst formerly. breed prole</p>	<p>sable curls= riccioli neri lofty trees= alberi sublimi transl. che protegge vano il gregge dalla calura transl. il verde dell'estate stretto in covoni transl. portato sul carro..... forsake= qui si smarriscono hence= da qua</p>
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PART ONE- ANALYSIS OF SONNET XII

1. Write down the sonnet's rhyme scheme _____
2. How many stanzas is the sonnet divided into? _____
3. Summarize the main subjects in these stanzas:
 1st quatrain _____
 2nd quatrain _____
 3rd quatrain _____
 final couplet _____

In lines 1-8 a number of changes in nature happen because of the passing of time. Complete the table:

NATURAL ELEMENTS	EFFECTS OF TIME
Brave day	Sunk in hideous night