

Every Day

1. What is the meaning of the underlined word in the below line from the 1st stanza?
A dismal amount, I assume.
2. Why does the speaker work with such determination?
3. What is at least one possible theme of this poem? Provide evidence from the text to support the theme you chose.
4. How are stanzas 2,4,6 connected and how do they support the overall theme?

Everyday

Each morning I arise,
And wipe the sleep out of my eyes.
I want to stay in bed and rest,
But I have a multitude of things to do.
It takes a lot of work to be a success,
But without determined work,
Life would just be one vast mess.

Imagine if you just remained in bed
And slumbered until after noon.
Then what would you accomplish that day?
A dismal amount, I assume.

I go to work and do my best,
In hopes that my raise will come.
And when it does I work even harder
Because I desire more.
Strive for more than what you have,
And some day you will get it.

Imagine if you just did the least expected of you
And never strived to be more.
Then how would you ever move forward?
Your life would be a bore.

Each day I try to absorb something new,
Which makes me feel very smart.
Learning is just as tough as working,
But pays off in the end.
I can get a promotion if I just keep at it,
And be all that I can be.
And then I'll be the manager of me!

Imagine if you never learned
A novel thing in your life.
You'd never get ahead,
And you'd never have success.
It takes determination to make your life
What you want it to be.

That's what dreams are for,
To support us in becoming who we want to be.
And dreams can't come true unless we work,
And strive to be the best that we can be.
With hard work and determination,
You'll find success,
And nothing less.