**THE FUN THEY HAD**

**I. 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. They were taught on computers and television screens. They didn’t have a living person as a teacher who would teach the pupils 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. It had been giving her test after test in geography and she had been doing worse and worse.

**3. Why was Margie doing badly in geography? What did the County Inspector do to help her?**Answer: Margie had been doing badly in geography. This was because the mechanical teacher was very fast in displaying the questionnaire. The County Inspector adjusted its speed up to an average ten-year level. Thus, the mechanical teacher’s speed was controlled appropriately. The County Inspector assured that the overall pattern of Margie’s progress was quite satisfactory.

**4. What had once happened to Tommy’s teacher?**Answer: Tommy’s teacher was taken away for nearly a month because the history sector had blanked out completely. So, Tommy had nothing to do during that period. He only relaxed and enjoyed.

**5. How does Tommy describe the old kind of school?**Answer: Tommy says that the old schools were different. They had a special building and all the kids went there to study. They laughed and shouted in the schoolyard. They enjoyed time together and learned lessons together in the classroom.

**II. 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 have mechanical teachers. They need not go to school for getting a formal education. The mechanical teacher is placed in one of the rooms of the house and they can get the knowledge of various subjects individually from the mechanical teacher. They don’t have such classrooms where students sit together. The study from the telebooks. So they don’t require books and exercise books. The examination system is very different. They do homework in a different way. Margie has to write them out in a punch code. She learned it when she was six years old. So the system of their education is technologically advanced and not based on printed books.

**2. Why did Margie hate school? Why did she think the old kind of school must have been fun?**Answer: Margie hated her school because she had a mechanical teacher. It was in her house. She was supposed to sit in that room alone to complete her home task or assignments. The part Margie hated most was the slot where she had to put homework and test papers. She thought that the old schools must have been fun because the students used to sit together in the classroom. They enjoyed, laughed, and shouted in the schoolyard. Children needed company to enhance their skills. If they are isolated, they get depressed and dejected.