



English

Class: 9th

Subject: English

Unit 7: If

Author: Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936)

❖ Summary:

Rudyard Kipling's poem "If" is a father's advice to his son on how to become a mature, responsible, and successful person. The poem emphasizes important qualities such as self-control, patience, honesty, confidence, resilience, humility, and wise handling of success and failure. It teaches that one should pursue dreams without being controlled by them, face challenges without fear, keep trying after failures, work hard even when tired, stay humble among all people, and make full use of time. By developing these qualities, a person becomes ready for life's challenges and grows into a true and complete man.

❖ Exercise Short Questions:

1. According to the poet, how should one respond to criticism and blame?

Ans: One should remain calm, not lose self-control, and avoid getting angry or defensive when others blame or criticize.

2. What quality does the poem emphasize in handling doubt and self-trust?

Ans: The poem emphasizes self-confidence while also understanding and respecting others' doubts.

3. What message does the poem give about dreams and aspirations?

Ans: It teaches that one should dream and aspire, but not let dreams control or dominate one's life.

4. How should a person handle twisted truths and personal losses?

Ans: One should stay patient and composed, accept that others may distort the truth, and not complain about personal losses.

5. What does the poem suggest about resilience and rebuilding after setbacks?

Ans: The poem advises to start again after failure, rebuild patiently, and keep trying without losing hope.

6. According to the poem, how should one persist in difficult times?

Ans: One should rely on willpower and determination, continue working even when tired, and never give up.

7. What is the message of the poem regarding integrity and humility in life?

Ans: It teaches that one should remain honest, virtuous, and humble, whether with ordinary people or with kings, without losing moral values.

❖ Short Questions From the Syllabus:

1. How will you handle the situation if you face failure in your life?

Ans: If I face failure, I will stay calm and patient. I will not complain or feel discouraged, but will start again with courage and determination. I will learn from my mistakes, rebuild what I lost, and keep trying until I succeed, just as the poem advises.

2. How will you celebrate success in your life?

Ans: I will celebrate success with humility and balance, without arrogance. I will treat both success and failure equally, remain grounded, and continue working hard, understanding that success is temporary and should not make me overconfident.

❖ Important MCQs:

1. Who is giving advice in the poem “If”?

- (a) The poet himself
- (b) A father to his son
- (c) A teacher to his student

(d) A friend to his friend

2. What is the main theme of the poem?

(a) Love and friendship

(b) Courage, patience, and maturity

(c) Nature and beauty

(d) Adventure and travel

3. According to the poem, how should one react when others blame you?

(a) Get angry

(b) Stay calm and composed

(c) Ignore everything

(d) Argue with them

4. Which quality does the poet stress when others doubt you?

(a) Self-confidence

(b) Aggression

(c) Indecision

(d) Fear

5. What does the poet say about dreams?

(a) Always follow them blindly

(b) Ignore them

(c) Dream, but do not let them control you

(d) Dreams are meaningless

6. How should one treat triumph and disaster?

(a) Celebrate triumph, fear disaster

(b) Treat both equally

(c) Ignore triumph, fight disaster

(d) Only focus on disaster

7. How should a person respond to lies and hatred?

(a) Lie and hate back

(b) Ignore lies, do not give way to hatred

(c) Report to authorities

(d) Argue with everyone

8. What does the poet suggest about handling personal loss?

(a) Complain loudly

(b) Cry and give up

(c) Accept it silently and start again

(d) Blame others

9. What is required to rebuild what is broken in life?

(a) Strength and patience

(b) Luck

(c) Anger

(d) Money



10. What does “fill the unforgiving minute with sixty seconds’ worth of distance run” mean?

(a) Waste time wisely

(b) Use every moment productively

(c) Run in a race

(d) Rest often

11. According to the poem, what should one do when facing difficult situations?

(a) Panic

(b) Hold on with willpower

(c) Avoid challenges

(d) Blame others

12. How should a person behave with crowds and kings?

(a) Be rude to crowds, humble with kings

(b) Be humble with everyone

(c) Be arrogant with kings

(d) Ignore all social rules

13. Which quality is necessary to continue working after exhaustion?

(a) Energy

(b) Willpower

(c) Anger

(d) Knowledge

14. What does the poem suggest about honesty?

(a) Avoid lies

(b) Lie if needed

(c) Hate liars

(d) Ignore truth



15. How should one deal with people who distort the truth?

- (a) Argue with them
- (b) Accept it patiently
- (c) Hate them
- (d) Ignore everything

16. What does the poem say about handling both friends and foes?

- (a) Treat friends better than foes
- (b) Do not let either hurt you
- (c) Avoid both
- (d) Trust everyone blindly

17. What is the ultimate reward for following the poem's advice?

(a) Wealth and fame

(b) A happy life

(c) "You'll be a Man, my son!"

(d) Power over others

18. Which quality helps a person remain humble despite success?

(a) Wisdom and patience

(b) Strength

(c) Intelligence

(d) Pride

19. How should one approach challenges that involve risk?

(a) Avoid all risk

(b) Take risk boldly and start again if failed

(c) Take risk only once

(d) Depend on others

20. Which of the following best describes the poem “If”?


(a) A poem about nature

(b) A moral guide for life

(c) A story of adventure

(d) A love poem

Note:



This chapter is designed to provide a solid foundation of knowledge, with the goal of deepening understanding and encouraging further exploration of the subject. The content has been carefully selected to support effective learning and inspire students to engage with the topic more deeply.

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Purpose: To contribute to education by offering insightful, valuable content that enhances learning and understanding.

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