

Sing and Learn

1. Listen to the song and complete the gaps.

Carol of the Bells

Hark! How the bells, sweet silver _____
All seem to say, "Throw cares away"
_____ is here, bringing good cheer
To _____ and old, meek and the bold.

Ding, dong, ding, dong, that is their _____
With joyful ring, all caroling
One seems to _____ words of good cheer
From everywhere filling the _____.

Oh, how they pound, raising their _____
O'er hill and dale, telling their tale
Gaily they _____ while people sing
_____ of good cheer, Christmas is here.

Merry, merry, merry, merry Christmas
Merry, merry, merry, merry Christmas

On, on they send, on without end
Their joyful tone to every _____.

2. Read the glossary to "Carol of the Bells". Find the sentences with the new words in the lyrics. Start a new Quizlet module named "Ukraine" and make the cards with the vocabulary from the glossary.

Glossary

Hark! = Listen!

good cheer = a feeling of happiness

meek = quiet, gentle, and not willing to argue or express your opinions in a forceful way

joyful = very happy

carol = to sing songs, especially carols, in a loud and happy way

o'er = over

dale = a valley

3. Read the Wikipedia article about "Shchedryk" and answer the questions:

When was "Shchedryk" originally sung?

Who composed the music for the carol?

Who popularized this song in the USA?

"Shchedryk" (Ukrainian: Щедрик, from Щедрий вечір, lit. 'Bountiful Evening') is a Ukrainian shchedrivka, or New Year's song, known in English as "The Little Swallow". The song tells a story of a swallow flying into a household to sing of the wealth that will come with the following spring. "Shchedryk" was originally sung on the night of 13 January, New Year's Eve in the Julian Calendar (31 December Old Style), known in Ukraine as Malanka or Shchedry Vechir ("Generous Evening"). The song is an example of a Ukrainian shchedrivka, whilst the English words of "The Little Swallow" identifies it as a koliadka.

The song was arranged by the Ukrainian composer Mykola Leontovych between 1901 and 1919 with early performances of the piece being performed by students at Kyiv University. It was made into a Christmas carol, "Carol of the Bells", by the American composer and educator Peter J. Wilhousky, following a performance of Leontovych's composition by Alexander Koszetz's Ukrainian National Chorus at Carnegie Hall on 5 October, 1922. Wilhousky copyrighted and published his own lyrics in 1936. The music has since become strongly associated with Christmas.

From Wikipedia