

The Snow Man –Wallace Stevens

One must have a mind of winter  
To regard the frost and the boughs  
Of the pine-trees crusted with snow;

And have been cold a long time  
To behold the junipers shagged with ice,  
The spruces rough in the distant glitter

Of the January sun; and not to think  
Of any misery in the sound of the wind,  
In the sound of a few leaves,

Which is the sound of the land  
Full of the same wind  
That is blowing in the same bare place

For the listener, who listens in the snow,  
And, nothing himself, beholds  
Nothing that is not there and the nothing that is.

1. Describe the poem's physical construction (rhyme, rhythm, stanza length and number). Could this poem be a sonnet? A limerick? Explain.
2. What does it mean when the speaker refers to "the listener, who listens in the snow" as "nothing himself"? Begin by explaining who is "the listener," and then how he could be considered "nothing."