

Title: “If” by Rudyard Kipling; Choice Menu	Grade: 8th Grade
Content: English Language Arts (History)	Duration: 3 30-45 minute sessions

<p>Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● RL.8.13: Read and comprehend high quality ... poetry of appropriate quantitative and qualitative complexity for Grade 8.
<p>Objective:</p> <p>Students will synthesize meaning and generate a retelling in the form of one of three given choices.</p>
<p>Resources Needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pencil/paper or computer ● Optional: phone/camera
<p>Introduction:</p> <p>This is one of those poems that was applicable in 1943, is applicable today, and will be applicable in 50 years. As I read it, I think of the President of the United States, I think of Michael Jordan, I think of Martin Luther King, Jr., I think of my dad, and I even think of myself. Its multiple messages are of such wisdom that I am in awe.</p> <p>You’re probably going to want to write a song, have a t-shirt made, and make a bumper sticker. I’m not even joking.</p>
<p>Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Read the poem “If” by Rudyard Kipling. Read it out loud from start to finish, hearing the rhythm and letting your voice purvey the message. ● Choose ONE of the three activities from the menu below to do with the poem “If” by Rudyard Kipling. ● Now, reread the poem, synthesizing meaning to generate your choice of the following activities.
<p>Finished Product:</p> <p>Completed activity 1, 2, or 3, turned in/shared as directed.</p>
<p>Adaptations:</p> <p>If you have trouble getting the meaning, listening to this performance may help: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sSSqc1qG238.</p> <p>Here’s a website that gives an easy-to-understand summary: https://interestingliterature.com/2017/04/a-short-analysis-of-rudyard-kiplings-if/.</p>

CHOICE MENU: Choose one.

Put the Poem to Pictures	Double-Entry Journal	Letter to Son
<p>Take pictures or draw pictures or use stock photos from the Internet, showing the meaning of the poem's lines two at a time.</p> <p>You can choose to use Google Slides, IMovie, Youtube, etc., showing at least 1 picture for each 2 lines of the poem. (This would be 16 pictures total.) Your pictures will not only reveal your knowledge of the poem's message, but they will help your audience "feel" the message and more fully understand the poem.</p> <p>The pictures will be accompanied by the poem's text, which you can write/type or read/perform.</p> <p>Example: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ow5xbBnOU2A</p>	<p>Draw a line down the center of a sheet of paper or insert a two-column table onto a Google doc.</p> <p>Title the left column "Quotes from the Poem."</p> <p>Title the right column "My Responses."</p> <p>As you reread the poem, pick a minimum of 8 quotes that you relate to and find meaning in. You'll place the quotes in the left column, and write your personal thoughts/responses in the right column, directly across from each quote. <i>Each</i> of your eight responses will be a paragraph in length where you write to explore your thoughts. When you write more than what first comes to mind, sometimes you find things out about yourself that you didn't even know. Spooky.</p>	<p>As you see by the last line of the poem, a father is telling his son that he'll be a man if he can do all of these things.</p> <p>Start at the top of the poem and rewrite, line by line. Write as if you are a father, telling all these lessons/messages to your son.</p> <p>Write it in today's language, but feel free to take creative liberty. You might want to keep it solemn and heartfelt; you might want to use slang and make it sound like a RAP; give the advice, step by step, all the way to the end.</p>

If—

BY RUDYARD KIPLING (1943)

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!