



**CLASS - V ENGLISH NOTES AUGUST**

**5. A Boy's Song**

**I. ERC:**

- 1. "Where the pools are bright and deep,  
Where the grey trout lies asleep,  
Up the river and over the lea,"**

**a) Which place do you think is being described here?**

A countryside setting is being described here—meadows, river, open grasslands, etc.

**b) Why does the poet refer to this place?**

The poet refers to this place because it is his favourite place to be. He loves being in the lap of Nature and enjoys the open spaces.

**c) What is 'lea'?**

'Lea' refers to an open area of grassy or arable land.

**d) Pick out two adjectives from the above lines.**

bright and deep

- 2. "Why the boys should drive away  
Little sweet maidens from the play,  
Or love to banter and fight so well,  
That's the thing I never could tell."**

**a) Which line tells you that boys bully the girls?**

'Why the boys should drive away/Little sweet maidens from the play,'—these lines tell us that the boys bully the girls.

**b) Pick out the word that means 'friendly exchange of teasing remarks'.**

Banter

**c) What does the poet prefer to do?**

The poet prefers to play in the meadow, in the midst of Nature, along with his friend Billy.

**d) What is the poet unable to understand?**

The poet is unable to understand if the boys banter with the girls or fight with them.

## **II. Short Answers:**

**1. Who do you think Billy is?**

Billy is the poet's friend.

**2. Which are the places that the poet likes to be in?**

'Where the pools are bright and deep', 'Where the blackbird sings the latest', 'Where the hazel bank is steepest,' etc.

**3. What does the poet find difficult to understand?**

The poet finds it difficult to understand why the boys would drive away (bully) the sweet maidens (girls) or why they so loved to tease each other.

**4. What is the only thing the poet knows?**

The only thing that the poet knows is that he loves to play in the meadow, among the hay, up the water and over the lea.

**5. What is the poet celebrating or praising in the poem?**

The poet seems to be an outdoor person and is celebrating or praising the open spaces, the meadows, the rivers, etc. where he loved to play with his friend Billy.

**6. What is the rhyme scheme of the poem?**

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**7. List five pairs of rhyming words used in the poem.**

deep—sleep; latest—sweetest; flee—me; cleanest—greenest; free—me

**8. Read these lines from the poem:**

Where the blackbird sings the latest,  
Where the hawthorn blooms the sweetest,  
Where the nestlings chirp and flee,

When you read these lines, were you able to imagine the scene in your mind?  
Did your mind create mental images of these?

Poets often use words in such a way that they appeal to our senses and we can see the images in our 'mind's eye. This technique is called imagery.

Imagery means to use language to represent objects, actions and ideas in such a way that it appeals to our physical senses. The word 'imagery' is associated with mental pictures.

Pick out two to three more examples from the poem that use imagery.

Ans: (a) Where mowers mow the cleanest (b) Where the hay lies thick and greenest