

Analyse the use of poetic devices in the poem.

1. With a pencil you must mark the following:

End rhyme structure, alliterations, personifications, symbols, metaphors, stressed and unstressed syllables.

2. Talk with your neighbour about the meter, you can get inspiration in these questions:

Does the lines of the poem have 10 syllables? Do they consist of iambic pentameter? Does it have 5 feet in each line? Can it be said to have a distinct rhythm?

3. Answer these questions on your paper:

Is this the same structure as the shakespearean sonnet? If not explain the difference in prose.

What is the theme? What is Donne's view on Death? According to him, what happens when we die? What are your own thoughts on death/mortality

Holy Sonnets: Death, be not proud

By John Donne (b. 1572, d. 1631)

Death, be not proud, though some have called thee A
Mighty and dreadful, for thou art not so; B
For those whom thou think'st thou dost overthrow B
Die not, poor Death, nor yet canst thou kill me. A
From rest and sleep, which but thy pictures be, A
Much pleasure; then from thee much more must flow, B
And soonest our best men with thee do go, B
Rest of their bones, and soul's delivery. A
Thou art slave to fate, chance, kings, and desperate men, C
And dost with poison, war, and sickness dwell, D
And poppy or charms can make us sleep as well D
And better than thy stroke; why swell'st thou then? C
One short sleep past, we wake eternally E
And death shall be no more; Death, thou shalt die. E

thou = du
thee = dig
thy = din