THE SONNET

Poetry is a literary genre. The sonnet is a form of poetry.

The sonnet as its name reminds greatly relies on sound; in addition one must remember it is a lyrical form of poetry: it strongly focuses on private and intimate filings and emotions (of the speaker) and it follows that it is generally a personal form of poetry. (lyrical form of poetry implies lyric)

Where was the sonnet born and how it developed in time? (structure)

The sonnet form was born in Italy thanks to Mr. Petrarch. If we consider structure, the Petrarchan sonnet consists **of an octave and a sestet**. The octave consists of two quatrains. The rhymes succession of the sonnet is (for example): A B A B A B A B C and so on what matters in terms of sound is that sound plays a very important function: it contributes to add compactness to the poem.

Sonnet better than other forms of poetry use **a very syntactical form and condense.** It follows that sonnet is a complex form of poetry.

What is the function of the octave and the sestet?

The octave presents the speaking voice problem, the sestet expresses a possible solution. The sestet consists of two or three tercet.

\*The linguistic codes being different do not allowed; sonnet had big problems, found it very hard to cope with the language differences.