

Name: _____

Date: _____

Period: _____

“Nothing Gold Can Stay”
Literary Response and Analysis Questions

Directions:

Read the questions carefully. Respond to each thoroughly, insightfully and correctly in complete sentences. Answers are worth two points each.

1. Identify four specific things in “Nothing Gold Can Stay” that the speaker says cannot, or did not “stay.”

2. Think of what the very first buds of leaves look like in spring, and then **explain** what line 1 means.

3. What natural process is described in line 5? Be as detailed as possible about this natural process.

4. Explain the biblical allusion in line 6.

5. Symbols are things that function as themselves in a piece of literature and that have a broader meaning as well. What state of mind or human situation might “Eden” symbolize here?

6. What different ideas might gold symbolize in the poem? Why can’t gold stay-or do you think it can? Why?