

NAME: _____

Scansion Practice

Try scanning these poems. Mark unstressed syllables with \smile and stressed syllables with \blacktriangledown . Be sure to read the ENTIRE poem before attempting to scan it.

1. I dreamed a dream in days gone by,

When hope was high and life worth living.

I dreamed that love would never die,

I dreamed that God would be forgiving. —*Les Misérables*

2. For the moon never beams without bringing me dreams

Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;

And the stars never rise, but I feel the bright eyes

Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;

And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side

Of my darling—my darling—my life and my bride,

In her sepulchre there by the sea,

In her tomb by the sounding sea. —Edgar Allan Poe, “Annabel Lee”

3. When I wished for new pants, I expected my dream

To come true in a burst of delight,

But the wish that I made left me pretty dismayed,

For the pants that appeared were too tight.

4. Snowy cars can look so pretty, even to an atheist.

Holden seemed annoyed by Sally, even though they hugged and kissed.

5. I never thought I'd see the day

When Sammy Sosa told the truth,

But as he died, I heard him say,

"I *did* use steroids in my youth."

6. Bilbo Baggins made a journey,

Fighting dragons, orcs, and trolls.

When he finally journeyed homeward,

He'd accomplished all his goals.

7. At the end of the day you're another day colder,

And that's all you can say for the life of the poor.

It's a struggle, it's a war, and there's nothing that anyone's giving...

Just another day living.

—*Les Misérables*

8. DeLoreans go really fast.

They never show up late.

And they can even drive through time,

If they go eighty-eight.