

TO THE VIRGINS, TO MAKE MUCH OF TIME

by Robert Herrick

GATHER ye rosebuds while ye may,
Old time is still a-flying :
And this same flower that smiles to-day
4 To-morrow will be dying.

The glorious lamp of heaven, the sun,
The higher he's a-getting,
The sooner will his race be run,
8 And nearer he's to setting.

That age is best which is the first,
When youth and blood are warmer ;
But being spent, the worse, and worst
12 Times still succeed the former.

Then be not coy, but use your time,
And while ye may go marry :
For having lost but once your prime
16 You may for ever tarry.

_____ 1. Using the dashes at the end of
_____ each line, mark the rhyme scheme.

_____ 2. Using your notes on poetry,
_____ identify the overall meter of the
_____ poem*.

- _____ a. Iambic pentameter
- _____ b. Trochaic trimeter
- _____ c. Iambic tetrameter
- _____ d. Spondaic Hexameter

_____ 3. What is the theme, or overall
_____ idea, of this poem?

4. There is a Latin term for this
(referring to question 3); what is
it?*

*use lines 9 & 10
** see literary terms