Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

English 8 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**"Nothing Gold Can Stay" by Robert Frost Analysis**

Nature's first green is gold,

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.

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| **Step 1: General Analysis** |
| What do you think the poem is about? Why does Ponyboy recite the poem? What are Pony and Johnny talking about before and after he recites the poem? |
| **Step 2: Imagery** |
| List all the nouns in the poem.  Reminder: a noun is a person, place, thing, or idea. You should focus on “things.”  What do the things in your list have in common? |
| **Step 3: Poetic Devices** |
| Identify examples of the following poetic devices.   * **Alliteration:** A repeating sound, usually at the beginning of a word. Example: Cool cat; Chatty cherubs, fifty flowers * **Rhyme:** Two or more words that sound the same. Example: Toffee flavored coffee. * **Personification:** Human qualities given to a non-living thing. Example: My homework stared at me from across the room. * **Allusion:** A reference to something outside of the text. Example: Ponyboy talks about Paul Newman, a famous actor from the 1960's. * **Repetition:** Words or phrases that appear more than once. |
| **Step 4: Symbolism** |
| Identify any symbols that you can find in the poem. What do the symbols represent? How do you know? |
| **Step 5: Theme** |
| What is the theme of the poem? Explain your answer. How does this poem and the theme relate to Ponyboy’s life? |
| **Step 6: Free Write** |
| What do you think of the line “Nothing gold can stay”? Do you think it’s true? Why or why not?  If something “gold” stayed forever, would it still be “gold”? Why or why not? What is “gold” in your life? |