

"Who Understands Pitching, But Me?" by Nicholas Kostas

- 1 Getting ready for the pitch.
- 2 I walk to the mound,
- 3 As confident as a captain on his ship.
- 4 I pick up the baseball,
- 5 My familiar friend.
- 6 I dig my cleat in the dirt,
- 7 As I step on the pitching rubber.
- 8 The pitching rubber is a small white surfboard on the crest of a brown dirt wave.
- 9 Getting ready for the pitch.
- 10 I stare down the batter,
- 11 Like a lion stares down its prey.
- 12 I look to my catcher,
- 13 My Allie in this battle.
- 14 He gives me the signal,
- 15 To tell me which pitch to throw.
- 16 The pitch is the weapon in this battle.
- 17 Getting ready for the pitch.
- 18 I put my hand in my glove and position my body.
- 19 I adjust my grip on the baseball,
- 20 As I get ready to fire my cannon.

- 21 Delivering the pitch.
- 22 I lift up my left leg,
- 23 Bringing my knee to just above waist high.
- 24 I balance on my right leg,
- 25 Like a skilled acrobat.
- 26 I bend my right knee,
- 27 As I lunge towards home plate.
- 28 Delivering the pitch.
- 29 My left foot lands on the dirt,
- 30 Like a hammer on a nail.
- 31 My arm whips around my body,
- 32 Allowing me to fire my cannon.
- 33 Delivering the pitch.
- 34 The baseball flies through the air,
- 35 Like a jet airplane soaring through the sky.
- 36 The batter swings his bat with all his might,
- 37 But misses the ball as it lands safely in my catcher's glove.
- 38 Getting ready for the pitch...

An example of parallelism is using the pronoun I followed by a verb. I did this to show that I am doing a certain thing. Lines 2, 4, 6, 7, 10, 12, 18, 19, 22, 24, 26, and 27. Another example is lines 27 and 32. They are sentence fragments and I did this because I wanted to move the poem along. The last example of parallelism is using a lot of similes. They are in lines 3, 11, 20, 25, 30, and 35. I did this so my poem can show more imagery.

My first example of repetition are in lines 21, 28, and 33. I repetite the phrase "delivering the pitch" to emphasize that all those steps are during delivering the pitch. My second example is using the word I at the beginning of sentences. This is lines 2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 18, 19, 22, 24, and 26. I do this to show that I am getting ready for and delivering the pitch.

My first example of a metaphor is in line 8. I did this so the reader could get a better image of what a pitching rubber looked like. My second example is in line 16. I did this because in comparison to a battle the pitch would be my weapon.

My first example of a simile is in line 11. I did this to show how a feel in that situation. I am not afraid of the batter, but he should be afraid of me. My second example is in line 30. I did this because I wanted to show how forceful my left foot landing is.