

If by Rudyard Kipling

### Answers

V - what does it mean to 'keep your head'?

To stay calm.

I - 'not make dreams your master' - what does this mean?

You have to remain realistic and can't just wildly dream your way through life. You have to know your dreams might not be instant.

V - what are 'triumph' and 'disaster'?

Triumph - the feeling of victory

Disaster - an event with unfortunate circumstances

E - why do you think the poet capitalised Triumph and Disaster.

Any answer with reference to personification.

V - what is a knave?

A dishonest person.

R - what is the knave doing in the poem?

Twisting the poet's words to tell lies about them.

V - what is sinew?

Tough tissue that joins muscle to bone.

E - '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;'

Would it be wise to do this? Do you think the poet is advocating for it?

Any justifiable answer. The poet is not advocating for it as they say 'if'?

V - what is a 'foe'?

An enemy.



**R** - what will happen if you can do all the things in the poem?  
You'll be a man my son/yours is the Earth and everything that's in it

**E** - 'yours is the Earth and everything that's in it' - what does the author mean by this?  
Any acceptable answer about being happy or being able to do anything.

**S** - Summarise the whole poem in one sentence.  
Any justifiable response

