

## Poetry Analysis

When reading poetry, the author seldom comes right out and gives us a direct message. We must infer what is being said in order to understand the meaning behind a poem. Let's look at Robert Frost's poem, "Nothing Gold Can Stay," as quoted by Ponyboy in Chapter 5 of *The Outsiders* (page 77).

### Nothing Gold Can Stay

By: Robert Frost

The author says....	This means...
Nature's first green is gold,	<i>In the spring, things begin to grow. Gold is valuable. Spring is a valuable time.</i>
Her hardest hue to hold.	
Her early leaf's a flower;	
But only so an hour.	
Then leaf subsides to leaf.	
So Eden sank to grief	
So dawn goes down to day.	
Nothing gold can stay.	

## Literary Analysis

*Find and label examples of the following items in this poem:*

1. Mark the rhyme scheme. How is the poem organized?
2. Alliteration – find examples and underline
3. Personification – highlight and mark with a “P.”
4. Circle an allusion.

*Respond the following questions:*

5. Frost uses a series of metaphors about nature. What is nature symbolic of in the poem?
6. With the partner sitting next to you, the theme of this poem and how it relates to Pony’s situation in the book. Record your response in complete sentences.

## **Nothing Gold Can Stay**

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Nothing gold can stay.