

Study Material of Std - IX  
Sub :- English (Beehive)

Ch :- 1 (The fun they had)

Written by :-

Isaac Asimov

Summary :-

This story is set in the future when children don't have traditional books and schools. It is set about 150 years ahead. One day, Margie, a little girl in the story, makes a diary entry - 'Today Tommy found a real book'. Tommy, a boy of thirteen years, finds an old book. He has heard from his grandfather that there used to be books and separate spacious buildings from schools. When he finds a real book from the attic in his house, he is excited. Tommy and Margie start reading the book and find a lot of new information about the old system of education.

Tommy and Margie do not have formal schools and human teachers. The next room to their bedroom is their schoolroom. They have mechanical teachers. The teacher has a big screen showing all the lessons and questions. There is a slot where each child has to put homework and assignment for evaluation. The mechanical teachers can be adjusted to fit the mind of the students. If there is any fault, it can be corrected. When Margie's

performance is not up to the mark in geography, her teacher is re-adjusted.

When Mangie comes to know about the old schools from the book, she starts hating her school. She likes the old schools more than her own school. She thinks what fun the kids might be having — studying, playing and enjoying together.

### Question and Answers :-

1. What kind of teachers did Mangie and Tommy have?

Ans :- The teachers of Mangie and Tommy were different from the teachers of today. They were robotic teachers. They were confined to study rooms and taught mechanically.

2. Why did Mangie's mother send for the County Inspector?

Ans :- Mangie was working hard in geography under the guidance of the mechanical teachers, but there was no improvement in her performance. It only kept getting worse. So Mangie's mother sent for the County Inspector to find out the fault and settle it.

3. What did he do?

Ans:- The County Inspector gave Margie an apple and started working on the mechanical teacher. He took it apart and then checked it. Margie wished that the Inspector would not know how to put the mechanical teacher together again. But he managed to reassemble it. He slowed down the geography sector of the teacher which was geared a little faster for an average ten-year-old.

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

Ans:- Margie was doing badly in geography because the geography sector of the mechanical teacher had been geared a little faster. The County Inspector rightly told her that she could not be blamed for her poor performance. The County Inspector slowed down the geography sector of the mechanical teacher to an average ten-year level.

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

Ans:- Once the history sector of Tommy's teacher had blanked out completely.

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

Ans: - Yes, Margie had regular days and hours for school. This was because her mother believed that learning at regular hours helped little girls learn better. Her mechanical teacher was also on at the same time every day except Saturday and Sunday.

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

Ans: - Tommy describes the old kind of school as a special building where all kinds of kids studied together. There were hundreds of students studying and playing together. They used to shout and laugh together in an open yard.

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

Ans: - According to Tommy, the old kind of teachers were humans being who taught the students inside a special building. The teachers taught the children in groups and gave them homework and asked them questions.

## Home Assignment

Do all the Exercise of ch - 1 (The fun they had) of the New book from Pg. no:-10 and 11 in your note copy.

### Moments

#### Ch:-1 (The lost Child)

#### Summary:-

Written by :-  
Mulk Raj Anand

This story highlights a child's love for his parents. It is the festival of spring. Everyone is going to a fair. The child is very happy and excited because he is also going to the fair with his parents. On the way to the fair, the child is fascinated by the natural beauty. He enjoys every moments. In the fair, the child is attracted towards his favourite sweets. He wants to have one but he does not express his desire. He knows that his parents will not allow him to take any. Then, he is attracted by a toy but again he does not ask for that because he knows that his parents perhaps cannot afford to buy the toy.

The child moves on with his parents enjoying the fair. He wants to take one of the handlands from a shop and a balloon from the balloon-seller but he does not ask his parents to buy them. He says nothing. He sees a snake-charmer. He likes the music and wants to stay there for some time. His parents do not approve of such music. So he moves on. He sees a merry-go-round. People are enjoying the ride. He also wants to enjoy the ride. For the first time, the child expresses his desire. He says, "I want to go on the roundabout, please father, mother." But there is no reply. He searches for his parents here and there. He is lost. He starts crying. He runs towards a shrine. There is a big crowd. He goes a little ahead between people's legs. He is pushed back. A kind-hearted man hears him crying. He stops and lifts the child in his arms. He tries to soothe him. But the child is crying continuously for his parents. The man takes him to roundabout and asks if he wants a ride. The man takes him to the sweetmeat-seller, the balloon-seller and the snake-charmer. He offers him everything but the child refuses everything. These things have lost their charm. Now the child wants only his parents.

Question and Answers:-

1. What was his father's reaction to his demands?

Ans:- The child was very happy at the fair. He wanted to have a toy. His father perhaps could not afford it. He looked at him rudely and with anger. The child said nothing and kept on moving.

2. What kind of a lady was his mother?

Ans:- His mother was a very kind lady. Her attitude was very tender. Whenever the child wanted to buy something, she tried to divert his attention to something else. She did not scold him.

3. Describe the path of the fair.

Ans:- There was a walking distance from the village to the fair. The path went through the lanes and then there was narrow, winding footpath through the mustard fields.

4. Why was the child forbidden to hear the music?

Ans:- The child was fascinated by the flute music of the snake-chammer. He wanted to stop there and enjoy the music. His parents did not allow him to hear that. They considered the flute music cheap and coarse. So he was forbidden to hear that.

5. How did the child react in front of the juggler?

Ans:- The juggler was playing the flute to a snake. The child was attracted by the music and went towards him. He knew that his parents would not like his standing there. So he moved on.

### Home Assignment

Do all the extra question and answers of ch-1 ('The lost child') of the new book from pg. no. - 6 in your note copy.