



**‘Sonnet 116’ by William Shakespeare**

**Summarise what the poem is about in full sentences:**

**Annotate the poem with points you remember from your initial study:**

**Sonnet 116**

Let me not to the marriage of true minds  
Admit impediments; love is not love  
Which alters when it alteration finds,  
Or bends with the remover to remove.  
O no, it is an ever-fixed mark  
That looks on tempests and is never shaken;  
It is the star to every wandering bark,  
Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken.  
Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks  
Within his bending sickle's compass come;  
Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,  
But bears it out even to the edge of doom.  
If this be error and upon me proved,  
I never writ, nor no man ever loved.

<b>What is the background to the writing of ‘Sonnet 116’?</b>	<b>What is Shakespeare’s intention in writing this poem?</b>
<p>When was this poem written?</p> <p>Shakespeare lived at a time of great sea adventures. Sea travel was extremely dangerous and following the right route was difficult without modern navigational aids. How is this information influential in Shakespeare’s writing of the sonnet?</p>	<p>to comment</p> <p>to illustrate</p> <p>to exemplify</p> <p>to challenge</p>

Language		Structure and form	
	Example and effect		Example and effect
Nouns		Sonnet	
Verbs		Regular rhyme	
Negation		Semi-colon	
Metaphor		Repetition	
Alliteration		Polyptoton	
Personification		Opposites	

**What other poems in the anthology can we link to this poem to and why?**

**How does Shakespeare explore the theme of love in 'Sonnet 116'?**