

**Linguistics 103. Language Structure and Verbal Art.
What is Iambic Meter? Discussion summary.**

Below are the lines assigned for discussion, with metrical analyses.

The stress maxima according to Correspondence Rule 2 are underlined.

Where a stressed syllable of a polysyllabic word is *not* relevant for the meter, either because it appears in a function word or because it is phrase- or line-initial, it is shown with double underline.

Wavy double underline shows syllables which are obligatorily elided or syncopated.

CLEOPATRA

W S W S W S W S W S W x
 | | | | | | | | | | | |
 No more, but e'en a woman, and commanded

W S W S W S W S W S
 | | | | | | | | | |
 By such poor passion as the maid that milks

W S W S W S W S W S
 | | | | | | | | | |
 And does the meanest chares. It were for me

W S W S W S W S W S
 | | | | | | | | | |
 To throw my sceptre at the injurious gods;

W S W S W S W S W S
 | | | | | | | | | |
 To tell them that this world did equal theirs

W S W S W S W S W S
 | | | | | | | | | |
 Till they had stol'n our jewel. All's but naught;

W S W S W S W S S
| | | | | | | | |
Patience is scottish, and impatience does

W S W S W S W S W S
| | | | | | | | | |
Become a dog that's mad: then is it sin

W S W S W S W S W S
| | | | | | | | | |
To rush into the secret house of death,

W S W S W S W S W S x
| | | | | | | | | | |
Ere death dare come to us? How do you, women?

W S W S W S W S x
| | | | | | | | | |
What, what! good cheer! Why, how now, Charmian!

W S W S W S W S S
| | | | | | | | | |
My noble girls! Ah, women, women, look,

W S W S W S W S W S
| | | | | | | | | |
Our lamp is spent, it's out! Good sirs, take heart:

W S W S W S W S W S x
| | | | | | | | | | |
We'll bury him; and then, what's brave, what's noble,

W S W S W S W S S x
| | | | | | | | | |
Let's do it after the high Roman fashion,

W S W S W S W S W S
| | | | | | | | | |
And make death proud to take us. Come, away:

W S W S W S W S W S
| | | | | | | | | |
This case of that huge spirit now is cold:

W S W S W S W S W S
| | | | | | | | | |
Ah, women, women! come; we have no friend

W S W S W S W S W S
| | | | | | | | | |
But resolution, and the briefest end.