

CLASS – IX

ENGLISH

DATE: 28.05.2020

NAME: _____

ASSIGNMENT- UNIT 1

DAY: THURSDAY

Kindly read the lesson “The Fun They Had”

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

1. How old are Margie and Tommy?
2. What did Margie write in her diary?
3. Had Margie ever seen a book before?
4. What things about the book did she find strange?
5. What do you think a telebook is?
6. Where was Margie’s school? Did she have any classmates?
7. What subjects did Margie and Tommy learn?

II. Answer the following with reference to the story.

1. *“I wouldn’t throw it away.”*

- (i) Who says these words?
- (ii) What does ‘it’ refer to?
- (iii) What is it being compared with by the speaker?

2. *“Sure they had a teacher, but it wasn’t a regular teacher. It was a man.”*

- (i) Who does ‘they’ refer to?
- (ii) What does ‘regular’ mean here?
- (iii) What is it contrasted with?

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

1. What kind of teachers did Margie and Tommy have?
2. Why did Margie’s mother send for the County Inspector?
3. What did he do?
4. Why was Margie doing badly in geography? What did the County Inspector do to help her?
5. What had once happened to Tommy’s teacher?
6. Did Margie have regular days and hours for school? If so, why?
7. How does Tommy describe the old kind of school?

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

IV. 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?

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

Calculate how many years and months ahead from now Margie's diary entry is.

3. Do you agree with Margie that schools today are more fun than the school in the story? Give reasons for your answer.

I. Adverbs

Read this sentence taken from the story:

They had once taken Tommy's teacher away for nearly a month because the history sector had blanked out *completely*.

The word *complete* is an adjective. When you add *-ly* to it, it becomes an adverb.

2. Now use these adverbs to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

<i>awfully</i>	<i>sorrowfully</i>	<i>completely</i>	<i>loftily</i>
<i>carefully</i>	<i>differently</i>	<i>quickly</i>	<i>nonchalantly</i>

(i) The report must be read so that performance can be _____ so that performance can be improved.

(ii) At the interview, Sameer answered our questions, _____ shrugging his shoulders.

(iii) We all behave _____ when we are tired or hungry.

(iv) The teacher shook her head _____ when Ravi lied to her.

(v) I _____ forgot about it.

(vi) When I complimented Revathi on her success, she just smiled _____ and turned away.

(vii) The President of the Company is _____ busy and will not be able to meet you.

(viii) I finished my work _____ so that I could go out to play.

III. An adverb describes action. You can form adverbs by adding –ly to adjectives.

Spelling Note: When an adjective ends in –y, the y changes to i when you add –ly to form an adverb.

For example: angr-y → angr-i-ly

Make adverbs from these adjectives.

(i) angry _____ (ii) happy _____

(iii) merry _____ (iv) sleepy _____

(v) easy _____ (vi) noisy _____

(vii) tidy _____ (viii) gloomy _____

SBIOA SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL, TRICHY-07

CLASS – IX

ENGLISH

DATE: 02.06.2020

NAME: _____

ASSIGNMENT-POEM1

DAY: TUESDAY

The Road not taken

Read the following extract and answer the given questions:

**Q1. *Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;***

- i) At which point had the poet reached?
- ii) Why was the traveller feeling sorry?
- iii) Give the opposite to 'met at a point' from the poem
- iv) Where did the roads diverge?
- v) What problem does the poet face?
- vi) What do you think about the mood of the poet?
- vii) Who is 'I'?
- viii) What does the word 'wood' mean here?

**Q2. *Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,***

- i) What made the poet choose such a road?
- ii) What does the poet mean by 'just as fair'?
- iii) Why does the poet take the other road?
- iv) Find the phrase from the extract that mean 'had not been used'?

**Q3. *And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!***

***Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.***

- i) Which road does the poet choose?
- ii) Why was the poet doubtful about the first road?
- iii) What do you mean by 'both' in the stanza?
- iv) Find a word from the extract that means 'crushed'?

Q4. *I shall be telling this with a sigh*

Somewhere ages and ages hence:

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—

I took the one less traveled by,

And that has made all the difference.

- i) What had made a lot of difference in the poet's life?
- ii) Why is he so confused/ dilemma?
- iii) What does the term 'road' stands for?
- iv) Give an idiom using the word, 'sign'.

The Fun They Had:

1. How old are Margie and Tommy?
2. What did Margie write in her diary?
3. Had Margie ever seen a book before?
4. What things about the book did she find strange?
5. What do you think a telebook is?
6. Where was Margie’s school? Did she have any classmates?
7. What subjects did Margie and Tommy learn?

II. Answers:

1. Margie is eleven year old and Tommy is thirteen year old.
2. Margie wrote, “Today Tommy found a real book!”.
3. No, Margie had never seen a book before.
4. Margie found it strange that the book had yellow and wrinkled pages. Words in the book were still and did not move the way they were supposed to on a screen.
5. A book that can be displayed on a screen is called a telebook.
6. Margie’s school was in her home itself, right next to her bedroom. No, she did not have any classmates.
7. Margie and Tommy learned geography, history and arithmetic.

II. Answer the following with reference to the story.

1. “I wouldn’t throw it away.”

- (i) Who says these words?
- (ii) What does ‘it’ refer to?
- (iii) What is it being compared with by the speaker?

Answer:

- (i) Tommy says these words.
- (ii) 'It' refers to the television screen.
- (iii) Tommy is comparing the television screen with the printed books of earlier times. He thought that after reading such books, one would have to throw them away. However, he would never throw away his telebook.

2. “Sure they had a teacher, but it wasn’t a regular teacher. It was a man.”

- (i) Who does ‘they’ refer to?
- (ii) What does ‘regular’ mean here?
- (iii) What is it contrasted with?

Answer:

- (i) They refer to the students who studied in the old kind of schools, centuries before the time the story is set in.
- (ii) Here, 'regular' refers to the mechanical teachers that Tommy and Margie had.
- (iii) The mechanical teacher is contrasted with the teacher of the earlier times, who was a human being.

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

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

Answer: Margie and Tommy had mechanical teachers with large black screens on which all the lessons were shown and questions were asked. These mechanical teachers had a slot in which the students had to put their homework and test papers. They didn’t have a living human being as a teacher who would teach the students in a classroom.

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

Answer: Margie’s mother sent for the County Inspector because the mechanical teacher was not functioning efficiently. Margie had been given many tests in geography by the teacher, but there was no improvement in her performance. So, Margie’s mother wanted to find out the reason behind it.

3. What did he do?

Answer: Margie was doing badly in geography because the geography sector of the mechanical teacher had been adjusted at a higher level. In order to help her, the County Inspector slowed down the geography sector to an average ten-year level.

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

Answer: Margie was doing badly in geography because the geography sector of the mechanical teacher had been adjusted at a higher level. In order to help her, 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?

Answer: Once, Tommy's teacher was taken away for nearly a month because its history sector had blanked out completely.

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

Answer: Yes, Margie had regular days and hours for school because her mother believed that learning at regular hours helped little girls learn better. So, her mechanical teacher always turned on at the same time every day except on Saturdays and Sundays.

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

Answer: Tommy says that the old kind of school had a special building and all the kids went there. They had a teacher, who was a man. They all studied together and learned the same thing.

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

Answer: Tommy describes the old kind of teachers as living human beings who did not live in the house. Instead, they taught the students in a special building. They taught the children in groups and gave them homework.

IV. 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?

Answer: Margie and Tommy had mechanical teachers. They had large black screens on which all the lessons were shown and questions were asked. These teachers were adjusted according to the age and potential of the student concerned. They had a slot in which students had to put their homework and test papers. They had to write their answers in a punch code and the mechanical teacher calculated the marks immediately. Their schools were in their homes itself. They did not have any classmates. They had regular days and hours for school. The mechanical teacher always turned on

at the same time every day except Saturdays and Sundays. They learned geography, history and arithmetic.

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

1. **Answer:** Margie hated school because it was not fun. She had a mechanical teacher who used to teach her every day at a fixed time in her house. She hated the part when she had to insert the homework and test papers in the slot on the mechanical teacher. She did not like the fact that she had to write her answers in a punch code. Her disliking for the mechanical teacher was increased even more when she was failing to perform well in the geography tests.

She thought that the old kind of school must have been fun as she imagined all the kids from the entire neighbourhood coming together, laughing and shouting in the schoolyard. She imagined that they would sit together in the classroom and go home together at the end of the day. They would learn the same things and could help one another with the homework. Also, the teachers were human beings that would make the learning process more interactive. All these aspects made her believe that the old kind of school must have been fun.

2. **Do you agree with Margie that schools today are more fun than the school in the story? Give reasons for your answer.**

Answer: Yes, I strongly agree with Margie that schools today are more fun than the school in the story. In the story, teaching is done mechanically inside a learner's house itself. Studying and answering questions in the absence of classmates seems to be a boring idea. Writing homework in punch codes and that too without anybody's help would be really exhausting.

A mechanical teacher has no emotions and sentiments. It does not have the ability to understand the psychology of a student rather it teaches him/her according to its adjusted modes. But in today's schools, there are teachers who are the real human beings. They are more understanding and accommodating than mechanical ones. They work for the overall development of a child. Moreover, children develop a better understanding about each other and of their surroundings when accompanied by the students of their age. Another major advantage of today's schools is that if any student faces any problem with the subject or in homework then he/she can discuss it with the teacher and other kids in the class. It is impossible to do such discussions with a mechanical teacher. In today's schools, kids learn various qualities like sharing, respect, obedience, kindness, etc. They are encouraged to take part in games, sports, and other activities which are necessary for the overall development of a student. Thus, all these factors prove that schools today are more fun than the school in the story.

Now use these adverbs to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

i) The report must be read _____ so that performance can be improved.

(ii) At the interview, Sameer answered our questions _____, shrugging his shoulders.

(iii) We all behave _____ when we are tired or hungry.

(iv) The teacher shook her head _____ when Ravi lied to her.

(v) I _____ forgot about it.

(vi) When I complimented Revathi on her success, she just smiled _____ and turned away.

(vii) The President of the Company is _____ busy and will not be able to meet you.

(viii) I finished my work _____ so that I could go out to play.

Answer:

i) carefully

(ii) loftily

(iii) differently

(iv) sorrowfully

(v) completely

(vi) nonchalantly

(vii) awfully

(viii) quickly

The Road Not Taken

Thinking about the poem

1. Where does the traveller find himself? What problem does he face?

Answer:

The traveller finds himself in the yellow woods at a point where the two roads diverge. The problem that he faces is that he cannot decide which road to take to continue his journey.

2. Discuss what these phrases mean to you.

(i) a yellow wood

(ii) it was grassy and wanted wear

(iii) the passing there

(iv) leaves no step had trodden black

(v) how way leads on to way

Answer:

(i) Yellow woods refers to the forest in the autumn season.

(ii) The road was full of grass and very few people had used it. It seemed to invite people to tread on it.

(iii) It implies the use of the path by passersby.

(iv) It implies that the leaves lying on the road had not been crushed under the feet of the travellers.

(v) Through this phrase the poet refers to the fact that one road always leads on to another and so on.

3. Is there any difference between the two roads as the poet describes them?

(i) in stanzas two and three?

(ii) in the last two lines of the poem?

Answer:

(i) There is no difference in the roads as the poet describes them in stanzas two and three except that the road he took was covered with grass looked to be not much used. Otherwise, both roads were equally covered with uncrushed leaves as if no person had stepped on them.

(ii) In the last two lines of the poem the poet says that there is a difference between the two roads because the road he opted for was less travelled by other people.

4. What do you think the last two lines of the poem mean? Answer:

The last two lines of the poem reflect the courage to accept the challenge and take the right decisions in life. The poet decided to take the path that was less travelled by the others because he wanted to do something different in his life.

No, the poet does not seem to regret his choice.

II. 1. Have you ever had to make a difficult choice (or do you think you will have difficult choices to make)? How will you make the choice (for what reasons)?

Answer:

No, I have not had to make any difficult choice till now in my life. But I think in future I will have difficult choices to make in my academic and professional career. After 10th standard I will have to decide which stream to take for further studies. I think it will be a difficult decision to make as it will have an impact on my career. Then I will have to make a choice of profession whether I should become an engineer or a doctor or something else. At that time, I will make a choice according to my capabilities and strong points. It will be better to choose a path that will give me satisfaction and mental peace. I think it will be good not to join the rat race for money. I will choose a challenging and unexplored path in my life like the poet did in the poem.

Note: The above answer gives a hint to students what they can write. However, students are suggested to write this answer in their own words.

Chapter 1 - The Lost Child

Think About It

1. What are the things the child sees on his way to the fair? Why does he lag behind?

Answer:

The child saw a number of things on his way to the fair. He saw toys at the shops. Then he saw a flowering mustard field. He saw dragon flies and butterflies fluttering their wings. He also saw little insects and worms along the footpath. The child lagged behind because he was fascinated by all the things coming on his way to the fair. He followed the dragon flies and butterflies with his gaze and tried to catch them. As he entered the grove, a shower of young flowers fell upon him. He stopped and tried to collect all of them. When he heard the dove, he ran in wild capers round the banyan tree looking for it. Therefore, he lags behind.

2. In the fair he wants many things. What are they? Why does he move on without waiting for an answer?

Answer :

At the fair, the boy wanted many things. He wanted to:

- buy the toys from the shops that lined the way.
- buy sweets from the sweetmeat seller.
- buy a garland of gulmohar flowers.
- buy a balloon from the man selling balloons .
- watch the snake charmer playing flute to a snake.
- go for a round in the roundabout.

The boy moved on without waiting for an answer because he knew his parents very well and was sure that his request would be denied at each step.

3. When does he realize that he has lost his way? How have his anxiety and insecurity been described?

Answer:

After getting fascinated by a number of things, when he finally reached a roundabout, he stopped to observe it moving in full swing, with men, women and children enjoying themselves on it. Then he turned to his parents to ask for permission to go on the rounds but he heard no reply. At that time he realized that he lost his way. He looked all around but there was no sign of

them. A full, deep cry rose within his dry throat and with a sudden jerk of his body he ran from where he stood, crying out in real fear “Mother, Father.” Tears rolled down from his eyes. Panic-stricken, he ran from one side to the other, in all directions to find his parents. His yellow turban came untied and his clothes became muddy.

4. Why does the lost child lose interest in the things that he had wanted earlier?

Answer:

The child lost interest in the things that he had wanted earlier because he was lost in the fair. He was panic-stricken on being separated from his parents. He only wanted to see his parents. All the things that attracted him in the fair no longer appealed to him because he wanted only one thing that was to be with his parents.

5. What do you think happens in the end? Does the child find his parents?

Answer:

Yes, I think the child would have eventually found his parents with the help of the man who tried to console him by offering him various things at the fair. He seemed to be a reliable and kind hearted person. He would have asked the child for a description of his parents and helped him to unite with them. Also, the parents of the child, who continuously kept checking to see that he was with them, must have left no stone unturned to find their child.

II. In each of the following sentences there is an error. Find out the error and provide the correction:

	Error	Correction
I) It were dark and cold in the garden.	a) _____	_____
Rani is falling. A damp cutting wind	b) _____	_____
were racing through the garden.	c) _____	_____
II) Most of us has experienced prejudice	a) _____	_____
In some way during our life.	b) _____	_____
It may has been name calling or bullying.	c) _____	_____