



Padalsalai's Telegram Groups!

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- **Padalsalai's NEWS - Group**
https://t.me/joinchat/NIfCqVRBNj9hhV4wu6_NqA
- **Padalsalai's Channel - Group**
<https://t.me/padasalaichannel>
- **Lesson Plan - Group**
<https://t.me/joinchat/NIfCqVWwo5iL-21gpzrXLw>
- **12th Standard - Group**
https://t.me/Padalsalai_12th
- **11th Standard - Group**
https://t.me/Padalsalai_11th
- **10th Standard - Group**
https://t.me/Padalsalai_10th
- **9th Standard - Group**
https://t.me/Padalsalai_9th
- **6th to 8th Standard - Group**
https://t.me/Padalsalai_6to8
- **1st to 5th Standard - Group**
https://t.me/Padalsalai_1to5
- **TET - Group**
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- **PGTRB - Group**
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- **TNPSC - Group**
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JAI GURUDEV
MAHARISHI INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL
IX – ENGLISH

SYLLABUS FOR APRIL(ENGLISH)DATE : 20.04.2020

MONTH	LESSON NO	TOPIC
APRIL	1	THE FUN THEY HAD

About the Author Isaac Asimov:

Isaac Asimov (1920- 1992) was an American writer and professor of biochemistry at Boston University. He was known for his works of science fiction and popular science. Asimov was a prolific writer who wrote or edited more than 500 books and an estimated 90,000 letters and postcards. Isaac Asimov was the Grand Master of the Science Fiction Writers of America, the founder of robot ethics, and one of the world's most prolific authors of fiction

Isaac Asimov - The Fun They Had Summary, Explanation

Author Name - Isaac Asimov

Born 2 January 1920, Petrovichi, Russia

Died 6 April 1992, Brooklyn, New York, United States

Short Stories The Last Question, The Fun They Had

Movies I, Robot, Bicentennial Man, Nightfall, The End of Eternity

The Fun They Had

Introduction:

“The Fun They Had” by Isaac Asimov is a science fiction. It tells the story of two young children named Tommy and Margie who live in the year 2157, where children get an education through computers at their home. One day they come through a printed book and learn something about the school that existed hundreds and hundreds of years ago. It is a matter of great surprise for them because they are living in the age of moving e-texts.

Summary of the Lesson:

It is the year 2157. Margie makes a diary entry which reveals that Tommy has come across a book printed on paper. The pages of the book have turned yellow and wrinkled which proves that it existed centuries ago. The book is peculiar in the sense that it had the same words on it that it had when they read it the first time. They were not moving like that on a computer/television screen.

Tommy calls it waste because once the book is read it is of no use. Their television screen has had a million books on it and one cannot throw it away. Margie is of the same opinion but she is curious to know what the book is about. Tommy tells her that it is about school. She hated school, but now she hated it more than ever because her mechanical teacher had been giving her test after test in geography and she had been doing worse and worse. Her mother sends for the County Inspector who is a round little man.

He takes the television teacher apart and sets it right within an hour which only increases Margie's disappointment. He tells her mother that it was not Margie's fault but the geography sector of the mechanical teacher was geared a little too quick and he has slowed that to an average ten-year level. He assures Margie and her mother that there will be no problem henceforth.

Margie is curious to know about the school that existed in the past. Tommy tells her that it is not their kind of school. That is the old kind of school that they had centuries ago. The students had a human teacher who taught them and gave them homework and also asked them questions. Margie argues that a man cannot be smart enough.

Tommy further tells her that the teachers didn't live in the house. They had a special building and all the kids went there. The kids of the same age learned the same thing. Now it is Margie's school time. She goes into the schoolroom which is right next to her bedroom and the mechanical teacher is on and waiting for her. She puts her homework in the slot with a sigh.

She is still thinking about the old schools they had when her grandfather's grandfather was a little boy. All the kids from the whole neighborhood came, laughing and shouting in the schoolyard, sitting together in the schoolroom, going home together at the end of the day. Those schools were far better than the schools of today because they offered great fun to the students.

Question and Answers: (TO BE WRITTEN IN THE CLASS WORK)**Answer these questions in a few words or a couple of sentences each.****1. How old are Margie and Tommy?**

Ans. Margie and Tommy live in the future, in the year 2157. They are neighbours and spend time together. Margie is a girl of eleven years of age while Tommy is a boy of thirteen.

2. What did Margie write in her diary?

Ans. On 17 May 2157, Margie wrote that that day Tommy had found a real book in the attic of his house. It was an old book with yellow, crinkly pages.

3. Had Margie ever seen a book before?

Ans. No, Margie had not seen a book before the one found by Tommy in his house. She had only heard from her grandfather that his grandfather went to school as a boy and that they read books that were printed on paper.

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

Ans. As Margie lived in an era where students studied from a mechanical teacher and all the books appeared on the screen, she found it strange that the words on the printed book did not move. It was strange to see the same words appear on the pages as she flipped them over.

Answer each of these questions in a short paragraph (about 30 words).**1. What kind of teachers did Margie and Tommy have?**

Ans. Margie and Tommy had mechanical teachers. They were computers which had preloaded lessons on different subjects according to the learner's level. Whenever they malfunctioned, they were opened and repaired.

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

Ans. Margie's mother called the County Inspector to check Margie's teacher. She thought that probably, Margie's teacher had a malfunction. Margie was failing the Geography tests repeatedly which could be due to a fault in the teacher.

3. What did he do?

Ans. The County Inspector was trained to repair the computer teacher. He opened the machine and checked it. The Geography sector was set on a higher level. He reset it to Margie's level and closed the teacher.

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

Ans. Margie was failing in the Geography tests as the teacher had developed a fault. The County Inspector told Margie's mother that Margie was not at fault. Her progress was good. He reset the teacher to Margie's level.

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

Ans. Once Tommy's teacher had developed a fault as the entire section on History had been deleted. His teacher had been taken for repairs and it took them a month to set it right.

Answer each of these questions in two or three paragraphs (100 –150 words).**1. What are the main features of the mechanical teachers and the schoolrooms that Margie and Tommy have in the story?**

Ans. Margie and Tommy were taught by mechanical teachers. They had large black screens on which the lessons appeared. The lessons were followed by questions. The students had to insert homework and test papers in the slots provided. They had to write down the work in a punch code which was a computing language. The mechanical teacher checked the papers and gave them marks within a few seconds. These classrooms were in the student's home itself. Every student studied from his respective mechanical teacher. Each teacher was adjusted according to the level of the learner. They did not have classmates. They studied various subjects like Geography, History and Mathematics. Margie studied everyday at the same time except Saturdays and Sundays. Her mother said that she would learn better if she studied that way. The learning process was mechanical, dull and boring for them.

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

Ans. Margie hated school because it was not fun. There was a mechanical teacher and the learning process lacked life. It was like a machine carrying out the usual working, there was nothing new, no fun or laughter. Margie's mechanical teacher was giving her tests in Geography and she was performing bad at them. Later it was discovered that the teacher had developed a fault due to which it was giving her tests of a higher level. Margie's mother called the County Inspector. He opened the teacher, found the fault and rectified it. Margie disliked the teacher and hoped that he would not be able to repair it. She hated inserting the homework and test papers into the slot provided.

She thought that the children in the past must have had a lot of fun when they went to school with fellow children. She found it amazing that all the children studied together, the same things and could discuss studies and help each other with the homework too. As the teachers were people, they would not behave like machines. The human aspect of education in the past made her feel that the school of the past were fun.

