*Introduction to Shakespeare*

*Paraphrasing Activity*

***What is paraphrasing***? A paraphrase takes difficult language and explains it in easier, more understandable, language. It is usually as long as or longer than the original piece. It does not contain any of the original language.

***Steps to Paraphrase***:

1. Identify any unfamiliar words

2. Translate the language [Example: art= are; hath=has]

3. Use a conversational tone.

Examples

***Conversational Tone***

OOOOH Baby I think I shall compare you to a summer day  
But, you know, you're prettier and even better, even calm  
Because sometimes it gets windy and the buds on the trees get shaken off  
And sometimes summer doesn't last very long  
Sometimes it's too hot  
And everything gorgeous loses its looks  
By getting hit by a truck Or just because everyone and everything gets old and ugly and shabby  
BUT (and here's the turn) you're going to keep your looks for ever   
Your beauty will last for ever  
I'm going to make sure that you never lose your good looks  
And that nasty old Death can never brag about owning you  
Because I shall write this poem about you  
As long as men can breathe (are you breathing?)   
As long as men can see (are you looking at this poem?)  
Then this poem lives, and it gives life and memory to your beauty.

***Shakespearean Language***

***Sonnet #18***

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?  
Thou art more lovely and more temperate:  
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,  
And every fair from fair sometime declines,  
By chance, or nature's changing course untrimmed:   
But thy eternal summer shall not fade,  
Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st,  
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,  
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.

Your Task

**Directions**: Paraphrase the following passages from Shakespeare’s work.

***Conversational Tone***

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1. *Sonnet 29*

When in disgrace with Fortune and men's eyes,  
I all alone beweep my outcast state,  
And trouble deaf heaven with my bootless cries,  
And look upon my self and curse my fate,  
Wishing me like to one more rich in hope,  
Featured like him, like him with friends possessed,  
Desiring this man's art, and that man's scope,  
With what I most enjoy contented least,  
Yet in these thoughts my self almost despising,  
Haply I think on thee, and then my state,  
(Like to the lark at break of day arising  
From sullen earth) sings hymns at heaven's gate,   
For thy sweet love remembered such wealth brings,  
That then I scorn to change my state with kings.

2. “Canst thou, O cruel! say I love thee not!”

**Conversational Tone**:

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3. “Farewell! Thou art too dear for my possessing.”

**Conversational Tone:**

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4. “Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?”

**Conversational Tone**:

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5. “My glass shall not persuade me I am old.”

**Conversational Tone**:

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6. “Though are more lovely and more temperate.”

**Conversational Tone:**

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7. “I have no precious time at all to spend/ Nor services to do, till you require.”

**Conversational Tone:**

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