



Christmas Carol Language Analysis

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

How do the opening lines set mood and tone?

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing 'Alleluia!
Christ the Saviour is born
Christ the Saviour is born

What is the effect of lines 2 and 3 of this verse?
Which words stand out and why?

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth

What does 'Thy' mean and why is it capitalised?

Extension

Identify the rhyme scheme and its effect.