

What is Pink?

Pink is the younger
sister of red
gentler and prettier
it could be said.

Pink is a blush
an Everton shirt
a flamingo
a party skirt

You can taste pink
in a rosé wine
drunk chilled outdoors
when the weather's fine.

Pink sugary treats are
a sweet-tooth's dream:
marshmallows, candy-floss
strawberry ice-cream.

A pink sunset
is the prettiest sight
before the day
fades into night.

You can smell pink
in many a rose
a delicate pink
that tickles the nose.

You can hear pink
in the softest voice,
the sound you'd choose
if given a choice.

You're 'tickled pink'
if something's funny.
If you're 'in the pink'
your life is sunny.

If you doubt pink has a role
just look around and think
how dull life would be
if we didn't have pink.



Margaret Hardy, September 2023, with thanks to Mary O'Neill, Hailstones and Halibut Bones