

BEEHIVE

STD-IX

SUBJECT : ENGLISH
CHAPTER NUMBER: 1
CHAPTER NAME : THE FUN THEY HAD

CHANGING YOUR TOMORROW

INTRODUCTION TO THE WRITER

- **Isaac Asimov** (January 2, 1920 – April 6, 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.
- He was president of the American Humanist Association. The asteroid (5020) Asimov, a crater on the planet Mars, a Brooklyn elementary school, Honda's humanoid robot, ASIMO, and four literary awards are named in his honor.
- Asimov's most famous work is the "Foundation" series, the first three books of which won the one-time Hugo Award for "Best All-Time Series" in 1966. His other major series are the "Galactic Empire" series and the Robot series. The Galactic Empire novels are set in earlier history of the same fictional universe as the Foundation series



INTRODUCTION TO THE STORY

- The fun they had summary, this chapter throws light on emerging technology and how it is overtaking the world. Thus, in the near future, it would not be surprising if teachers were replaced by robots.
- The story begins with two children named, Margie and Tommy. It takes place in the world of the future where computers dominate everything. Moreover, it also shows how the concept of schools and classrooms has transformed completely.



SUMMARY



- ✓ Tommy finds a 'real book' from an attic that has been printed on paper.
- ✓ According to Margie's grandfather's grandfather, all old books were printed on paper.
- ✓ Tommy thinks it was a waste to have book printed on paper.
- ✓ Tommy thinks T.V screens are better.
- ✓ Margie hates school and does not understand why someone would write about school.
- ✓ Margie has problems about learning geography from her mechanical teacher, so it is reconfigured by the county inspector.
- ✓ Margie hates doing her homework.
- ✓ The county inspector says that Margie's progress is satisfactory.

SUMMARY

- ✓ Margie asks Tommy why anybody would write about school. Tommy replied that it existed 'centuries ago'.
- ✓ Margie is surprised to know that back in the old days a 'real man' used to be the teacher.
- ✓ Tommy says that the teacher did not live in the house and the kids went to a 'special building' to learn.
- ✓ Mrs. Jones believes that each teacher has to be fitted to each child's mind.
- ✓ Mrs. Jones tells them that it is time to go to school.
- ✓ The 'school room' is next to Margie's bedroom.
- ✓ The mechanical teacher asks for Margie's homework.
- ✓ Margie thinks about a time when teachers were people and students had real fun in those schools.



VOCABULARY



- Crinkly- with many folds or lines
- Attick- a space just below the roof, used as a storeroom
- Scornful- contemptuous; showing you think something is worthless
- Slot- a given space, time or position
- Geared- adjusted to a particular standard or level
- Loftily- in a superior way
- Betcha- I bet you; I'm sure
- Nonchalantly- not showing much interest or enthusiasm; carelessly

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