

What Is a Player?

A player is one, who doesn't give up at the sight of defeat,
But learns from their mistakes and puts them beneath.
A player is one who doesn't give up at the sound of the buzzer,
Always giving what they have from one side of the court to the other.

A player is one who doesn't whine about their play time,
Because a player knows it's an unacceptable crime.
A player is one who practises game-speed,
Always keeping in mind that their shots are not guaranteed.

A player is one who doesn't settle for anything less,
Even knowing, that they're not the best.
They will be the ones you see outside practising,
Day or night, rain or shine,
They are the ones running on hurt ankles, admitting they're fine.



A player is one, who has a strong, sensible mind,
Never pondering about failing, only contemplating prevailing.
A player is one who doesn't chicken out,
Who wants to be in the game when everything counts
Now, that is a true player.

- Jessica Taylor

About the poet

Jessica Taylor was born in Louisiana. She is a young poetess. She has developed her love for music and poetry at an early age. Most of her poems have focussed on emotional issues with an emotional touch. “*Loneliness*”, “*I Miss You*”, “*I Hate*”, and “*I Am Worried*” are some of her popular poems.



Glossary

- give up (*phr.v*) : leave
- whine (*v*) : complain
- pondering (*v*) : thinking about something carefully for a period of time
- contemplating (*v*) : considering about
- chicken out (*phr.v*) : to decide not to do something because of fear



Answer the following questions.

1. What are the qualities that a true player should have?
2. What according to the poet is an unacceptable crime of a player?
- *3. Which game do you like the most? What are the qualities of a player stated in the poem? Which of them do you have?
4. The poet talks about certain Do's and Don'ts for a true player. List them out in the following table. One is done for you.



Do's	Don'ts
regular practice	give up at the sight of defeat