

CHAPTER – THEY FUN THEY HAD

THE FUN THEY HAD

BY– ISAAC ASIMOV

ABOUT THE AUTHOR- ISAAC ASIMOV

ISAAC ASIMOV :- A Short Biography Scholar Isaac Asimov was one of the 20th century's most prolific writers, writing in many genres. He was known for sci-fi works like Foundation and I, Robot. Born on January 2, 1920, in Petrovichi, Russia, Isaac Asimov immigrated with his family to the United States and became a biochemistry professor while pursuing writing. He published his first novel, Pebble in the Sky, in 1950. An immensely prolific author who penned nearly 500 books, he published influential sci-fi works like I, Robot and the Foundation trilogy, as well as books in a variety of other genres. Asimov died in New York City on April 6, 1992. The on The Fun They Had is one of the most popular fictional works written by him.

INTRODUCTION:- This story is set in future when books and schools as we have now perhaps will not exist. Two students of that period about 150 years advance from today find a printed book. They are surprised very much. They talk about the schools and books of the old period. They compare those schools with those of their own which are situated in their homes and have mechanical teachers to teach them. They find their own schools dull and boring. They think that it was a great fun to study in the schools of old times when all the kids of the area went there to learn the same thing by a man teacher.

PLOT/ THEME / CENTRAL IDEA OF THE LESSON/ LITERARY ANALYSIS OF THE FUN THEY HAD/ MAIN IDEA THE STORY :- “The Fun They Had” by Isaac Asimov is about the year 2157 when every child has his own machine teacher and schools like today do not exist anymore. Asimov wrote this story in 1951 for a syndicated newspaper page. Later “The Fun They Had” was published in “Fantasy and Science Fiction” magazine.

In the year 2157 the thirteen-year-old Tommy finds an old book. He and Margie, who is eleven, find it strange that the words on paper do not move after having been read. Nowadays they only read stories on the computer screen. The book is about school centuries ago. Margie is very surprised that in the past pupils had a person as a teacher and that all children of the same age learnt the same thing and went to a school house with other children. Margie wants to read more of the book but first she has to learn with her machine teacher whose level is too advanced for her and she thinks school in those days was much better than today. Ultimately the theme is to understand the importance of the present time lively school atmosphere in which we keep on finding faults over nothing.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TITLE:- The Fun They Had (Value Based) Justify the title of The Fun They Had This is absolutely an appropriate title as necessarily if there is no schooling system like the present time the future generation after listening about us must be thinking that the people living in past must be very happy. Schooling must have been a fun to them because it was lively and children must be having a lot of fun in meeting the others and interacting with one another making a lot of friends etc. The title also states the same. The Fun They Had

MORAL/ MESSAGE OF THE LESSON:- The Fun They Had The author's message is one of warnings against the dangers of computerized homeschooling which keeps away the children from the benefits of the personal interactions between students and teachers, which help them develop social skills as well as many more things. So without criticising the present schooling we should understand the value of the present lively education system and enjoy it to the fullest.

SUMMARY IN ENGLISH- THE FUN THEY HAD DETAILED SUMMARY On the day of 17 May 2157, Tommy found a real book. He showed it to Margie. Margie was eleven years old. She had never seen a real book before. She had once heard from her grandfather about the printed books. It was a very old book. Its pages has turned yellow and crinkly. They turned its pages and read them. Tommy found it just a waste. They had no printed books. Their books flashed on the television screen. Tommy who was of thirteen had read more books on the television screen than Margie.

CHAPTER – THEY FUN THEY HAD

Tommy told Margie that it was a book about school. Margie always hated school. Her school was situated in a room in her home. It was in the room next to her bedroom. Her Mechanical teacher flashed on her television screen at fixed time daily except on Saturday and Sunday. She had to attend it alone. This mechanical teacher asked her questions, gave her homework and checked it. It also checked the assignment test papers and awarded them.

Margie's mechanical teacher had been giving her test after test. Margie's performance had been going from worse to worst. Her mother called for the County Inspector. He set the speed of the mechanical teacher right up to the level of an average ten-year child. Tommy told Margie that hundreds and hundreds years ago there were old kind of schools. Those schools were situated in special building. Men teachers taught in them. All the kids of the area went there and learnt the same thing. Margie thought that it would be great fun to study in those schools. She wanted to read about those funny schools.

Just then Margie's mother called Margie to attend her school. Margie was reluctant but she had to go inside her school room nonchalantly. It was right next to her bed room. Her mechanical teacher was on and waiting for her. It asked Margie to put her homework in the proper slot. Margie did so with a sigh. the mechanical teacher was teaching her the mathematics topic of fractions but she was thinking about the schools of the old days and the fun they had.

FOLLOWING IS THE COMPLETE QUESTION BANK FOR THE FUN THEY HAD-

The Fun They Had Extra Questions and Answers

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS/ Quiz- The Fun They Had

Q1. On which date did Margie make an entry in her diary about schools?

(A) 17 May 2156 (B) 17 May 2157 (C) 17 May 2158 (D) 17 May 2159

Ans. (B) 17 May 2157

Q2. Who found a real book?

(A) Tommy (B) Margie (C) Tommy's teacher (D) The mechanical teacher

Ans. Tommy

Q3. What did Margie write about in her diary?

(A) a real school (B) a real teacher (C) a real book (D) Tommy her grandfather

Ans. (A) a real school

Q4. Who told Margie once about real books?

(A) her father (B) Tommy (C) the mechanical teacher (D) her grandfather

Ans. (D) her grandfather

Q5. Why were the pages of the book were yellow and crinkly

(A) it was a very old book (B) Its colour was yellow (C) they were yellow because (D) none of these written in yellow ink .

Ans. (A) it was a very old book

Q6. How were the words in the book?

(A) moving (B) Steady (C) getting unprinted after reading (D) none of these options is right

Ans. (B) steady

Q7. How old was Margie?

(A) ten years (B) eleven years (C) twelve years (d) thirteen years

Ans. (B) eleven years

CHAPTER – THEY FUN THEY HAD

Q8. How old was Tommy?

(A) ten years (B) eleven years (C) Twelve years (D) thirteen years

Ans. (D) thirteen years

Q9. Where did Tommy found the book?

(A) in the attic (B) in the school (C) in a shop (D) in a library

Ans.(A) in the attic

Q10. What was Margie scornful about?

(A) the printed book (B) the school (C) Tommy (D) e-mail books

Ans. (B) the school

Q11. What do you mean by a mechanical teacher?

(A) television (B) a teacher who teaches with instruments (C) a real teacher (D) all the options are correct

Ans. (A) television

Q12. What was Margie's mechanical teacher giving her?

(A) tests in mathematics (B) tests in geography (C) a sound beating (D) good marks

Ans. (B) tests in geography

Q13. Margie's mother called the County Inspector to

(A) teach Margie (B) give her good marks (C) take her to other school (D) set the mechanical teacher right

Ans. (D) set the mechanical teacher right

Q14. Margie's mother shaken her head sorrowfully :

(A) at Margie's poor performance in tests (B) at the old times of schools (C) at the printed books
(D) at the mechanical teacher

Ans. (A) at Margie's poor performance in tests

Q15. Who was a round little man?

(A) the County Inspector (B) the mechanical teacher (C) the real teacher (D) Tommy

Ans. (A) the County Inspector

Q16. Why had the inspector tools and wires with him?

(A) he was to set Margie right (B) he was to set the mechanical teacher right (C) he was to check Margie's mother (D) none of these options

Ans. (B) he was to set the mechanical teacher right

Q17. How long did it take the inspector to set the mechanical teacher right?

(A) one hour (B) thirty minutes (C) two hours (D) one month

Ans. (A) one hour

Q18. Which part of the mechanical teacher did Margie hate most?

(A) screen (B) whole box (C) slot (D) none of these

Ans. (C) slot

Q19. How did Margie feed her homework in the mechanical teacher?

(A) in a punch code (B) in written papers (C) by speaking (D) none of these options

CHAPTER – THEY FUN THEY HAD

Ans. (A) in a punch code

Q20. Margie was doing worse and worse in?

(A) Geography (B) Maths (C) Physics (D) English

Ans. (A) Geography

Q21. What did Tommy and Margie mean by a regular teacher

(A) a male teacher (B) a female teacher (C) a good teacher (D) a mechanical teacher

Ans. (D) a mechanical teacher

Q22. Select the title of the story of Tommy and Margie

(A) A Real Book . (B) The Fun They Had (C) The Fun with Printed Books (D) A Printed Book

Ans. (B) The Fun They Had

Extract Based / comprehension test Questions and Answers of The Fun They Had

Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow.

PASSAGE 1

Margie even wrote about it that night in her diary. On the page headed 17 May 2157, she wrote, ‘Today Tommy found a real book!’ It was a very old book. Margie’s grandfather once said that when he was a little boy his grandfather told him that there was a time when all stories were printed on paper. They turned the pages, which were yellow and crinkly, and it was awfully funny to read words that stood still instead of moving the way they were supposed to — on a screen, you know. And then when they turned back to the page before, it had the same words on it that it had had when they read it the first time.

Questions :

- (i) What did Margie write in her diary?
- (ii) Had Margie ever seen a book before?
- (iii) ‘They’ turned the pages. Who does ‘They’ refer to?
- (iv) What was funny about the book?
- (v) Why had the pages of the book turned yellow and crinkly?

Answers :

1. On page headed 17 May 2157, Margie wrote, ‘Today Tommy found a real book!’
2. No, Margie had never seen a book before.
3. they are Margie and Tommy.
4. The words in the book stand still instead of moving.
5. The pages of the book had turned yellow and crinkly because it was very old.

PASSAGE 2

‘Gee,’ said Tommy. ‘What a waste. When you’re through with the book. you just throw it away. I guess. Our television screen must have had a million books on it and it’s good for plenty more. I wouldn’t throw it away.’ ‘Same with mine,’ said Margie. She was eleven and hadn’t seen as many telebooks as Tommy had. He was thirteen. She said, ‘Where did you find it?’ ‘In my house.’ He pointed without looking, because he was busy reading. ‘In the attic.’ ‘What’s it about?’ ‘School.

Questions :

1. What is a waste for Tommy?
2. What sort of books did Margie and Tommy have in their schools?
3. How old were Margie and Tommy?
4. Where did Tommy find the book?

CHAPTER – THEY FUN THEY HAD

5. What was that book about?

Answers :

1. Printing books on paper is a waste for Tommy.
2. They have moving books on their television screen.
3. Margie was eleven and Tommy was thirteen years old
4. Tommy found the book in his house in the attic.
5. It was about 'School'.

PASSAGE 3

Margie was scornful. 'School? What's there to write about school? I hate school.' Margie always hated school, but now she hated it more than ever. The mechanical teacher had been giving her test after test in geography and she had been doing worse and worse until her mother had shaken her head sorrowfully and sent for the County Inspector.

Questions :

1. Name the writer of the story 'The Fun They Had'.
2. What was Margie's opinion about school?
3. What had been doing her mechanical teacher?
4. What were Margie's responses?
5. Why was the County Inspector sent for?

Answers :

- (i) Issac Asimov.
- (ii) Margie hated school.
- (iii) Her mechanical teacher had been giving her test after test in geography.
- (iv) Margie's responses were very poor.
- (v) The County Inspector was sent for to check the mechanical teacher.

PASSAGE 4

He was a round little man with a red face and a whole box of tools with dials and wires. He smiled at Margie and gave her an apple, then took the teacher apart. Margie had hoped he wouldn't know how to put it together again, but he knew how all right, and, after an hour or so, there it was again, large and black and ugly, with a big screen on which all the lessons were shown and the questions were asked. That wasn't so bad. The part Margie hated most was the slot where she had to put homework and test papers. She always had to write them out in a punch code they made her learn when she was six years old, and the mechanical teacher calculated the mark in no time.

Questions :

1. Who was a round little man?
2. What did he do to the teacher?
3. What had Margie hoped?
4. Which part of the mechanical teacher did she hate most and why?
5. How did she write her test papers?

Answers :

1. The County Inspector was a round little man.
2. He took the mechanical teacher into pieces.
3. Margie had hoped that the County Inspector would not know how to put it together.
4. She hated the slot most because she had to put her homework and test papers in it.
5. She wrote her test papers in a punch code.

CHAPTER – THEY FUN THEY HAD

PASSAGE 5

The Inspector had smiled after he was finished and patted Margie's head. He said to her mother, 'It's not the little girl's fault, Mrs. Jones. I think the geography sector was geared a little too quick. Those things happen sometimes. I've slowed it up to an average ten-year level. Actually, the over-all pattern of her progress is quite satisfactory.' And he patted Margie's head again.

Margie was disappointed. She had been hoping they would take the teacher away altogether. They had once taken Tommy's teacher away for nearly a month because the history sector had blanked out completely. So she said to Tommy, 'Why would anyone write about school?'

Questions :

1. 'The Inspector smiled after he was finished'. What was finished?
2. What was problem with the mechanical teacher?
3. At what level did the Inspector set it?
4. The mechanical teacher was set right but Margie was disappointed, why?
5. What trouble had been there once with Tommy's teacher?

Answers :

1. He had reassembled the mechanical teacher all right.
2. Its geography sector was geared a little too quick.
3. He set it up to an average ten-year child level.
4. She had hoped that she would get a long vacation till her mechanical teacher was repaired.
5. Its history sector had completely blanked out.

PASSAGE 6

'May be' he said nonchalantly. He walked away whistling, the dusty old book tucked beneath his Margie went into the schoolroom. It was right next to her bedroom, and the mechanical teacher was on and waiting for her. It was always on at the same time every day except Saturday and Sunday, because her mother said little girls learned better if they learned at regular hours. The screen was lit up, and it said : 'Today's arithmetic lesson is on the addition of proper fractions. Please insert yesterday's homework in the proper slot.'

Questions :

1. 'May be', he said nonchalantly. Who does 'he' refer to?
2. Where was Margie's school situated?
3. What was the routine of Margie's mechanical teacher?
4. What topic was Margie going to learn that day?
5. Find a word from the passage which have the meaning same as 'showing not any interest'.

Answers :

1. 'He' refers to Tommy.
2. In her house in the room next to her bedroom.
3. It flashed at the right time daily except on Saturday and Sunday.
4. She was going to learn the addition of proper fractions.
5. Nonchalantly.

PASSAGES FOR PRACTICE (UNSOLVED)

PASSAGE 7

Tommy looked at her with very superior eyes. 'Because it's not our kind of school, stupid. This is the old kind of school that they had hundreds and hundreds of years ago.' He added loftily, pronouncing the word carefully, 'Centuries ago.' Margie was hurt. 'Well, I don't know what kind of school they had all that time ago.' She read the book over his shoulder for a while, then said, 'Anyway, they had a teacher.' 'Sure they had a teacher, but it

CHAPTER – THEY FUN THEY HAD

wasn't a regular teacher. It was a man.' 'A man? How could a man be a teacher?' 'Well, he just told the boys and girls things and gave them homework and asked them questions.'

Questions :

1. Name the lesson and its author.
2. 'Tommy looked at her with very superior eyes.' Who does 'her' refer to?
3. Which schools was Tommy talking about?
4. But it wasn't a regular teacher. It was a man.' With reference to this lesson tell who was a regular teacher.
5. 'A man? How could a man be a teacher?' Who said this?

PASSAGE 8

Margie did so with a sigh. She was thinking about the old schools they had when her grandfather's grand-father was a little boy. All the kids from the whole neighbourhood came, laughing and shouting in the schoolyard, sitting together in the schoolroom, going home together at the end of the day. They learned the same things, so they could help one another on the homework and talk about it. And the teachers were people. The mechanical teacher was flashing on the screen : 'When we add fractions 'A and 'A -' Margie was thinking about how the kids must have loved it in the old days. She was thinking about the fun they had.

Questions :

1. 'Margie did so with a sigh.' What did Margie do with a sigh?
2. What was a special feature of the schools in old times?
3. What was the feature of learning in the schools of old times?
4. What topic was the mechanical teacher teaching her?
5. What was Margie thinking about?

The Fun They Had by Isaac Asimov worksheets- (Will be available soon)

Main Characters of the Story- The Fun They Had

The most important character in the short story "The Fun They Had" by Isaac Asimov is Margie. She is the main character whose perspective has been followed by the narrator. Secondary characters are Tommy, Mrs. Jones and the County Inspector.

Give a character sketch of Margie Jones from the chapter The Fun They Had

Margie Jones is an eleven-year-old girl living in 2155. Except for this information, nothing much is revealed about the girl's outer characterization. We also know that she is homeschooled by a mechanical teacher and that she has a friend named Tommy. Margie's inner characterization is revealed through her actions and her attitude towards school in her time and the past. The fact that Margie has a diary in which she writes about finding a 'real book' indicates the event had a strong impact on her. From her conversation with Tommy about the book and school in the past, Margie comes across as naive, having little knowledge about the way school was in the past, and very mistrustful.

Give a character sketch of Tommy from the chapter The Fun They Had Tommy

Tommy is Margie's friend, who is older than her, being thirteen years old. He comes across as smarter than the little girl because he has seen more telebooks and because he has more knowledge about how school was "centuries ago".

Extra Very Short Answer Type Important Questions

1. What did Tommy find?
Ans. He found a real book.
2. How old was Margie?
Ans. She was eleven years old.
3. How old was Tommy?

CHAPTER – THEY FUN THEY HAD

Ans. He was thirteen years old.

4. What was the real book, that Tommy found, about?

Ans. It was about 'School'.

5. What did Margie hate?

Ans. She hated school.

6. What had the mechanical teacher been giving to Margie?

Ans. The mechanical teacher had been giving test after test to Margie in geography.

7. Why did Margie's mother send for the County Inspector?

Ans. She sent for the County Inspector because Margie had been doing worse and worse in her geography tests.

8. Why did Margie hate slot most?

Ans. Margie hated slot most because she had to put homework and test papers in it.

9. What was wrong with the geography sector of Margie's mechanical teacher?

Ans. The geography sector of Margie's mechanical teacher was geared a little too quick.

10. What do you mean by a regular teacher?

Ans. It means the mechanical teacher that appears on the television screen at fixed time.

11. What is the name of Margie's mother?

Ans. Her name is Mrs. Jones.

12. What subject did Tommy learn?

Ans. He learnt history.

13. Name the writer of the lesson 'The Fun They Had'.

Ans. Isaac Asimov.

14. On what date did Margie make an entry in her diary about the real book?

Ans. She did so on 17 May, 2157.

15. On which two days there came no mechanical teacher on the TN. screen?

Ans. On Saturday and Sunday.

Answer these questions in a few words or a couple of sentences each.

Question 1: How old are Margie and Tommy?

Answer: Margie is 11 years old and Tommy is 13 years old.

Question 2: What did Margie write in her diary?

Answer: Margie wrote in her diary, "Today Tommy found a real book!".

Question 3: Had Margie ever seen a book before?

Answer: No, she had heard about a book from her grandfather.

Question 4: What things about the book did she find strange?

CHAPTER – THEY FUN THEY HAD

Answer: They found many strange things about the book. One of the strange things was that after reading the book became useless. Because the text written on it did not change the way it happened on their computer screen. Moreover, one page was having limited number of words, unlike computers where a page can display unlimited number of words.

Question 5: What do you think a telebook is?

Answer: A telebook can be an online book which can be browsed using internet. Or it can be displayed through TV signals on TV screen.

Question 6: Where was Margie's school? Did she have any classmates?

Answer: Margie's school was a virtual school in her house. She didn't have classmates the way present day children have. At present children go to physical schools where they interact with real teachers and real classmates.

Question 7: What subjects did Margie and Tommy learn?

Answer: There is mention of subjects like Geography, Maths and History. But assuming a computer can be programmed to teach any subject they must be taught all relevant subjects.

Answer each of these questions in a short paragraph (about 30 words)

Question 1: What kind of teachers did Margie and Tommy have?

Answer: Margie and Tommy have virtual teacher. It is computer fitted with latest gizmos. The computer is programmed to give lessons depending on a child's age group and previous learning history. The content are highly interactive and children learn from the mechanical teacher. The child needs to submit test papers regularly to the computer and he gets instant feedback in the form of the test result.

Question 2: Why did Margie's mother send for the County Inspector?

Answer: Margie was not performing up to the mark in her Geography tests. So her mother was worried. She wanted the County Inspector to check if there was some problem with the child or with the virtual teacher.

Question 3: What did he do?

Answer: He found that the computer's programme was not working properly and was giving lessons, which was of higher level than what Margie's age required. He rectified the problem and it started giving lessons suitable for Margie's age group.

Question 4: What had once happened to Tommy's teacher?

Answer: Tommy's teacher developed some snag and its History section was blanked out. So it was taken away for a month for repair.

Question 5: Did Margie have regular days and hours for school? If so, why?

Answer: Margie did not have regular days and hours unlike conventional schools. The benefit of virtual classroom is it can be accessed as per your convenience. No more early morning rush for school. You can sleep as late as you wish and can compensate for your study during day time as you wish.

Question 6: How does Tommy describe the old kind of school?

Answer: Tommy said that centuries ago there used to be different kinds of school. There a human teacher used to give same lesson to all boys and girls of same age group. Students had to go to that school to study.

Question 7: How does he describe the old kind of teachers?

Answer: Old kind of teachers was human being. It is surprising how a human being can be smart enough to teach a particular topic.

CHAPTER – THEY FUN THEY HAD

Answer each of these questions in two or three paragraphs (100 –150 words)

Question 1: What are the main features of the mechanical teachers and the schoolrooms that Margie and Tommy have in the story?

Answer: The mechanical teacher is a computer screen with good audio-video system. It taught students in mechanical voice and tone. It was always prompt in giving feedback after a child submitted his papers. It can store reams of information. Unlike a page in the real books, the mechanical teacher's page is its screen. The screen can display unlimited number of words. The teacher is always present in their house and they can study as per their timings.

The teacher sometimes goes wrong as well. There can be some virus playing havoc with its programming. This may lead to inaccessibility of certain subjects. Sometimes this can lead the teacher to throw really difficult tests, which may not be fit for a particular child. Otherwise, the teacher is always programmed to suit each individual student's learning need and capability.

Question 2. Why did Margie hate school? Why did she think the old kind of school must have been fun?

Answer: Her school was always open, seven days in a week. Margie's teacher was always on at the same time except weekends, because her mother believed that regular study hours result in better learning.

She had no classmates to interact and play with. She thought that old school must have been fun, because, you got the opportunity to play and make fun, with your classmates. It must have been a pleasant experience to study from a human instead of impersonal machine.

Q. How old are Margie and Tommy?

A. Margie was eleven years old while Tommy was thirteen.

Q. What did Margie write in her diary?

A. Margie wrote in her diary, "Today Tommy found a real book!"

Q. Had Margie ever seen a book before?

A. No, Margie had never seen a book before.

Q. What things about the book did she find strange?

A. On turning the pages of the book, she found it very hard to read words that stood still instead of moving the way they were supposed to on a screen. When they turned back to the previous page, it had the same words on it when they read it the first time.

Q. What do you think a telebook is?

A. A tele-book is a book that could be read on screen. Words move on the screen for the students to read. All the lessons appeared on the big screen and were followed by questions from the book.

Q. Where was Margie's school? Did she have any classmates?

A. Margie's school was in her home itself. In fact, it was next to her bedroom. It was a mechanical teacher with screen. Lessons and questions appeared on the screen. She had to put her homework in a particular slot and write the answers in punch code. She did not have any classmates.

Q. What subjects did Margie and Tommy learn?

A. Margie and Tommy learnt geography, history, and arithmetic.

Answer the following with reference to the story.

Q. "I wouldn't throw it away."

(i) Who says these words?

A. Tommy said these words.

(ii) What does 'it' refer to?

CHAPTER – THEY FUN THEY HAD

A. 'It' refers to the television screen, which had a million books on it.

(iii) What is 'it' being compared with by the speaker?

A. Tommy is comparing the television screen to the books in earlier times with words printed on paper. He thought that such books would have to be thrown away after reading. However, he would never have to throw away his tele-books.

Q. "Sure they had a teacher, but it wasn't a regular teacher. It was a man."

(i) Who does 'they' refer to?

A. 'They' refers to the students who studied in the old kind of schools centuries before the time the story is set in.

(ii) What does 'regular' mean here?

A. Here, 'regular' refers to the mechanical teachers that Tommy and Margie had. According to author, centuries later this would be the norm.

(iii) What is it contrasted with?

A. The mechanical teacher is contrasted with the teacher of the earlier times, who was a human being.

Answer each of these questions in a short paragraph (about 30 words).

Q. What kind of teachers did Margie and Tommy have?

A. Margie and Tommy had mechanical teachers. They had large black screens on which all the lessons were shown and questions were asked. These mechanical teachers had a slot for the students to put their homework and test papers. They had to write their answers in punch code and the mechanical teacher calculated the marks immediately.

Q. Why did Margie's mother send for the County Inspector?

A. Margie had been given many tests in geography by the mechanical teacher. She had been performing worse and worse in them. It is for this reason that her mother for the County Inspector.

Q. What did he do?

A. The County Inspector gave Margie an apple and started working on the mechanical teacher. Margie had hoped that the Inspector would not know how to put the mechanical teacher together again, but he managed to assemble it. He slowed down the geography sector of the teacher because it had become too quick.

Q. Why was Margie doing badly in geography? What did the County Inspector do to help her?

A. Margie was doing badly in geography because the geography sector of the mechanical teacher was adjusted at a higher level. The County Inspector rightly told her that she could not be blamed for her poor performance. The County Inspector fixed the setting for the geography sector.

Q. What had once happened to Tommy's teacher?

A. Once, Tommy's teacher had to be taken away for nearly a month because its history sector had blanked out completely.

Q. Did Margie have regular days and hours for school? If so, why?

A. Yes, Margie had regular days and hours for school. The mechanical teacher always turned on at the same time every day except Saturdays and Sundays. Margie had regular days and hours for school because her mother said that little girls learned better, when they learned at regular hours.

Q. How does Tommy describe the old kind of school?

CHAPTER – THEY FUN THEY HAD

A. Tommy says that the old kind of school existed centuries ago. They had a teacher, who was a man. This teacher taught in a special building where all the kids assembled and learned the same things according to their respective ages.

Q. How does he describe the old kind of teachers?

A. He says that the teacher in old times was a man, who taught the students inside a special building. He gave them homework and asked them questions. When Margie said that a man was not smart enough to be a teacher, he contradicted her by saying that his father knew as much as his mechanical teacher.

www.ffinstitute.in