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ENGLISH – 11

UNIT 06

The Echoing Green

گونجتا ہوا سبزہ زار

Translation • Synonyms Worksheet • Textual Exercise • Literary Devices • Explanation of the Poem

Words	Meaning	Synonyms
The sun does arise (Verb Phrase)	سورج نکلتا ہے	The sun appears
Merry (Adjective)	خوشی سے بھرپور	Cheerful, Joyful, mirthful
Care (Noun/Verb)	پریشانی، فکر، بوجھ	Worries of life
Spring (Noun/Verb)	موسم بہار، نئی زندگی کی علامت	A period of revival and rejoicing
The skylark and thrush (Noun Phrase)	گانے والے پرندے	Song birds, warbling birds
Echoing (Adjective/Verb)	گونجتا ہوا	Resounding, vibrant
Birds of the bush (Noun Phrase)	جھاڑیوں میں گھونسلے بنانے والے پرندے	The skylark and thrush, have their nests in the bushes
Cheerful (Adjective)	خوش، خوشیوں سے بھرپور	Happy, gay, pleasant, joyous
Sports (Noun/Verb)	کھیل	Games, pastimes, amusement

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Stanza 1

The sun does arise,	سورج نکلتا ہے
And make happy the skies.	اور آسمان کو خوشگوار بناتا ہے۔
The merry bells ring	خوش کن گھنٹیاں بجتی ہیں
To welcome the spring.	موسمِ بہار کو خوش آمدید کہنے کے لیے۔
The sky-lark and thrush,	سکائی لارک (چکاوک) اور تھرش (پکارا)،
The birds of the bush,	جھاڑیوں میں رہنے والے پرندے،
Sing louder around,	اونچی آواز میں گاتے ہیں
To the bells cheerful sound.	گھنٹیوں کی خوبصورت موسیقی پر۔
While our sports shall be seen	اسی دوران ہمارے کھیل دیکھے جا سکتے ہیں
On the Echoing Green.	گونجتے ہوئے سرسبز پارک میں۔

Q.1: What images of nature and community life do you notice?

Images of nature are Sun, skies, birds (sky-lark, thrush), bush, oak tree and images of Community are Merry bells, children playing, old folk watching, mothers with children.

Words	Meaning	Synonyms
Old John (Noun Phrase)	بوڑھا جان، جان انگلینڈر	John is a common name in England. Here he stands for the old people or old age
Oak (Noun)	شاہ بلوط	Hardwood tree
Old folk (Noun Phrase)	بوڑھے لوگ	Old people
Youth time (Noun Phrase)	جوانی، لڑکپن	Boyhood or girlhood, a time of happiness and joy

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Stanza 2

Old John, with white hair	سفید بالوں والا عمر رسیدہ جان
Does laugh away care.	تشویش (غم و فکر) کو ہنسی میں اڑا دیتا ہے۔
Sitting under the oak,	شاہ بلوط کے درخت تلے
Among the old folk,	عمر رسیدہ لوگوں میں بیٹھا،
They laugh at our play,	وہ ہمارے کھیلوں پر ہنستے ہیں
And soon they all say.	اور فوراً وہ سب کہتے ہیں،
'Such, such were the joy.	'ایسی ہی خوشیاں تھیں
When we all girls and boys,	جب ہم سب لڑکے لڑکیاں
In our youth-time were seen,	جوانی میں دیکھے جاتے تھے
On the Echoing Green.'	گونجتے ہوئے سرسبز پارک میں۔'

Q.2: How might these scenes be different if the environment were affected by problems like global warming and deforestation?

With global warming, the sun would be too hot for long play. Deforestation would eliminate the old oak tree and other bushes, leaving no shade. Children would suffer from the intense heat, and the joy of the "Echoing Green" would diminish.

Words	Meaning	Synonyms
Till (Conjunction/Preposition)	جب تک	By the time, until
Weary (Adjective/Verb)	تھک جانا، اکتا جانا	Tired, exhausted, bored
Descend (Verb)	سورج غروب ہونا	Set, move down, go down, decline
End (Noun/Verb)	ختم ہو جانا، اختتام پذیر ہونا	To come to a close, finish, end
Darkening Green (Adjective Phrase)	سورج غروب ہونے پر گونجتا ہوا پارک تاریکی میں ڈوب جاتا ہے	As the sun disappears, the darkness prevails all around in the park. The "Echoing Green" turns into the darkening green.

Stanza 3

Till the little ones weary	یہاں تک کہ بچے تھکے اور اکتائے ہوئے ہیں،
No more can be merry	مزید خوش نہیں ہو سکتے۔
The sun does descend,	سورج ڈھل جاتا ہے،
And our sports have an end:	اور ہمارے کھیل بند ہو جاتے ہیں۔
Round the laps of their mothers,	اپنی ماؤں کی آغوش میں،
Many sisters and brothers,	بہت سے بہن بھائی،
Like birds in their nest,	جیسے پرندے اپنے گھونسلوں میں،
Are ready for rest;	آرام کے لیے تیار ہیں؛
And sport no more seen,	اور کھیل مزید دکھائی نہیں دیتا،
on the darkening Green.	تاریکی میں ڈوبے سبزہ زار میں۔

Q.3: How do the images of the elders reflect the themes of age and the passage of time?

The elders' presence, recollecting their youth on the echoing green, embodies the passage of time, showcasing nostalgia, wisdom, and the continuity of generations.

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GLOSSARY

Words	Meaning	Explanation
Cheerful	خوش مزاج، خوش باش	Happy, and showing it by the way that you behave
Descend	نیچے آنا، اترنا	To slope downwards
Folk	لوگ، عوام، قوم	People in general

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1st Year English Unit 6 Exercise - Properly Formatted for Print

Vocabulary Section (Synonyms)

1. "The sun does **arise**, / And makes happy the skies." **11606004**
- (a) Decline (b) Appear (c) Settle (d) Vanish
- **Answer: (b) Appear**

2. "The **merry** bells ring / To welcome the Spring." **11606005**
- (a) Sad (b) Quiet (c) Joyful (d) Harsh
- **Answer: (c) Joyful**

3. "The sky-lark and thrush, / The birds of the **bush**, / Sing louder around," **11606006**
- (a) Forest (b) Desert (c) Shrub (d) Mountain
- **Answer: (c) Shrub**

4. "To the bells' **cheerful** sound." **11606007**
- (a) Gloomy (b) Upbeat (c) Silent (d) Angry
- **Answer: (b) Upbeat**

5. "While our **sports** shall be seen / On the Echoing Green" **11606008**
- (a) Competitions (b) Games (c) Discussions (d) Chores
- **Answer: (b) Games**

6. "Old John, with white hair / Does laugh away **care**," **11606009**
- (a) Happiness (b) Concern (c) Joy (d) Laughter
- **Answer: (b) Concern**

7. "Sitting under the oak, / Among the old **folk**," **11606010**
- (a) Strangers (b) Animals (c) People (d) Children
- **Answer: (c) People**

8. "They laugh at our **play**, / And soon they all say." **11606011**
- (a) Work (b) Rest (c) Activity (d) Study
- **Answer: (c) Activity**

9. "Such, such were the **joys**. / When we all girls & boys," **11606012**
- (a) Sorrows (b) Pleasures (c) Duties (d) Problems
- **Answer: (b) Pleasures**

10. "In our **youth**-time were seen, / On the Echoing Green." **11606013**
- (a) Old age (b) Childhood (c) Present (d) Future
- **Answer: (b) Childhood**

11. "Till the little ones **weary** / No more can be merry" **11606014**
- (a) Energetic (b) Refreshed (c) Tired (d) Excited
- **Answer: (c) Tired**

12. "The sun does **descend**, / And our sports have an end:" **11606015**
- (a) Rise (b) Set (c) Brighten (d) Appear
- **Answer: (b) Set**

13. "Round the **laps** of their mothers, / Many sisters and brothers," **11606016**
- (a) Knees (b) Arms (c) Shoulders (d) Hands
- **Answer: (b) Arms**

14. "Like birds in their nest, / Are ready for **rest**" **11606017**
- (a) Activity (b) Sleep (c) Food (d) Play
- **Answer: (b) Sleep**

15. "And sport no more seen, / On the **darkening** Green." **11606018**
- (a) Brightening (b) Greening (c) Dimming (d) Drying
- **Answer: (c) Dimming**

Answer Key (Synonyms)

Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	b	9	b
2	c	10	b
3	c	11	c
4	b	12	b
5	b	13	b
6	b	14	b
7	c	15	c
8	c		

Multiple Choice Questions (Comprehension - Pages 2-3)

1. What time of day does the poem begin? **11606019**
- (a) Evening (b) Midnight (c) Morning (d) Afternoon
- **Answer: (c) Morning**

2. What season does the poem welcome? **11606020**
- (a) Summer (b) Spring (c) Autumn (d) Winter
- **Answer: (b) Spring**

3. What sound do the bells make? **11606021**
- (a) Sad (b) Loud (c) Merry (d) Quiet
- **Answer: (c) Merry**

4. Which birds are mentioned singing? **11606022**
- (a) Robins and sparrows (b) Sky-lark and thrush (c) Owls and ravens (d) Pigeons and doves
- **Answer: (b) Sky-lark and thrush**

5. What activity is seen on the "Echoing Green"? **11606023**
- (a) Reading (b) Working (c) Sports/play (d) Eating
- **Answer: (c) Sports/play**

6. With whom is "Old John" sitting at the end of the day? **11606023(a)**
- (a) Young children (b) His family (c) Other old folk (d) Himself
- **Answer: (c) Other old folk**

7. What does Old John do under the oak tree? **11606024**
- (a) Sleeps (b) Reads (c) Laughs away care (d) Sings
- **Answer: (c) Laughs away care**

8. What do the old folk remember about their youth? **11606025**
- (a) Hard work (b) Sadness (c) Joys on the Green (d) Quiet times
- **Answer: (c) Joys on the Green**

9. When do the children's sports end? **11606026**

- (a) At noon (b) When it rains (c) When the sun descends (d) When their parents call
- **Answer: (c) When the sun descends**

10. What makes the little ones "weary"? **11606027**

- (a) Hunger (b) Fighting (c) Playing (d) Studying
- **Answer: (c) Playing**

11. Where do the children go for rest? **11606028**

- (a) Their beds (b) Under the tree (c) Laps of their mothers (d) Inside the house
- **Answer: (c) Laps of their mothers**

12. The children are compared to what for rest? **11606029**

- (a) Dogs in a kennel (b) Birds in their nest (c) Fish in a pond (d) Lambs in a field
- **Answer: (b) Birds in their nest**

13. What happens to the Green at the end of the day? **11606030**

- (a) It becomes bright (b) It becomes crowded (c) It becomes darkens (d) It becomes noisy
- **Answer: (c) It becomes darkens**

14. What word suggests the lively, playful atmosphere of the Green in the first stanza? **11606031**

- (a) Quiet (b) Gloomy (c) Merry (d) Still
- **Answer: (c) Merry**

15. What is the central theme of the poem across its stanzas? **11606032**

- (a) Nature's beauty (b) Sadness of aging (c) Passage of time and cyclic nature of life (d) Importance of school life
- **Answer: (c) Passage of time and cyclic nature of life**

Answer Key (MCQs)

Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	c	9	c
2	b	10	c
3	c	11	c
4	b	12	b
5	c	13	c
6	c	14	c
7	c	15	c
8	c		

Short Answer Questions (Pages 4-5)

Q.1 What activities are taking place in "The Echoing Green"? 11606033

Activities on "The Echoing Green"

Ans. The sun is rising and the children are playing in the morning. The old people are watching them. In the echoes of children, they recall their own vibrant voices when they used to play in the same park. The whole atmosphere is pleasant and peaceful. It shows that the merry bells and cheerful cries of the children are there to greet the spring season.

Q.2 How does Blake portray the relationship between nature and human life in the poem? 11606034

Relationship between Nature and Human Life

Ans. In "The Echoing Green", the poet has portrayed the joy and innocence of children in the harmonious relationship of man and nature. The central idea is that youth and nature are inseparable, and both together create an ideal harmonious world in which the old people forget their worries and think of their own childhood.

Q.3 What role do the 'old folk' play in the scene described? How does their presence add to the poem's meaning? 11606035

Old Folk and Their Presence

Ans. Old folks play a significant role as observers. They have been placed side by side with the children just to show the difference between different phases of human life. The children are playing while the old people are watching them under the oak tree. They remember their youth when they also played in the same park. They in fact, highlight the continuity of experience. Secondly, they present a contrast to the children's enthusiastic energy and old age exhaustion.

Q.4 What is the significance of the shift from lively activity to quietness as the poem progresses? 11606036

Shift from Lively Activity to Quietness

Ans. The poem relates the story of a day on the village green starting from dawn and ending at sunset. The poem highlights the cyclical nature of life from vibrant and dynamic childhood to nostalgic old age. The day begins with sounds of merry bells, songs of the birds and vibrant voices of the children playing on the green park and ends on the darkening green, when everything in life comes to a halt. So we see consequential shift from activity of children to quietness of the old people.

Q.5 How might the "echoing of the green" symbolize memory or continuity between generations? 11606037

Continuity between Generations

Ans. The poet introduces the idea of recurrent and periodical seasonal life of man through the images of children at play in the "Echoing Green" and juxtaposing them with the old people watching them. The poem suggests that human life is a continuous regular cycle beginning from childhood to old age and from birth to death. Men come and go but life goes on. The children, who play on the green, will one day sit under the oak tree and watch a new generation playing and replacing them.

Q.6 How does the imagery in the poem contribute to the tone and mood of the scene depicted? 11606038

Tone and Mood of the Scene

Ans. The poet has made use of visual and auditory imagery to create a pleasant, vibrant and cheerful scene of childhood. The poet uses the visual images of the sun, sky merry bells, the skylark, cheerful atmosphere of morning and then a shift to evening. He has used the auditory images like the sounds of bells, songs of birds and the voices of children. They create rich and evocative experience for the reader and help him explore the themes of childhood and the cyclic nature of life.

Q.7 In what ways does the poem reflect the themes of innocence and the passage of time? 11606039

The Themes of Innocence and Time

Ans. The poem "The Echoing Green" presents the theme of innocence in the sports of children and the portrayal of a day on a village green. It contrasts the carefree and cheerful life of children playing in the park and the nostalgic reflections of the old people. The poem, as a whole, presents cyclical nature of life from youth to old age.

Q.8 How might the poem be interpreted as reflection on the cycles of life and the natural world? 11606040

Reflection on the Cycles of Life

Ans. In the poem "The Echoing Green" William Blake describes different stages of life and how life is an echo and how it resounds over and over until it comes to the last stage of old age, a time before death. It starts with the sunrise, the childhood, and ends with the descending sun. Spring stands for the beginning of life and the darkening Green stands for the end of life when man's sport on earth comes to an end. The old John is the representative of the old age that always remembers childhood and youth.

Short Questions (Pages 6-7)

Q.1 How does the sun's position change by the end of the poem, and what does this signify?

Ans. By the end of the poem, "The sun does descend." This signifies the end of the day, marking the conclusion of the children's sports and the transition to evening and rest.

Q.2 Where do the children find comfort and rest after their play concludes?

Ans. The children find comfort "Round the laps of their mothers." This depicts a tender scene where "sisters and brothers" gather, ready for peaceful rest after their day's activities.

Q.3 To what natural imagery are the resting children compared in the final stanza?

Ans. The resting children are compared to "birds in their nest." This gentle simile emphasizes their secure, natural desire for rest and quiet comfort after their day's lively play.

Q.4 What is the final state of the "Green" as depicted at the very end of the poem?

Ans. At the very end, the "Green" is described as "darkening." This signifies the transition from daylight to night, marking the quiet conclusion of all daytime sports and activities.

Q.5 What dual meaning might be implied by the term "Echoing Green" regarding time?

Ans. "Echoing Green" implies both the sounds reverberating across the field and the enduring memory of past joys. The green itself "echoes" the continuous cycle of youth across generations.

Q.6 How does the poem establish a sense of continuity across different age groups?
Ans. The poem establishes continuity by showing the old folk reminiscing about their own youth while watching current children play on the same "Echoing Green," bridging generations through shared experiences.

Q.7 What is the overall tone of the first two stanzas of the poem?
Ans. The overall tone of the first two stanzas is predominantly joyous and nostalgic. They depict cheerful play and a warm reflection on past happiness, creating a bright and celebratory atmosphere.

Q.8 How does the poem's atmosphere shift from the beginning to the end?
Ans. The poem's atmosphere shifts from vibrant and "merry" at the beginning, filled with light and sound, to quiet and restful by the end, as the "Green" becomes "darkening" and play ceases.

Q.9 What does the image of the children "Like birds in their nest, Are ready for rest" convey?
Ans. This image conveys a sense of peaceful winding down and natural comfort. It highlights the children's instinctual need for security and repose after a day of energetic play, just like young birds.

Q.10 What role do sounds play in establishing the setting and mood of the poem?
Ans. Sounds like "merry bells ring," birds "Sing louder," and laughter establish a lively and joyful rural setting. They immerse the reader in the cheerful, vibrant atmosphere of children's play on the green.

Q.11 What happens to the "sports" by the time the sun descends?
Ans. By the time the sun descends, the "sports have an end." The games and playful activities cease, marking the natural conclusion of the day's energetic pursuits on the green.

Q.12 How does Blake use the passage of a single day to reflect broader themes?
Ans. Blake uses the progression from morning to night in a single day to reflect broader themes of childhood's fleeting nature, the cyclical pattern of life, and the continuity of human experience across generations.

Q.13 What kind of laughter is shared among the old folk and about the children?
Ans. The old folk share laughter that "laugh[s] away care" and laugh at the children's play. It is a joyful, reminiscent laughter connecting their past with the children's present.

Q.14 What universal human experience is captured by the children's transition from "merry" to "weary"?
Ans. The children's transition from "merry" to "weary" captures the universal experience of physical exertion leading to exhaustion. It also subtly mirrors the larger life cycle of vibrant youth giving way to quiet rest.

The Poem - "The Echoing Green" (Full Text)

Stanza 1

The sun does arise,
And makes happy the skies.
The merry bells ring
To welcome the Spring.
The sky-lark 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.

Stanza 2

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 & boys,
In our youth-time were seen,
On the Echoing Green."

Stanza 3

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.

End of Unit 6 Exercise