



“Nothing Gold Can Stay” Rhyming Activity

This Robert Frost poem, published in 1923 (the same year as “Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening”), contains only eight lines, which are paired into four “couplets” (pairs of rhyming lines):

1. Nature’s first green is **gold**,
2. Her hardest hue to **hold**.
3. Her early leaf’s a **flower**;
4. But only so an **hour**.
5. Then leaf subsides to **leaf**.
6. So Eden sank to **grief**,
7. So dawn goes down to **day**.
8. Nothing gold can **stay**.

When analyzing what we call a poem’s “rhyme scheme,” we use letters to help us pair up the ending words that rhyme. The rhyme scheme of “Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening,” for example, is AABA-BBCB-CCDC-DDDD.

“Nothing Gold Can Stay” has a very simple rhyme scheme: AA-BB-CC-DD. (A = “old,” B = “our,” C = “eef,” D = “ay”)

Can **you** write an 8-line poem with an AA-BB-CC-DD rhyme scheme?

1. _____ [A]
2. _____ [A]
3. _____ [B]
4. _____ [B]
5. _____ [C]
6. _____ [C]
7. _____ [D]

8. _____ [D]