

Grade 5

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## **Unit 3**

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### **Assessment Guide: Unit Assessment**

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3.1

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## 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.

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*Answer the following questions. You may consult the poem as you work.*

1. Using letters of the alphabet as you did in earlier lessons, mark the poem's rhyme scheme. You may write the letters on the printed copy of the poem.

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2. Use your own words to summarize stanza 1.

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3. Use your own words to summarize stanza 2.

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4. Use your own words to summarize stanza 3.

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5. How do “Old John, with white hair” and the other “old folk” feel as they watch the children play? Make sure to quote words from the poem in your answer.

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6. What do the “Many sisters and brothers” have in common with “birds in their nest”?

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3.1  
CONTINUED

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7. When the speaker states “like birds in their nest,” what type of figurative language is he using? Give a reason for your answer.

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8. The phrase “On the echoing Green” appears in stanza 1 and 2. In stanza 3 it changes to “On the darkening Green.” What are some reasons that the poet might make this change?

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**Reading Score:**      **/16 points**



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3.2

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*Blake's poem presents adults who look at children and think about growing up.*

*Write your own poem describing your memories of growing up. Make sure your poem includes a title and figurative language such as simile and metaphor. When you have finished your poem, complete the checklist table below.*

| Check | Statement                                                                                                                                              | Complete the statement below |
|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
|       | The poetic tool I use in this poem is ...<br>My poem is a really strong example of the tool being used.<br>I know this because ...                     |                              |
|       | I convey the message in a creative and new way. This is not a poem another person would write. It shows my unique imagination in the following way ... |                              |
|       | I have looked over each line and made intentional choices about where to begin and end each line.                                                      | (No writing here)            |
|       | I read my poem aloud, thought about how it sounded, and then revised the poem so it is easy to follow and sounds great.                                | (No writing here)            |
|       | My poem will surprise my readers because ...                                                                                                           |                              |

| Check | Question                                                                                                                                                         | Complete the question below |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|       | My poem has strong images, such as ...                                                                                                                           |                             |
|       | I have chosen the best words to express myself. I took out all the words I don't need.                                                                           | (No writing here)           |
|       | I have written a strong beginning to my poem by ...                                                                                                              |                             |
|       | The ending of my poem looks and feels like an ending because ...                                                                                                 |                             |
|       | I chose the best title for my poem. It is really good because ...                                                                                                |                             |
|       | I looked at my poem and decided whether it needed a particular shape, line breaks, long lines, or short lines. I decided ...                                     |                             |
|       | I have carefully decided how to use white space in my poem, especially in places where I want the reader to pause to think about what I just said. I decided ... |                             |
|       | I have checked my spelling, and every word is spelled correctly.                                                                                                 | (No writing here)           |

**Writing Score:**      / 15 points

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# **Answer Key**

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## UNIT ASSESSMENT ANSWER KEY

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Answer the following questions. You may consult the poem as you work.

- Using letters of the alphabet as you did in earlier lessons, mark the poem's rhyme scheme. You may write the letters on the printed copy of the poem.  
The poem consists of rhyming couplets, so its rhyme scheme is  
AABBCCDDEE (stanza 1) FFGGHHIIIEE (stanza 2) JJKKLLMMEE  
(stanza 3).
- Use your own words to summarize stanza 1.  
On a spring morning, the birds sing and bells ring as people play in the  
village green.
- Use your own words to summarize stanza 2.  
An old man named John laughs as he sits with his peers. The other  
elderly people laugh at the playing children, who make them think  
of their own childhood playtime.

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- Use your own words to summarize stanza 3.  
Night falls and the children grow tired. The play ends, and the green  
grows empty and dark.
- How do "Old John, with white hair" and the other "old folk" feel as they watch the children play? Make sure to quote words from the poem in your answer.  
Answers will vary. Student answers should recognize that Old John  
feels happy and joyful when he watches the children playing, as seen in  
details such as "laugh at (the children's) play."
- What do the "Many sisters and brothers" have in common with "birds in their nest"?  
Answers will vary, but students may link the children in the shelter of  
their mothers' laps to the birds resting in the nest.

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- When the speaker states "like birds in their nest," what type of figurative language is he using? Give a reason for your answer.  
"Like birds in their nest" is an example of a simile. Students should cite  
the word as to support their deduction.
- The phrase "On the echoing Green" appears in stanza 1 and 2. In stanza 3 it changes to "On the darkening Green." What are some reasons that the poet might make this change?  
Student answers may vary. The poet may be emphasizing particular  
ideas or phrases to add musical or cyclical qualities to the poem or to  
make the poem sound more pleasing or distinctive to listeners.  
Additionally, the repetition varies slightly at the end to show the  
passage of time.

Reading Score:    /16 points

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