

1. The School Boy

Distant — दूर

Huntsman — शिकारी

Skylark — एक प्रकार का पक्षी

Company — साथी

Outworn — उबाऊ / थका हुआ

Dismay — निराशा / बेचैनी

At times — कभी-कभी

Drooping — मुड़ाना / झुकना

Anxious — चिंतित

Delight — प्रसन्नता

Leaving's bower — पाठशाला (school)

Dreary shower — नीरस वर्षा (उबाऊ पड़ाई)

Annoy — चिढ़ना

Droop — मुड़ा जाना

Tender wing — कोमल पंख

Youthful — युवा

Nipped — कुचल देना

Blossom — खिलना

Blown away — नष्ट हो जाना

Tender plants — कोमल पौधे

Stripped — छीन लेना

Destroy — नष्ट करना

Mellowing year — फलने-फूलने का समय

A. Answer the following questions.

1. In what mood does the poem begin?

Ans. — The poem begins in a joyful and happy mood. The boy expresses his love for summer mornings.

2. Which creatures give the boy "Sweet company"?

Ans. — The birds singing on every tree and the skylark that sings with him provide the boy with sweet company.

3. Why do you think that a bird cannot sing in a cage?

Ans. — According to the poet, a bird cannot sing in a cage because it has lost its freedom. Singing represents natural joy and liberty; being trapped in a cage causes fear and sadness, which kills the desire to sing.

4. What drives all joy away?

Ans. - The thought of having to go to school on a beautiful summer morning drives all the joy away of the boy.



About the poet



William Blake (1757–1827) was an English poet, painter and printmaker. Largely unrecognised during his lifetime, Blake is now considered a seminal figure in the history of the poetry and visual arts of the Romantic Age. His writings have influenced countless writers, poets and artists through the ages and he has been deemed both a major poet and an original thinker.

COMPREHENSION



A. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false statements.

1. The speaker in the poem is a young girl.
2. The chirping of birds marks the beginning of the day.
3. According to the poet, the children like to spend time in school.
4. The speaker in the poem accompanies with the distant huntsman.
5. According to the poet, a bird can sit and sing happily inside a cage.

F
T
F
F
T

B. Answer the following questions.

1. In what mood does the poem begin?
2. Which creatures give the boy "sweet company"?
3. Why do you think that a bird cannot sing in a cage?
4. What drives all joy away?

C. Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow.

1. *I love to rise in a summer morn,
When the birds sing on every tree;
The distant huntsman winds his horn,
And the skylark sings with me:
Oh, what sweet company!*

- i) Who is the speaker of these lines?
- ii) Is the speaker a nature lover? Give reasons to support your answer.
- iii) Pick the sets of rhyming words from the stanza.



seminal : highly original and influential, **deemed** : regarded





A metaphor is a figure of speech that describes one thing as if it were something else to make a comparison. For example : He was a lion in the battlefield.

F. The poem, ' The Schoolboy' is full of metaphors. What do you think these could mean?

- cruel eye (stanza-2)
- learning's bower (stanza-3)
- droop his tender wing (stanza-4)
- buds (stanza-5)
- tender plants (stanza-5)

as... like... simile

G. Metaphors and similes are figures of speech that you use to add colour and richness to your writing. Tick (✓) whether the sentences given below contain similes or metaphors.

1. "Chocolate is my ray of sunshine on a bad day," admitted Rekha.

a) Simile

☐ b) Metaphor



2. The lettuce was as crisp as an early fall morning.

a) Simile

☒ b) Metaphor



3. The bar of soap was a slippery eel.

a) Simile

☐ b) Metaphor



4. These girls are like peas in a pod.

a) Simile

☒ b) Metaphor

