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**Auszug aus:**

*Shakespeare Sonnet 116 - Lyrics*

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## William Shakespeare: Sonnet 116

116

Let me not to the marriage of true minds  
 Admit impediments. Love is not love  
 Which alters when it alteration finds,  
 Or bends with the remover to remove.

5           O no, it is an ever-fixed mark  
 That looks on tempests and is never shaken;  
 It is the star to every wandering bark,  
 Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken.  
 Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks

10           Within his bending sickle's compass come.  
 Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,  
 But bears it out even to the edge of doom.

          If this be error and upon me proved,  
 I never writ, nor no man ever loved.

---

### Helpful vocabulary:

l. 2 impediment	hindrance
l. 3 alteration	change
l. 4 to bend	to be prone to sth
l. 5 mark	sea-mark which guides sailors
l. 8 worth	here: astrological influence
l. 8 height	here: height of the star above the horizon to calculate the ship's position
l. 10 his	time's
l. 10 compass	reach / range of s.th.
l. 12 to bear it out	to last
l. 14 writ	archaic for: wrote

**Exam: William Shakespeares “Sonnet 116”**

1. Explain who the lyrical I might be and state his view on love in your own words!
2. Work out how the lyrical I arranges his/her argumentation and which effect he/she intends by applying it in this particular way. Provide proof from the text.
3. Analyse the images Shakespeare uses to describe love and their function in the sonnet. Provide proof from the text.
4. **Write a comment on the statement: “These old poems are not suitable and of no use for our modern time of the 21<sup>st</sup> century”. Give reasons to underline your argumentation.**

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Good luck!





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