

On the Sonnet

1. Lanuguage
2. Name
3. Rhyme With Stress
4. Noun
5. Body Part
6. Adjective

On the Sonnet

If by dull rhymes our Language must be chain'd,

And, like Name, the Sonnet sweet

Fetter'd, in spite of pained Rhyme with Stress;

Let us find out, if we must be constrain'd,

Noun more interwoven and complete

To fit the naked Body Part of poesy;

Let us inspect the lyre, and weigh the stress

Of every chord, and see what may be gain'd

By ear industrious, and attention meet:

Misers of sound and syllable, no less

Than Midas of his coinage, let us be

Jealous of Adjective leaves in the bay wreath crown;

So, if we may not let the Muse be free,

She will be bound with garlands of her own.