

POEM

Unit: Six / Lesson: 2 [Leisure]

Leisure William Henry Davies What is this life if, full of care, We have no time to stand and stare. No time to stand beneath the boughs And stare as long as sheep or cows. No time to see, when woods we pass, Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass. No time to see, in broad day light, Streams full of stars, like skies at night. A poor life this is if, full of care, We have no time to stand and stare.	অবকাশ উইলিয়াম হেনরি ডেভিস এই জীবন কেমন, যদি চিন্তায় ভরা থাকে, আর দাঁড়িয়ে তাকানোর সময় না থাকে। গাছের ডালে নিচে দাঁড়িয়ে ভেড়া বা গরুর মতো তাকানোর সময় না থাকে। বনের ভেতর দিয়ে হাঁটার সময় ঘাসে কাঠবেড়ালির বাদাম লুকানোটা যদি না দেখি। দিনের আলোয় না দেখি নদীর ধারে, যেন রাতের আকাশের মতো তারা ভরা জলের ধারা। চিন্তায় ভরা এমন জীবন তো খুবই গরিব, যেখানে দাঁড়িয়ে তাকানোর সামান্য সময়ও নেই।
Paraphrase	
The poem "<i>Leisure</i>" by William Henry Davies tells us that life becomes meaningless if we are always busy and don't take time to enjoy the beauty around us. The poet says we should take a break from our worries and stop to look at nature — like the trees, animals, squirrels hiding nuts, or the shining water that looks like stars. He believes that without time to relax and observe the simple, peaceful things in life, our life becomes poor and dull. The poem reminds us to slow down and enjoy the world around us.	কবিতাটি আমাদের জানায় যে যদি আমরা সব সময় কাজ ও দৃষ্টিভঙ্গি ব্যস্ত থাকি, তাহলে জীবনের প্রকৃত সৌন্দর্য উপভোগ করতে পারি না। কবি বলেন, আমাদের উচিত কিছুটা সময় নিয়ে প্রকৃতিকে দেখা — যেমন গাছপালা, পশুপাখি, কাঠবেড়ালির বাদাম লুকানো, অথবা নদীর জলে তারা মতো বলমলে দৃশ্য। যদি আমরা কখনো থেমে দাঁড়িয়ে এসব দেখি না, তবে আমাদের জীবন আসলে খুব গরিব ও নিষ্প্রাণ হয়ে যায়। এই কবিতাটি আমাদের বলে — জীবনে শুধু কাজ নয়, প্রকৃতির সৌন্দর্য দেখার জন্য অবকাশ নেওয়াও জরুরি।
Question & Answer 1. Why does the poet think that we have no time to stand and stare? The poet believes that people are so busy with their daily responsibilities and worries that they don't take the time to pause and appreciate the beauty of nature. They are caught up in the rush of life and forget to enjoy the simple things around them. 2. Do you think people often do not have time to enjoy the beauty of nature? Give reasons. Yes, many people don't have time to enjoy the beauty of nature because modern life is filled with constant work, technology, and social obligations. People are often too busy with their jobs, school, or other commitments to stop and take in the world around them. This leads to a lack of appreciation for nature's beauty. 3. Who is the poet of the poem "Leisure"? The poet of the poem "<i>Leisure</i>" is William Henry Davies, a Welsh poet and writer. 4. What is the poet complaining about in the poem? The poet is complaining about how people are too busy in life and have no time to appreciate or observe the beauty of nature. He laments that they are so full of care and worry that they miss out on the simple pleasures of life.	

5. What does the poet mean by “full of care”?

The phrase “full of care” means being constantly worried or anxious about life's responsibilities and troubles. The poet is referring to the stress and pressure that people experience in their daily lives, leaving them no time for relaxation or enjoying nature.

6. According to the poem, what don't we have time to do?

According to the poem, we don't have time to **stand and stare** — to pause, look around, and appreciate the natural beauty of the world, like trees, animals, and streams.

7. Where does the poet say we don't stand and stare?

The poet mentions that we don't stand and stare **beneath the boughs** (tree branches) or when passing through the woods, where we could observe the squirrels hiding their nuts.

8. What do sheep and cows do that we don't?

Sheep and cows are able to **stand and stare** at their surroundings, peacefully gazing at the world without any hurry or stress. The poet uses them to contrast with humans, who are too busy to enjoy the simple act of observing nature.

9. What does the poet say about squirrels?

The poet says that squirrels hide their nuts in the grass, but people don't have time to notice this small yet charming natural detail as they pass by the woods.

10. What natural scene looks like “streams full of stars”?

The poet describes **streams full of stars** as the natural beauty of streams that sparkle in daylight, resembling the stars in the night sky. It refers to the way the water shines or glitters in the sunlight.

11. What kind of life does the poet call “a poor life”?

The poet calls life “a poor life” if it is **full of care**, where a person is always busy and worried and has no time to appreciate the simple beauty of nature or to relax. This life lacks joy and peace.

12. How many times is the line “No time to stand and stare” repeated in the poem?

The line “**No time to stand and stare**” is repeated **twice** in the poem — once in the first stanza and again in the last stanza, emphasizing the central idea of the poem.

13. What does the word “boughs” mean in the poem?

The word “**boughs**” refers to the **branches of trees**. The poet mentions standing beneath the boughs of trees, suggesting a moment of calm observation in nature.

14. What does “streams full of stars” refer to?

“**Streams full of stars**” refers to the sparkling water in a stream that reflects the light, making it appear as though the water is full of stars, similar to the night sky.

15. Why do you think the poet wants us to observe nature?

The poet wants us to observe nature because it brings peace and joy. Observing nature helps us disconnect from our busy lives and find beauty in the world around us, which leads to a more fulfilling and balanced life. Nature offers a break from the stresses of everyday life, and the poet believes it is important to make time for this.

16. What message does the poet give about modern life?

The poet criticizes modern life for being too fast-paced and focused on worries and responsibilities. He suggests that in the rush of life, people forget to appreciate the beauty and calmness of nature. The poet calls for a slower, more mindful approach to life, where people take time to stand, stare, and enjoy the simple wonders around them.

17. How can we make time to enjoy the beauty of nature in our busy lives?

We can make time to enjoy nature by taking short breaks during the day to step outside, go for walks, or

just sit and observe the environment around us. Setting aside time for nature, even if it's just a few minutes, can help us reconnect with the world and find relaxation in the beauty of nature.

18. What is the main theme of the poem?

The main theme of the poem is the importance of slowing down and taking time to enjoy the beauty of nature. The poet emphasizes that a life filled with care and constant busyness is incomplete, and we should make time to stop, observe, and appreciate the simple things in life, like nature.

