**SONNET 18 – William Shakespeare**

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.

**Questions**

1. This poem is an extended comparison between the speaker's lover and a
summer's day.

2. According to **the first two lines**, how is the speaker's lover UNLIKE a
summer's day?

**3. Lines three through eight** point out a number of negative characteristics of
summer. Identify them.

**4. Lines nine through fourteen** offer a view of the lover's many contrasts with
nature. How is she better than a summer's day?

5. What will keep her young forever? What does this poem suggest about the
value of art?

6. Identify the **metaphors, personification, and hyperbole** in this sonnet.