

OUTSIDERS




NAME _____

PERIOD _____

“Nothing Gold Can Stay”
by Robert Frost

DIRECTIONS: Let's analyze the meaning of Robert Frost's poem that Ponyboy quoted to Johnny. Read each line from the poem and write an analysis of what it means in the box. Each of the four boxes should have a few lines of explanation and analysis.

Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.



1. What do you think "gold" could be talking about? What different meanings could the idea "gold" have?

Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.




2. Why do the leaf and flower only last an hour?

Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief.



3. What is Eden and how did it sink to grief?

So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.



4. Why can't anything "gold" stay?

Rhyme Scheme

DIRECTIONS:

Analyze the *rhyme scheme* of the poem. Write the alphabetic letter that maps out the end rhyme on each line.

EXAMPLE:

Your Turn:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| ...fish <u>A</u> | ...gold _____ |
| ...walk <u>B</u> | ...hold _____ |
| ...dish <u>A</u> | ...flower _____ |
| ...stalk <u>B</u> | ...hour _____ |
| ...water <u>B</u> | ...leaf _____ |
| ...potter <u>B</u> | ...grief _____ |
| | ...day _____ |
| | ...stay _____ |

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NAME Answer key

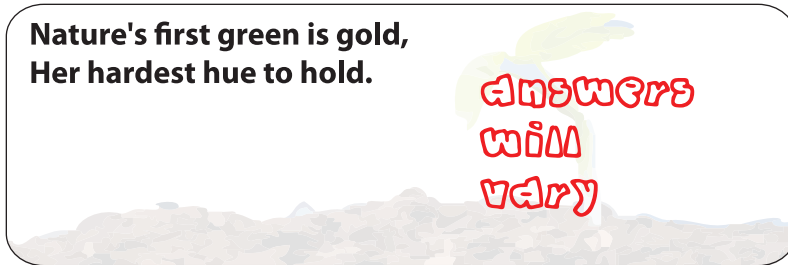
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Answers
will
vary

Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.



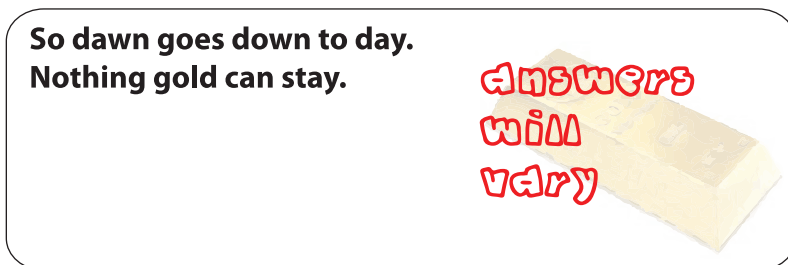
Answers
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Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief.



Answers
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So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.



Answers
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vary

1. What do you think “gold” could be talking about? What different meanings could the idea “gold” have?

Answers
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2. Why do the leaf and flower only last an hour?

Answers
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3. What is Eden and how did it sink to grief?

Answers
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4. Why can’t anything “gold” stay?

Answers
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Rhyme Scheme

DIRECTIONS:

Analyze the *rhyme scheme* of the poem. Write the alphabetic letter that maps out the end rhyme on each line.

EXAMPLE:

...fish A
...walk B
...dish A
...stalk B
...water B
...potter B

Your Turn:

...gold A
...hold A
...flower B
...hour B
...leaf B
...grief B
...day D
...stay D