

## Discussion Questions: Sonnets of the Early 16<sup>th</sup> Century

1. Read Wyatt's "The long love that in my thought doth harbor" (648). What is it about? In other words, if the speaker loves someone, what is the speaker saying about his own behavior? Look for related images in the poem and consider how they work together to create an elaborate metaphor or conceit (the footnote on 648 helps). Explain how the poem expresses itself through two kinds of relationships—the lover & his beloved, and the thane & his lord.
2. In what ways did Sir Thomas Wyatt lead an exciting life filled with travel, danger, power, and sexual scandal? Read Wyatt's "Whoso list to hunt" (649). Summarize the poem in your own words and explain how an elaborate metaphor (a conceit) is used to present one story while telling another. What do we learn in the footnote to the poem and what connection does the footnote suggest between the poem and Wyatt's life?
3. Read Wyatt's "Farewell, Love" (650). Summarize the poem, and then explain how its implied attitude toward women might echo other works we've read (for example, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* [particularly the end] and Janekyn's reading habits in the "Wife of Bath's Prologue").