

When to her lute Corinna sings

Thomas Campion

When to her lute Corinna sings
And doth in highest as any challenged echo clear
But when she doth of mourning speak
Her sighs strings do break

This is an extreme example of imitation of the word.

"leaden strings" is low and slow

"and doth in highest" is in the high register

"as any challenged echo clear" echos the abovementioned passage

"But when she doth of mourning speak" is mournful

"her sighs" has a rest to emulate a sigh, or possibly to allow the singer actually to sigh

in the lute part on "strings do break", it sounds as though the strings are breaking