

## Week 5 Session 2 English

Throughout the book *Skellig*, the character Mina refers to a poet called William Blake. If you would like to know more about the poet, you can use this link : <https://bit.ly/3hSMBa2> .

Today, you are going to be reading one of William Blake's poems called *The Angel* and completing some vocabulary activities.

### **The Angel by William Blake**

I dreamt a dream! What can it mean?

And that I was a maiden Queen

Guarded by an Angel mild:

Witless woe was ne'er beguiled!

And I wept both night and day,

And he wiped my tears away;

And I wept both day and night,

And hid from him my heart's delight.

So he took his wings, and fled;

Then the morn blushed rosy red.

I dried my tears, and armed my fears

With ten-thousand shields and spears.

Soon my Angel came again;

I was armed, he came in vain;

For the time of youth was fled,

And grey hairs were on my head.

### Activity 1:

William Blake wrote his poems a long time ago when some of the words that were used were different to the ones we use today. Have a go at matching the vocabulary with the correct definition.

Word	Definition
A. Mild	1. Silly or foolish
B. Woe	2. Kind and Gentle
C. Morn	3. Run away
D. fled	4. Great sadness or distress
E. Vain	5. Trying but not succeeding
F. Witless	6. Old English for morning

### Activity 2

Using what you have learnt from Activity 1, match the lines in the poem to their more modern versions. You might want to check your answers to Activity 1 before starting this task.

Line from the Poem	Modern version
A. Witless woe was ne'er beguiled.	1. Childhood was gone.
B. Hid from him my heart's delight.	2. Silly worries were never ignored.
C. For the time of youth was fled,	3. I hid my happiness from him

### Activity 3

Decide which stanza (1, 2, 3 or 4) the summaries below match.

Stanza	Summary
	The angel came back but the poet was older now (old enough to have grey hair) and didn't need him anymore.
	The poet has had a strange dream about an angel looking after him and stopping him being sad.
	The angel ran away and the poet began to fight his worries and fears on his own.
	The angel was there all the time the poet was sad looking after him. When he was happy, he hid it from the angel and pretended to be sad so the angel stayed.

**This is just one interpretation of the poem. Do you think it means something different?**