

ALLEGATO 8

(The class is divided into four small groups)

Read the text carefully and , with the help of the Italian version, try to find all the words. Then check referring to the poem.

Thegirlcomesfromth fields,   
atsunset,   
carryinghersheafofgrass: inherfingers   
abunchofvioletsandroses:   
she’sready, asbefore,   
towreatheherhairandbodice,   
fortomorrow’sholiday.   
Theoldwomansitsspinning,   
facingthedyingsunlight,   
onthestairway,withherneighbours,   
tellingthetaleofherownyoungdays,   
whenshedressedforthefestival,   
andstillslimandlovely,   
dancedallevening,withthoseyoung   
boys,companionsofherfairerseason.

Alreadythewholeskydarkens,   
theairturnsdeepblue:already   
shadowsofhillsandroofsreturn,   
ontheyoungmoon’spalerising.   
Nowthebellsarewitness   
tothecomingholiday:   
youwouldsaytheheart   
mighttakecomfortfromthesound.   
Agangoflittleboys   
shoutinthetinysquare,   
leapinghereandthere,   
makingahappydin:   
andthefarmhand,whistling,   
returnsforhissimplemeal,   
dreamsofhisdayofrest.

Whentheotherlightsarequenched,allround,   
andeverythingelseissilent,   
Ihearthehammerringing,Ihear   
thecarpentersawing:he’sstillawake   
inthelamplight,inhisshutworkshop,   
hurryingandstraining,   
tofinishhistaskbeforedawn.   
Thisisthebestofthesevendays,   
fullofhopeandjoy:   
tomorrowthehourswillbring   
anxietyandsadness,andmakeeach   
turn,inthought,totheiraccustomedtoil.

Livelyboy,   
yourlife’ssweetflowering   
islikethisdayofgladness,   
aclearday,unclouded,   
thatheraldslife’sfestival.   
Enjoythesweethour,mychild,   
thispleasant,delightfulseason.   
I’llsaynothing,more:letitnotgrieveyou   
ifyourholiday,likemine,isslowtoarrive.