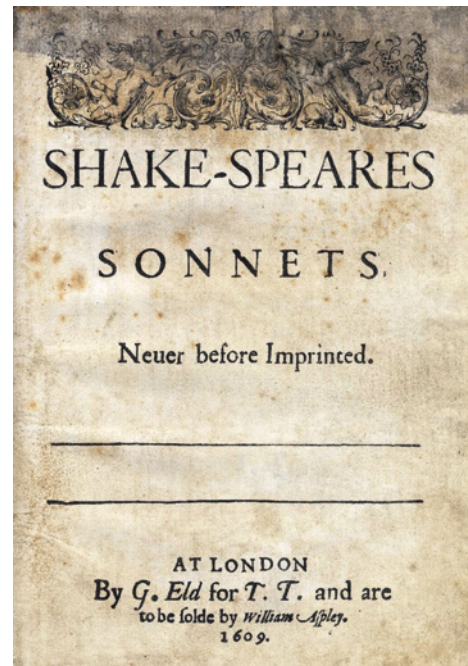


William Shakespeare, *Sonnet 130*

*My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun;
Coral is far more red than her lips' red;
If snow be white, why then her breasts are dun;
If hairs be wires, black wires grow on her head.
I have seen roses damasked, red and white,
But no such roses see I in her cheeks;
And in some perfumes is there more delight
Than in her breath that from my mistress reeks.
I love to hear her speak, yet well I know
That music hath a far more pleasing sound;
I grant I never saw a goddess go;
My mistress, when she walks, treads on the ground.
And yet, by heaven, I think my love as rare
As any she belied with false compare.*



activities

↓ TEXT COMPREHENSION

Answer the following questions.

- 1 What is the main theme of this sonnet?
- 2 The description of the poet's love is much different from the *Shall I Compare Thee...* sonnet. How are the descriptions different? What is the speaking voice saying about his love in this poem?
- 3 What is the overall tone of this poem?
- 4 How do you think the poet feels about his love?
- 5 Sonnet 130 is a parody. What is being mocked in the poem?

