

The Purpose of Pattern - Classic

If

by Rudyard Kipling

- 1 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:
- 10 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:
- 20 If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it all 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!"
- 25 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 unforfeiting 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!

The Purpose of Pattern - Classic Student Worksheet

Pattern: A combination of the organization of lines, rhyme schemes, stanzas, rhythm, and meter. (There are an innumerable variety of patterns in poetry.)

What is the most obvious pattern in "If" and what is the effect it creates?

Each stanza in "If" deals with a different aspect of life. What are the major themes Kipling addresses in each stanza?

If is considered by many to be an inspirational poem that encourages mankind to reach for their highest aspirations. Cite a sampling of lines that make references to mankind's highest aspirations.

Although Kipling's poem "If" was written more than 100 years ago, do you think the advice he offers still holds true today? Why or why not?

The Purpose of Pattern – Hip-Hop

How Many

by Zion I

- 1 How many times have you watched the sun rise?
How many times have you looked deep into your lovers eyes?
How many times have we spit *phat* rhymes?
How many times
How many times...
- 5 How many times have you watched a full moon?
How many times have you cried alone in your room?
How many times have you felt the bass boom?
How many times
How many times...
- 10 How many times has a baby been born?
How many times has lightning struck in a storm?
How many times has your work been bought?
How many times
How many times...
- 15 How many times has the sky dropped rain?
How many times has your heart felt pain?
How many times mastered again and again?
How many times
How many times...
- 20 How many times...

The Purpose of Pattern – Hip-Hop Student Worksheet

Pattern: A combination of the organization of lines, rhyme schemes, stanzas, rhythm, and meter. (There are an innumerable variety of patterns in poetry.)

What is the most obvious pattern in the lyrics of **How Many** and what effect does it create for the reader?

What are some of the human emotions that the poet Zion I is exploring in his lyrics? What are some of the endeavors upon which he is reflecting?

Identify the prominent **How many's** that are commonly shared by most people? How does the poet use these common experiences to connect with the reader?

Does the poet think that one can ever experience any of these **How many's** enough times in their life? If not, explain why.
