

LIGHTNING (LONG JOHN)
Work song by a chain gang

**Well it's Long John,
 He's long gone,
 He's long gone,
 He's long gone,
 Well if I hadn't listened,
 What the road they say,
 I could sit at home,
 And a rode this day,
 Well if I wasn't listen'
 Got to runnin' around,
 First thing I know,
 I was jail house bound,
 Well I got in jail,
 With my mouth poked out,
 Well now I'm in the pen,
 and I can't get out,
**It's Long John,
 He's long gone,
 It's Long John,
 Oh, Long John,
 Well it's on me,
 Here's a pair of shoes,
 Was a funny shoes,
 That was ever seen,
 Had a heel in front,
 Had a heel behind,
 Well it's gettin' nowhere,
 That the boy was blind,
**It's Long John,
 He's long gone,
 He's Long John,
 Oh, Long John,
 Well in 2 or 3 minutes,
 Let me catch my way,
 And in 2, 3 minutes,
 I'm gone again,
 Oh, Long John,
 Oh, Long John,******

*Gonna call this summer,
 Ain't gonna call no more,
 If I call next summer,
 He's on the move,
**He's long gone,
 He's long gone,
 It's Long John,
 He's long gone,
 Well the god say,
 In the chapter 14,
 If the man live,
 Let his sin be free,
**Well Long John,
 He's long gone,
 Like a turkey through the
 corn,
 Through the long corn,
 Well it's Long John,
 Had a mother like god,
 Well it's Long John,
 Well it's tender foot John,
 With his long clothes on,
 Just a skippin' through the
 corn,
**Oh, long John,
 Was long gone,
 He's long gone,
 He's long gone, ...
 Well did you boys here
 What the captain said
 After you boys work
 Gonna take your footy
 wear
 Well if you don't work
 gonna give you plenty hell
**Oh, long gone
 It's long John
 Oh, long gone
 it's long John*********

*well you read on down
 well you read on down
 bout the chapter 16
 well the road god said
 well the road god said
 After you boys old
 After you boys old
 I'm a drop in on down
 With my wheat and zea
 All are in my hand
 Gonna kill every weed
 That are in this land
**I'm a long gone
 I'm a long gone
 I'm a long gone
 Oh, Long John
 Well the god say,
 In the chapter 14,
 If a man die,
 He can live again.***



Quels sons repères-tu ?

Un ensemble de voix masculines
 Des bruits réguliers (outil, coups de pioche).

Tempo lent, modéré, rapide ? Modéré.

Mesure à 2, 3, 4 temps ? Mesure à 2 temps.

Comment la musique est-elle organisée dans le temps et dans l'espace ?

Une voix soliste chante un appel,
 un groupe de voix répète la phrase en réponse.

C'est un procédé d'écriture appelé :

Call and response.

Combien de mélodies différentes repères-tu ?

Deux mélodies.

Une pour le couplet,

une plus aiguë pour le refrain.

Elles sont répétées à l'identique à chaque vers.

Quelle fonction, quel rôle a ce chant ?

Le chant rythme le travail

et permet une synchronisation des gestes.

Il exprime aussi la solidarité entre les travailleurs.

Les paroles écrites sont-elles exactement respectées ?

Certaines parties peuvent être plus improvisées.