**Term 5 Week 1 Lesson 1 Year 9**

**Do now:**

1. **Create a simile about an angry man.**
2. **Give an example of personification.**
3. **Give an example of a metaphor to describe a summer’s day.**

**Unseen Poetry**

The following poem is a sonnet written by William Shakespeare. Shakespeare: As well as being a playwright, Shakespeare produced many poems, some of the most famous are in the form of sonnets. Sonnets follow a specific format, always and Shakespeare uses this format to help aid the meaning of his words. Read the following sonnet *‘Shall I compare thee to a summer’s day?’* and answer the following questions:

1. What structural technique does Shakespeare use in the last two lines of the poem?
2. Why does Shakespeare begin with a rhetorical question?
3. How many syllables does each line have? Do you notice a pattern?
4. What is the main theme expressed throughout this sonnet?
5. How does Shakespeare develop this theme as the sonnet progresses?

**Sonnet No. 18**

**Poem begins with praise for a dear friend. The friend is at first compared to a summer’s day.**

Shall I compare thee to a summer’s day?

‘**temperate’ – not overcome by passion**

Thou art more lovely and more temperate.

**At the end of the first quatrain, hints that the beauty of summer comes to an end and therefore so does youth**

**Each line is 10 syllables which is called iambic pentameter.**

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 dimmed;

**Metaphorically describes his skin as ‘gold’**

And every fair from fair sometime declines,

By chance, or nature’s changing course, untrimmed;

**By the third quatrain, the friend is now a ‘perfect’ being…**

But thy eternal summer shall not fade,

Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow’st,

**Thinks that his friend should be saved from death and immortalised ‘eternal lines’ as time moves forward**

Nor shall death brag thou wand'rest in his shade,

When in eternal lines to Time thou grow'st.

So long as men can breathe, or eyes can see,

**Rhyming couplet - as long as there is breath in mankind, this poem will live on and so, therefore will his ‘friend’**

So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.

**Exam question:**

How does Shakespeare use the metaphor of summer to describe his friend?

**Model answer:**

**Shakespeare begins with the rhetorical question ‘shall I compare thee to a summers day?’ which suggests that Shakespeare feels his friend is beautiful like the summer. In other words the speaker may be in love with the subject as traditionally a sonnet is a love poem. More specifically the verb ‘compare’ implies that the friend is just as lovely to look at as the summer’s day he looks out on. The reader is curious to know how Shakespeare will go about this comparison, as surely true love does not need to be compared to anything.**

**Your turn (at least three paragraphs)…**