

The Echoing Green

William Blake

The sun does arise,
And make happy the skies;
The merry bells ring
To welcome the Spring;
The skylark and thrush,
The birds of the bush,
Sing louder around
To the bells' cheerful sound,
While our sports shall be seen
On the Echoing Green.

Old John, with white hair,
Does laugh away care,
Sitting under the oak,
Among the old folk.
They laugh at our play,
And soon they all say:
'Such, such were the joys
When we all, girls and boys,
In our youth time were seen
On the Echoing Green.'

Till the little ones, weary,
No more can be merry;
The sun does descend,
And our sports have an end.
Round the laps of their mothers
Many sisters and brothers,
Like birds in their nest,
Are ready for rest,
And sport no more seen
On the darkening Green.

Poetry Review

Directions: Read the attached poem and be prepared to answer the questions below and then think about the following questions to prepare for the poetry test.

1. What is happening in stanza 1, stanza 2, stanza 3?

2. Does this poem have a rhyme scheme? How do you know?

3. What are some reasons the author changes the last line in the final stanza instead of repeating the last line used in stanza 1 and 2?

Directions: In addition, review the following topics.

stanza - a section of a poem; consists of a line or group of lines

rhyme - words that end in the same sound or sounds

rhyme scheme – the pattern of repeated rhyming words in a poem

tone - the attitude of a piece of writing, expressed through the style of writing and the words the author uses

simile – a comparison of two different things using the words *like* or *as*

metaphor – a figure of speech in which the words typically used to describe one thing are used to describe something else in order to suggest a likeness

summarize – telling the main points in your own words, typically in a short and clear way