

17.5.20

Sub - ENGLISH READER

Text Book - BEEHIVE (PROSE)

Lesson No - 1

THE FUN THEY HAD (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 for 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 assignments for evaluation.

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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 readjusted. When Margie 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.

[Assignment]

1. Comprehension passage
It was a very old book. Margie's grandfather once said that when he was a child/little boy, his grandfather told him that there was a time when all stories were printed on paper.
- Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions.
- Which book has been referred to?
 - Why was it a surprise for them?
 - What is the use of old book, according to Margie's grandfather?
 - What is the condition of the book now?
- Q. Answer each of these questions in about 30 words.
- What kind of teachers did Margie and Tommy have?
 - Why did Margie's mother send for the County Inspector?

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- (iii) What did the County Inspector do?
- (iv) Why was Margie doing badly in geography? What did the County Inspector do to help her?
- (v) Did Margie have regular days and hours for school? If so, why?
- (vi) How does Tommy describe the old kind of school?

3. Answer each of these questions in (100-150) words.

- (i) Why did Margie hate school? Why did she think the old kind of school must have been fun?
- (ii) What are the main features of the mechanical teachers and the schoolrooms that Margie and Tommy have in the story?

Note:- All the students are suggested to do the given work in previous copy or in A4 sheets, because marks will be allotted for this work. You are also suggested to purchase N.C.E.R.T. text books, so that you can do deep study of the text. Book shops are open.