

# Task 6: Love Delights

As a second extension activity, Mrs Wood would like you to learn how to write a poem. You will work with your group mates to compose a love poem, based on your personal response to either the Greek myth *Pgymalion and the Statue* or the Greek myth *Pyramus and Thisbe*. To help you write the poem, Mrs Wood has provided you with the following for reference:

- A sample love poem and the background to the poem;
- A poem analysis;
- Links to useful websites for love poem-writing tips; and
- Useful adjectives, adverbs and expressions for love poems.

#### A Sample Poem

Here is a sample of a love poem *My Luve is Like a Red, Red Rose*.

	My Luve is Like a Red, Red Rose
1	O, my luve is like a red, red rose,
	That's newly sprung in June,
	O, my luve is like a melodie,
	That's sweetly play'd in tune.
5	As fair art thou, my bonie lass,
	So deep in luve am I,
	And I will luve thee still, my dear,
	Till a' the seas gang dry.
	Till a' the seas gang dry, my dear,
10	And the rocks melt we' the sun!
	And I will luve thee still, my dear,
	While the sand o' life shall run.
	And fare thee weel, my only luve!
	And fare thee weel, a while!
15	And I will come again, my luve,
	Tho' it were ten thousand mile!

#### Background of the Poem My Luve is Like a Red, Red Rose

This poem was written in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century by the famous Scottish poet, Robert Burns, who was born in 1759 and died in 1796. As a matter of fact, this poem has been set to music. It is believed that the lyrics of this poem are so beautiful the words make their own music as one is reading them.

Burns had many girl friends while he was alive. Yet, he articulates his idea of loving somebody faithfully as long as the world lasts, which is not confined by space and time. Some words like "luve", "art thou", "thee" etc. were written in his Scottish dialect and old English.



#### Poem Analysis by Mrs. Wood

This is a lovely poem published in 1794 and it was written as a traditional ballad, four stanzas (or verses) of four lines each. The reason why "love" was spelt "luve" was that Burns was of Scottish descent and "luve" means "love".

Some people think this poem is romantic as love is explicitly compared to a red rose, which is a simile (a figure of speech that expresses a similarity between things of different kinds - usually formed with "like" or "as"). Alliteration (the repetition of the beginning sounds of words) such as "red, red rose" is also used. Burns also compares his love with a springtime rose which is blooming in the first stanza (or verse), and then with a sweet melody. There are also rhyming words like "June" in line 2 and "tune" in line 4.

In the second and third stanzas, there are also rhyming words: "I", "dry" in line 6 and line 8, and there are internal rhyming words of "will" and "still" in line 7. "Sun" also rhymes with "run" in line 10 and line 12 while "while" rhymes with "mile" in line 14 and line 16.

The last stanza wraps up the poem with both a farewell and a promise of return.

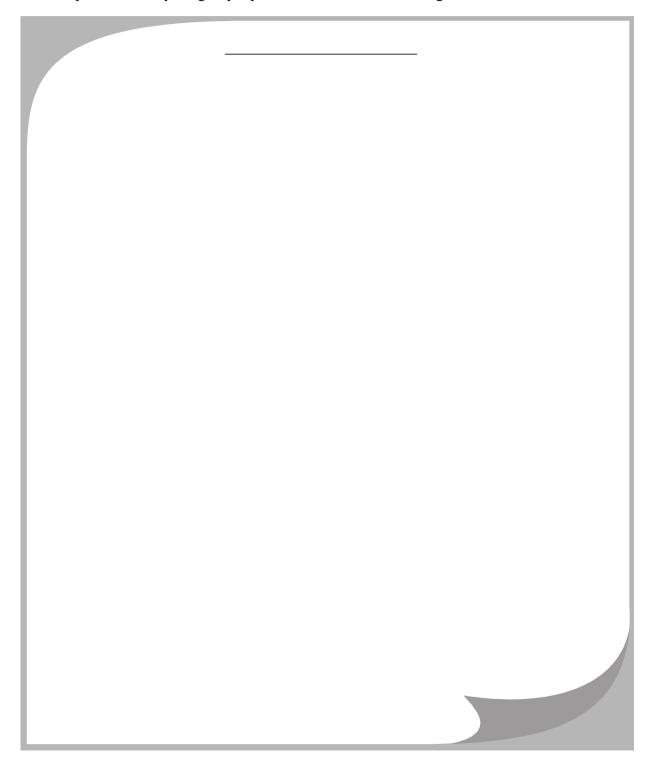
#### Useful Adjectives, Nouns and Expressions for Love Poems

adore, awaken, beloved, charming smile, contentment, cuddly, darling, delightful, divine, embrace, eternity, flawless, gaze, kissable, heart and soul, lovable, luscious lips, memories, open arms, outstanding, passion, pleasing, praise, pure, radiant, rejoiced, sensational, sweet face, warm embrace



## Task: Writing a Love Poem

Work with your group mates to compose a love poem in the space below. When you have finished composing the poem, ask another group to fill out the assessment form on p.4. Then make improvement to your group's poem based on the feedback given.





### **Assessment Form**

Writing a Love Poem				
Tick $\square$ the appropriate boxes and add comments below	<i>W</i> .	0		
Content				
<ul> <li>The title of the poem is appropriate.</li> <li>The content is based on my personal response to e Greek myth of <i>Pygmalion and the Statue</i> or the G of <i>Pyramus and Thisbe</i>.</li> </ul>				
Organisation				
• The poem has a rhyming pattern.				
Language and Style				
• The poem is interesting to read, and memorable.				
Layout			_	
• The layout of the poem is appropriate.				
Grammar				
<ul> <li>The expressions and wordings are accurate.</li> <li>Verb forms, punctuation and spelling are accurate</li> </ul>				
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<ul><li>The expressions and wordings are accurate.</li><li>Verb forms, punctuation and spelling are accurate</li></ul>	Assessmen		-	b