**Richard Cory**

Edwin Arlington Robinson

Whenever Richard Cory went down town,

We people on the pavement looked at him:

He was a gentleman from sole to crown,

Clean favored, and imperially slim.

And he was always quietly arrayed,

And he was always human when he talked:

But still he fluttered pulses when he said,

‘Good morning,’ and he glittered when he walked.

And he was rich – yes, richer than a king –

And admirably schooled in every grace:

In fine, we thought that he was everything

To make us wish that we were in his place.

So on we worked, and waited for the light,

And went without the meat, and cursed the bread:

And Richard Cory, one calm summer night,

Went home and put a bullet through his head.

***Answer the following questions in complete sentences making sure to provide evidence, detail and quotes to support your answers.***

1. What kind/ type of poem is “Richard Cory”? Are there any literary devices used? If so, where? [4 marks]

2. A detailed interpretation of the poem. Your response should be minimum one paragraph (9-12 sentences)

[10 marks]

3. What happens to Richard Cory? Why do you think he would have done this? Explain. [5 marks]

4. “So on we worked and waited for the light. And went without the meat, and cursed the bread.” What do these

represent? [6 marks]

**Useful Links**

*Watch the folk duo Simon & Garfinkel sing their adaptation of this poem:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=euuCiSY0qYs>