

The Four Seasons or If—

Responding to Text 3:

Read the following poems from the *Process Booklet* and choose one for your response.

- “The Four Seasons” by Carol Shields
or
 - “If—” by Rudyard Kipling.
- Identify an idea in your selected poem and explain whether or not you believe that this idea is relevant to teenagers today.

Learning Outcome: 1.2.2 Explain Opinions

Out of Range Score: 0	Below Level 1 2	At Level 3 4	Above Level 5
	<p>“If”</p> <p>The idea I believe is to never give up. Keep doing the best you can but don't be a sad winner or loser. I do not think that teenagers today are anything like that lots of them do not try their hardest at most things but even when they do they don't try as hard as the could. I also believe that the poem is describing someone who is very successful and they have been that way for a long time. They don't have time for failure so they push as hard as they can to succeed.</p>	<p>“If”</p> <p>The idea I selected is that if you really work to achieve greatness, the journey took will, with all its hardships, make you a strong, more mature person. I believe that this idea is very relevant to teens today we see kids on both sides of the scale: those who truly will not stop until they reach a goal, and those who do not see a point in trying and getting ahead in life. The latter will forever be stuck in a cycle of self doubt and fear because to them there is no point because they are destined to fail. But those who strive to overcome their biggest and most impossible barriers will emerge feeling truly accomplished and wise. There are only some really fit for the journey, and we see it in the young olympic athletes, the school presidents, and the activists around the world.</p>	<p>“The Four Seasons”</p> <p>this poem speaks of the four seasons of war. I don't think teenagers can relate to war itself, but more the attitude and feelings. If you replace the idea of war with growing up, it shows how things were simple as child, peaceful. Nothing to worry about, care-free. Then the second season relate to the change. The change of becoming a teenager because war was also a big change in people's lives back then. The newsreels represent society and the media that is constantly reminding us to be perfect. The duration is just surviving getting through or waiting like 'holding your breath.' You just need to get through and do your best as you are growing up. After the war means after the change of going from a child to an adult. It is peaceful and like before the war, because it less of a big change. Instead life goes slower, change is not as major, and later death may come but it will be regular. It won't be when you are teenager and the risk of being killed by being young and foolish. Rather than dying young to something like drunk driving, it will come naturally later on.</p>