



Study Tour Three

3.1 Time



60



24



7



4



12



100



How many seconds in a minute?

Sixty, and no more in it.

How many minutes in an hour?

Sixty, for sun and shower.

How many hours in a day?

Twenty-four, for work and play.

How many days in a week?

Seven, both to hear and speak.

How many weeks in a month?

Four, as the swift moon runn'th.

How many months in a year?

Twelve, the almanac makes clear.

How many years in an age?

One hundred, says the sage.

How many ages in time?

No one knows the rhyme.

- Christina Rossetti

- **swift** : moving quickly
- **almanac/almanack** : a book that gives information about important days and dates, phases of the moon, the daily time of the rising and setting of the sun, the moon, other

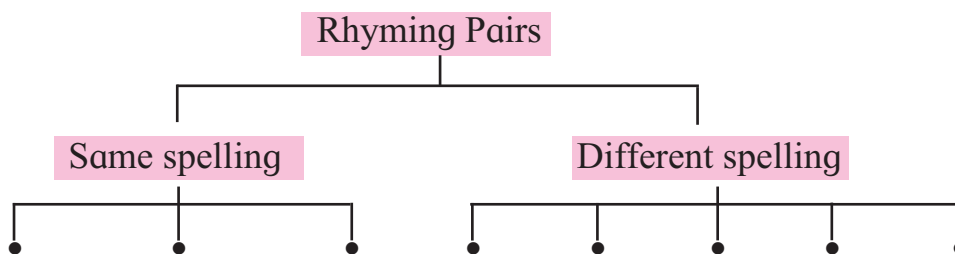
planets, and stars etc. An almanac gives this information for the whole year.

- **runn'th** : runneth, old form of 'runs'.
- **sage** : wise man



POINTERS

1. Form pairs to read the poem aloud. One person reads the question (the first line in each stanza) and the other one reads the answer. Practise doing this and then present the poem in a pair.
2. List the rhyming words or phrases from the poem. Then put each pair into two groups as follows -



3. List all the words related with 'time' from the poem.
4. Write other chains of 'How many' questions and answers.
Example : 'How many milligrams in a decigram?'

milli - centi - deci - metre / litre / gram - deca - hecto - kilo

5. The poem contains some idiomatic pairs – two words that are often used together -
* sun and shower * work and play * hear and speak

Now join the words in 'A' and 'B' using and / or to make more idiomatic pairs.

A

| | | |
|-------|-------|--------|
| day | left | more |
| now | life | sooner |
| here | north | trial |
| read | east | yes |
| bread | back | on |
| up | give | in |
| high | make | black |

B

| | | |
|--------|-------|-------|
| night | right | less |
| then | death | later |
| there | south | error |
| write | west | no |
| butter | forth | off |
| down | take | out |
| low | break | white |