

Shakespeare's Sonnet 130:

My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun;	→ simile
Coral is far more red than lips' are red;	→ comparison
If snow be white, why then her breasts are dun;	→ antithesis
If hairs be wires, black wires grow on her head.	→ metaphor
I have seen roses damasked, red and white, But no such roses see I in her cheeks,	→ inversion
And in some perfumes is there more delight Than in the breath that from my mistress reeks.	→ comparison
I love to hear her speak, yet well I know That music has a far more pleasing sound.	→ comparison
I grant I never saw a goddess go; My mistress when she walks treads on the ground.	
And yet, by heaven , I think my love as rare	→ apostrophe
As any she belied with false compare.	→ simile

Paraphrases of the last two verses:

And yet, by heaven, I think my love as rare
As any woman, that is belied with false compare

Vocabs:

misstress	–	Geliebte
coral red	–	korallen rot
dun	–	dunkel
wires	–	Kabel (hier: Dräthe)
damask	–	damast
reek	–	Gestank
cheek	–	Wange
goddess	–	Göttin

Intention

- Sonnet 130 is a tribute to Shakespeare's Lady
- a response to the sonnets written by Petrarch (Francesco Petrarca, Italian scholar, poet and renaissance humanist) to his beloved Laura
 - > Petrarchan tradition: "Laura catalogue"
 - > idealized comparisons between a woman's beauty and natural imagery (eyes=sun, hair=gold...)
- no blazon (poems with metaphors and simile to compare a body of a woman with other things, for example nature)
- To W.S. only the natural, ordinary and average beauty of his woman matters > not the stunning beauty
- Shakespeare's metaphors are there to illustrate the imperfection of his lady
- He proclaims that his love for his mistress and women shouldn't be described by poets with some untrue and exaggerated comparisons
- It's not her look that counts; it's all about her values