



Class: IX AB	184 – English Language and Literature	Ref. Book: Beehive
Question Bank - 1	Topic: The Fun They Had	Type: MCQ, SAQ, LAQ

I	MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS
1	<p>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 marks in no time.</p> <p>(i) Which part of the computer teacher did Margie hate most? (A) screen (B) slot (C) modem (D) printer</p> <p>(ii) 'Margie had to insert' in the slot her homework and _____ (A) Answer sheets (B) Question papers (C) Test papers (D) Blank papers</p> <p>(iii) Margie always had to write the answers in a _____ (A) Simple language (B) Punch code (C) Short forms (D) Legible hand</p> <p>(iv) Margie had learnt to write answers in punch code when she was _____ (A) Five and a half (B) Six (C) Seven (D) Seven and a half</p>
2	<p>The inspector 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 overall pattern of her progress is quite satisfactory. And he patted Margie's head again.</p> <p>(i) The inspector patted Margie's head to _____ (A) Punish her (B) encourage her (C) inspire her (D) frighten her</p>

	<p>(ii) The geography sector of the computer teacher was geared a little _____</p> <p>(A) Slow (B) Fast (C) Too quick (D) Too hard</p> <p>(iii) The Inspector told Margie's mother that it was not _____</p> <p>(A) Her fault (B) Her carelessness (C) Her slowness (D) Her lack of understanding</p> <p>(iv) The overall pattern of Margie's progress was _____</p> <p>(A) not satisfactory (B) quite satisfactory (C) better than average (D) quite good</p>
3	<p>Tommy called Margie stupid because she was too _____</p> <p>(A) simple (B) intelligent (C) ignorant (D) careless</p>
4	<p>Tommy and Margie had the school in their _____</p> <p>(A) home (B) computer room (C) garden (D) drawing room</p>
5	<p>Margie was very much impressed by the _____</p> <p>(A) new schools (B) computer schools (C) old schools (D) playgrounds</p>
6	<p>In the old school, children could easily _____</p> <p>(A) play games (B) help each other with homework (C) learn the subject (D) learn the languages</p>
7	<p>In the old schools, children learnt the _____</p> <p>(a) same things (b) basic things (c) different things (d) difficult things</p>
8	<p>What did Margie do with a sigh _____</p> <p>(A) started work (B) put down the book (C) put the homework in a proper slot (D) finished her homework</p>
9	<p>What did Margie write in her diary?</p> <p>(A) Margie wrote that Tommy had a new tele-book (B) Margie wrote that Tommy had found a real book. (C) Margie wrote that she had written a real book. (D) Margie wrote that she had found a real book.</p>
10	<p>The date Margie wrote in her diary was</p> <p>(A) 17 April 2156. (B) 17 June 2158. (C) 17 May 2157. (D) 17 July 2159.</p>
11	<p>Where did Tommy find the book?</p> <p>(A) in his schoolbag (B) in his house, in the attic</p>

	(C) under his bed	(D) in his schoolroom
12	The book Tommy found was _____ (A) very old with crinkly pages. (C) old and yellow-coloured pages.	(B) very old with torn pages. (D) old with faded writing.
13	The book the children found was about (A) families (C) school in the olden days	(B) life (D) food
14	In Margie and Tommy's time, where did they read books? (A) They read the books on the screen of their mechanical teacher. (C) They could not read books.	(B) They read the books in school. (D) They read the books on a mechanical screen.
15	Hearing about the books in the olden days, the children must have felt (A) frightened (C) amazed	(B) delighted (D) shattered
16	How old are Margie and Tommy? (A) Margie is eleven and Tommy is thirteen years old. (C) Margie is ten and Tommy is thirteen years old.	(B) Margie is thirteen and Tommy is eleven years old (D) Margie is thirteen and Tommy is ten years old.
17	Tommy thought the printed book was (A) awesome (C) difficult to read	(B) a waste (D) old
18	What did the children find 'funny' about the book they had? (A) They could turn the pages of the books (C) The words on the pages did not move.	(B) The words were printed on the pages. (D) The story which they read in the book was funny.
19	Margie had been hoping that the County Inspector would _____ (A) repair the teacher soon. (C) give her another apple.	(B) take the teacher away altogether (D) not give her homework.
20	What had happened to Tommy's mechanical teacher once? (A) The slot to put in the homework did not work (C) It had stopped working completely	(B) It had been taken away for three months. (D) Its history sector had been wiped out completely.

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1	<p>What did the County Inspector do to improve Margie's performance in geography?</p> <p>Ans. The County Inspector was a little round man. He had a box of tools with dials and wires. He was called to adjust the mechanical teacher. The geography sector had been geared a little too quick. And he slowed it down to the average ten-year level.</p>
2	<p>Where did Tommy find the book? What was the subject of the book?</p> <p>Ans. Tommy found the book in the attic of his house. It was an old book and printed on paper. The words were still. They were not moving. This book was about schools. Tommy thought it was a waste.</p>
3	<p>What did Margie's grandfather tell about the books?</p> <p>Ans. According to her grandfather, the books were quite different in those days. The words were printed on paper. The whole story was printed on paper. He also added that these words were still. They were not moving on the screen like the e-books.</p>
4	<p>What did Tommy tell Margie about the old school? Write in brief.</p> <p>Ans. Tommy said that the old school was quite different from the school they have these days. The children studied in a particular building, and they had a human as a teacher who gave them homework. The most remarkable thing about the old school was that the children sat together and studied the same thing.</p>
5	<p>Why did Margie fail to do better?</p> <p>Ans. The geography sector was geared up too quick. It was above the level of her age and intelligence. It was the reason she could not respond timely. She was getting worse in geography. The County Inspector also said that it was not her fault.</p>
6	<p>Describe the main issues discussed in the lesson 'The Fun They Had'.</p> <p>Ans. The story "The Fun They Had" is set in the future. There will be a revolutionary change in the way schools will operate in the year 2157. The physical presence of human teachers will become irrelevant in future. Books will not contain printed pages. Virtual classrooms will replace the present and the old schools. Robotic teachers and e-books will replace the living teachers and old books respectively.</p>
7	<p>Evaluate 'The Fun They Had' as a futuristic story.</p> <p>Ans. The Fun They Had' is a futuristic story. It tells us about the revolutionary changes that will come in the field of education in the 22nd century. Technology will replace the concept of old schools and printed books. Margie and Tommy are the students of the year 2157. They are taught in their bedrooms serving as</p>

	virtual classrooms. A mechanical teacher replaces a human teacher. Computers and e-books will replace the old printed books.
8	<p>Is the story "The Fun They Had" merely an imaginary piece of fiction? Do you doubt its authenticity? Give a reasoned answer.</p> <p>Ans. No, the story "The Fun They Had" is not merely an imaginary piece of fiction. Science and technology will bring revolutionary changes in the field of education. Old books printed on paper may exist but e-books will become more popular. Mechanical teachers and virtual classrooms will be very common. However, the presence of old schools with their separate buildings will remain. Human teachers will not become irrelevant.</p>
9	<p>How will e-books be different from the old books that existed centuries ago?</p> <p>Ans. The very concept of 'the books' will change in the 22nd century. The e-books will replace the old books. The books will not be printed on paper. The words will move on a TV/computer screen. The television screen may have more than a million books on it.</p>
10	<p>Why did Margie hate 'school'?</p> <p>Ans. Margie's school was not in a separate building. Nor had it human teachers. The television screen placed in her room acted as 'school'. It didn't provide her with any fun. Lessons were shown and questions were asked on the big screen. The slot where she had to put her homework and test papers was hated most by her.</p>
11	<p>Why did Margie hope that the inspector would not know how to put her school all right so soon? Why was she disappointed?</p> <p>Ans. The inspector did his job well and set the mechanical teacher right again within an hour. Margie was quite disappointed. She had hoped that the mechanical teacher would not be set right soon. She hoped to get some respite for some time. Tommy's teacher took about a month to be in working conditions again.</p>
12	<p>What did Margie's mother think about 'the teacher' and 'the school'?</p> <p>Ans. Margie's mother thought that every child had a different intelligence and capacity to understand things. The mechanical teacher should be adjusted to fit the mind of each boy and girl it taught. Each kid had to be taught differently. She thought that little girls and boys would learn better if they learned at regular hours at the 'school'.</p>
13	<p>Describe the characteristics of the old school. How did it influence Margie?</p> <p>Ans. The old school had several characteristics. In the old school, the children went to a big building. The man worked as a teacher and taught the boys and girls. The teacher gave them homework. He also asked them questions. They sat together and studied the same subject. In the old school children studied</p>

	and played together. It was quite opposite of the school talked about in the chapter.
14	<p>Why did Tommy look at her with very superior eyes?</p> <p>Ans: Tommy is two years elder than Margie. He found an old book and his grandfather told him about the old books and schools. Margie did not know about them at all. Moreover, she had not seen as many tele books as Tommy had. He looked at her with very superior eyes as she didn't know anything about the books and schools that existed centuries ago.</p>
15	<p>Will future schools be completely devoid of humans and human values? Give a reasoned answer.</p> <p>Ans. Certainly, a revolutionary change will come in the field of education in future. The mechanical teachers and tele books will dominate the scene. Every student will be taught by the mechanical teacher according to his or her ability. However, the institution of schools will remain in one form or the other. Human teachers will not disappear altogether. Education will never be completely devoid of humans and human values.</p>
16	<p>Did Margie have regular days in school and why?</p> <p>Ans: Margie had regular days in school. The classes were always at the same time except for Saturday and Sunday, because her mother believed that one learns better if one learns at regular hours.</p>
17	<p>What did Margie say that made Tommy laugh at her? What did Tommy explain to her?</p> <p>Ans: Tommy laughed when Margie said that she did not want a strange man coming to the house to teach her. Tommy explained that the teacher did not live in the house with them. They had a special building where all the children went and were taught by the teachers.</p>
LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS	
1	<p>How did Margie and Tommy express their feelings about the real book?</p> <p>Ans. The real book was an old book. It was quite different from the e-book. Tommy was surprised when he had seen the real book. It was very old and the words were still. They were not moving. He was well aware that the words of e-books move on the screen, and he can see thousands of books on the computer screen. It was a waste for him. So, he wanted to throw it away. But when Margie saw the real book, she became curious to know about it. Her grandfather often told her about the schools of his days. So, she wanted to read this book to know more about the old schools.</p>
2	<p>Describe the characteristics of old schools. How did they arouse so much interest in Margie and Tommy?</p> <p>Ans. The good old students reflected the charm and excitement of their times. Every school had its buildings. Students from different parts of the town went</p>

	<p>there for their studies. All the students in the class were taught the same things. They received the same kinds of homework. Hence, the students could help one another. The teachers were real human beings. The books were printed on paper. There was an air of excitement about the old schools. Margie's interest developed in them. She got the relevant information about them from Tommy. In comparison to her mechanical teacher and her 'school', the old schools charmed Margie. She was fascinated by the way children went to their schools. They studied together. They were taught the same things. It was easier for them to help one another. Margie was rather envious of the fun the children had in old schools.</p>
3	<p>Compare and contrast the old schools with the schools of the year 2157. Which one do you prefer and why?</p> <p>Ans. Change is the law of nature. Things change with the changing times. So, the concept of education, schools and teachers is not the same all the time. The schools that existed centuries ago had an air of excitement about them. Every school had its separate building. Students from different parts came there. The teachers were real living human beings. All students in the class were taught the same things. Hence, it was easier for them to help one another. Schools of Margie's time would not provide that much fun and excitement. The mechanical teacher would replace the real human teacher. Margie's room would be her school. Every student would be taught according to his/her age and capacity. The mechanical teacher would be adjusted according to their mental ability. In my opinion, the old schools were better. Children went to their schools and studied together. They were taught the same things and they were able to help one another, All these things lack in the schools of the year 2157.</p>
4	<p>Will the existing schools and teachers become irrelevant in future 'schools'? Give a reasoned answer.</p> <p>Ans. Naturally, schools that existed centuries ago will not be the same in the coming centuries. The system of education will be highly computerised and mechanical. The 'school' will have no separate building. Nor will they be taught the same thing together. The mechanical teacher will be a big TV screen, good for a million books. The mechanical teacher will be adjusted according to the age and capacity of the student. But it will be an exaggeration to say that everything about the old schools will disappear. Even future schools can't be completely devoid of human beings. Perhaps the institution of the old schools and teachers will remain. Human involvement can't disappear altogether.</p>
5	<p>Describe the differences between reading a book with pages and reading one on a television screen.</p>

	<p>Ans: When we read a book which has been printed on paper, the words stand still instead of moving the way they do on a television screen. When one turns to the page before, it has the same words on it that were there when one read it the first time. On a screen, one can choose some other book to read after finishing the book. But, once read, a book with pages has no further use.</p>
6	<p>What problems did Margie have with her mechanical teacher? Did she have a liking for her teacher? Why or why not?</p> <p>Ans. The problem Margie had with her mechanical teacher was that the geography sector of her mechanical teacher had been set a little too quick. Due to this, Margie was unable to understand it properly and was not able to do well in the geography tests. Her mother was worried about her poor performance of Margie in the tests. So, she called the County Inspector to check the mechanical teacher. Another problem with Margie related to her mechanical teacher was that Margie did not like the slot where she had to put homework. No, Margie did not have a liking for her mechanical teacher. When the County Inspector was called Margie hoped that her mechanical teacher would be taken away for repair for a few days. However, the teacher was fixed by the inspector at Margie's home itself. This was disappointing for Margie and raised her disliking of the teacher. Therefore, we can say that Margie had no liking for her teacher.</p>
7	<p>The school in the story was not lovable to the kids. What should be done to make it lovable?</p> <p>Ans. The school in the story was not lovable to the kids as there was no place for joy, pleasure and playfulness. Every kid had his school in his house only and there were no other kids to give them company. They were taught by a mechanical teacher who lacked a human touch. All these things made the school boring. To make the schools lovable, there must be a common building where all the kids from the neighbourhood come and sit together. They must be able to help one another with their homework. They should enjoy the things that a school can provide. Moreover, they should be taught by a human teacher. A human teacher will be able to appreciate things and surroundings. He has human consideration, unlike a mechanical teacher. He would participate in the learning process with the students and listen to their concerns. Therefore, schools can be made lovable if the interaction between a teacher and students is available. There must be an environment of pleasure, joy and fun that the kids love to have.</p>
8	<p>Why was the arrival of the County Inspector not appreciated by Margie? What did he say to Mrs Jones about his progress with Margie?</p> <p>Ans. The arrival of the County Inspector was not appreciated by Margie because he was not going to take the mechanical teacher away for repair. Once</p>

	<p>Tommy's teacher had been taken away for nearly a month when its history sector had a problem. Margie had hoped that the same would happen in her case. However, the County Inspector took the machine (teacher) apart and fixed it by lowering the level of the geography section to that of an average ten-year-old child. Therefore, Margie was disappointed with his arrival. The County Inspector told Mrs. Jones that the overall performance of Margie was quite satisfactory. The geography section was set a little too quick which affected Margie's performance.</p>
9	<p>Are schools today with a physical teacher and a bunch of students more fun than the school mentioned in the story 'The Fun They Had'? Give your views.</p> <p>Ans. It is a fact that the present time schools are more fun than the school mentioned in 'The Fun They Had'. In today's school students mix among themselves spiritedly. They study together, play together and assist one another to solve their studies problems. In doing so they enjoy the emotions of togetherness, team spirit and fellow-feeling. They also enjoy social values which help them greatly in being socially valuable. How enjoyable it is when students together take part in activities both at school and privately! Margie is really sad and lonely when she has to sit alone before her mechanical teacher. This is not so in the case of present-day schools. The presence of human teachers proves a beautiful source of teaching various human values necessary for all-around growth and development.</p>