

S. Barman

Scansion Practices

1. Come pensive Nun, devout and Pure,
Sober, Steadfast and demure,
All in a robe of darkest grain,
Flowing with majestic train,
Come, but keep thy wonted state
With even step and musing gait. - Milton.

Ans:

Come, pen-|sive Nun, | de-vout| and Pure
So-ber, | stead-fast| and demure,
All in| a robe| of dark-|est grain,
Flowing-ing| with majes-tic| train,
Come, but| keep thy| wonted| state
With e-|ven step| and mus-ing gait.

Lines 1, 3, 6 are written in iambic tetrameter predominantly. The only variation is found in the very first foot of the 3rd line, which is a trochaic foot. Lines 2, 4 and 5 are trochaic catalectic tetrameters. There are some variations in these lines. The third foot of the second line is a pyrrhic and the second foot of the fourth line is another pyrrhic.