## It Couldn't Be Done

## BY EDGAR ALBERT GUEST

Somebody said that it couldn't be done But he with a chuckle replied That "maybe it couldn't," but he would be one Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried. So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin On his face. If he worried he hid it. He started to sing as he tackled the thing That couldn't be done, and he did it!

Somebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never do that; At least no one ever has done it;" But he took off his coat and he took off his hat And the first thing we knew he'd begun it. With a lift of his chin and a bit of a grin, Without any doubting or quiddit, He started to sing as he tackled the thing That couldn't be done, and he did it.

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done, There are thousands to prophesy failure, There are thousands to point out to you one by one, The dangers that wait to assail you. But just buckle in with a bit of a grin, Just take off your coat and go to it; Just start in to sing as you tackle the thing That "cannot be done," and you'll do it.



Which word means the same as 'prophesy'?

Look at verse 3. Find and copy the repeated word which indicates how many people 'tell you it cannot be done'.

Line 14 says 'Without any doubting or quiddit'. What do you think quiddit means in this context? **Circle one.** 

joy that it is being done worry about whether it can be done

Which word tells you something might be waiting to strike?

Which word closely matches the meaning of the word fastened?

What does the word 'scoffed' suggest about the way someone spoke?



- 1. Who is this poem about? Circle one. man woman
- 2. Find and copy **two** things that he took off before 'he'd begun it'.
- 3. Look at line y of each verse. Find and copy the words which show what he did 'as he tackled the thin'.
- 4. Look at verse 1. Give two ways in which the author shows that 'he' was happy.

Put ticks in the table to show which sentences are true

Sentences	True	False
He was unhappy		
Lots of people would tell you that you will not succeed.		
If you sing you will manage to do the 'thing'.		



**Wednesday** 

What is the author trying to tell his audience through his poem? Give at least **2** pieces of evidence from the text to support your answer.



Number the lines to show the order they appear in the poem.

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done, So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin Just take off your coat and go to it; But he took off his coat and he took off his hat He started to sing as he tackled the thing

Number the lines to show the order they appear in the poem.

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done, So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin Just take off your coat and go to it; But he took off his coat and he took off his hat He started to sing as he tackled the thing



<u>Friday</u>

What do you think the 'thing' was that couldn't be done? Use evidence from the text in your answer.