

Key points:

- i. The story is written by Isaac Asimov.
- ii. The story contains three major themes -
 - a. education in the future
 - b. technological innovations
 - c. human vs technology
- iii. The story is set in the future where schools do not exist and teachers have been replaced by robots.
- iv. On May 17, 2157, Tommy, a young boy of thirteen happens to find a book in the attic of the house which he shows to Margie, a girl of eleven.
- v. Margie finds it strange that the words on the paper do not move after having been read.
- vi. The book has 'yellow and crinkly' pages and words that stand still.
- vii. Both Tommy and Margie felt their 'telebooks' which had a million books were better.
- viii. But when Tommy read the book of Yellow Pages he came to know about the school centuries ago.
- ix. The book was written by my grandfather's grandfather.
- x. Tommy described the school of the past. He in a confident tone, tells Margie that children went to school buildings and were taught by a man.
- xi. Margie wonders how a man knows as much as a mechanical teacher. And all children of the same age learned the same things and went to a school house with other children.
- xii. Margie disliked her school because the mechanical teacher had a robotic system that kept sitting different tests for Margie.
- xiii. Margie had been doing badly in geography. This was because the mechanical was very fast in displaying the questionnaire.
- xiv. So Margie's mother sent for the Country Inspector. The Country Inspector, a jovial man found the issue and fixed it .i.e.adjusted its speed up to an average ten-year level.

Very Short Answer Question

- i. **Who is the writer of 'The Fun They Had'?**

Ans. The writer of 'The Fun They Had' is Isaac Asimov.

- ii. **What is the theme of 'The Fun They Had'?**

Ans. The theme is transformation by technology.

- iii. **What is the moral of the story?**

Ans. The technology can not replace human interaction and traditional methods of education.

- iv. **Who is the central character of the story?**

Ans. Margie is the central character of the story.

- v. **When did Margie start writing a diary?**

Ans. Margie started writing a diary on the night of 17th May 2157.

- vi. **Who was the real owner of the old printed book?**

Ans. A grandfather of the children, Margie and Tommy was the real owner of the old printed book.

- vii. **What was the color of the pages of the book found by Tommy?**

Ans. The color of the pages of the book was yellow.

- viii. **What was the prime topic of the book found by Tommy?**

Ans. The prime topic of the book was school.

- ix. **What was the subject in which Margie was not performing well?**

Ans. Margie was not performing well in geography

- x. **To whom was Margie sent to the Country Inspector to get a better result in geography?**

Ans. Margie was sent to the Country Inspector to get a better result in geography.

- xi. **Whose mechanical teacher was taken away for nearly a month?**

Ans. Tommy's mechanical teacher was taken away for nearly a month.

- xii. **How did Margie have to write her homework and her test papers?**

Ans. Margie had to write her homework and her test papers in a punch code, which was a computer language.

xiii. How old are Margie and Tommy?

Ans. Margie is 11 years old and Tommy is 13 years old.

xiv. What did Margie write in her diary?

Ans. Margie wrote in her diary dated 17th May 2157 on the road that found a real book.

xv. What do you think a telebook is?

Ans. A telebook can be read on a screen and millions of books can be installed on the telebook.

Short Answer Questions

i. Who are Tommy and Margie?

Ans. Tommy and Margie are students from the year 2157. They are neighbors and spend time together.

ii. Where did Tommy find the book?

Ans. Tommy found a red book in the attic of his house. The page had turned yellow and crinkly because it was at least two hundred years old.

iii. What things about the book did Margie find strange?

Ans. Margie lived in an era of mechanical education with Tele books stored in a machine. So she found it strange that the words in the printed book remained fixed and never moved like tale books.

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

Ans. Margie and Tommy had mechanical teachers, who were large and black and ugly, with a big screen on which all the lessons were shown and the questions were asked. There was a slot where they had to put homework and test papers and the mechanical teacher calculated the marks in no time.

v. How were Margie and Tommy assessed in their subjects?

Ans. Margie and Tommy were given assignments by their mechanical teachers. They wrote their answers in a punch code they were trained in then they interested their special sheets in the slot in the mechanical teacher. Finally, the teacher corrected their assignments and calculated their marks in no time.

vi. Write a note to the County Inspector.

Ans. The County Inspector was a round little man with a red face and a whole box of tools with dials and wires. He was certainly a kind-hearted man and

put Margie at ease by giving her an apple and telling her mother in a positive way about her performance in geography.

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

Ans. Once Tommy's mechanical teacher had developed a fault and its history sector had blanked out absolutely. The teacher had to be taken away for repairs and it had taken almost a month to put it in order.

viii. What did the teacher teach Margie when she went to her school?

Ans. When Margie went to school the mechanical teacher taught an arithmetic lesson on the addition of proper fractions. It taught her how to add the fractions $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$.

ix. Why was Margie not able to concentrate on the arithmetic lessons?

Ans. Margie was not able to concentrate on the arithmetic lessons because her mind was pre-occupied with thoughts about the school that Tommy had just described to her.

Long Answer Questions

i. Write down the character sketch of 'Margie'?

Ans. Margie is an eleven-years-old girl who represents future students in the year 2157. She disliked her school because the mechanical teacher comprised a robotic system that kept setting difficult tests for Margie. She studies in the comfort of her home. Margie had to write her homework and her test papers in a punch code which was a computer language. She was not a performing teacher and was very fast in displaying the questionnaire. Therefore, she yearned for an interactive and open school where she could have friends.

ii. Write down the character sketch of 'Tommy'.

Ans. Tommy is Margie's friend and older than her, being thirteen years old. He loves/likes reading books, especially tele books, and has more knowledge about how the school was centuries 'ago! One day he discovers an old book from his grandfather's attic and marvels at the concept of going to a school with other children and a human teacher. He often daydreams about what it would be like to have red friends and a traditional school setting.

iii. What are the main features of the mechanical teachers? and the school rooms that Margie and Tommy have in the story.

Ans. Margie and Tommy have mechanical teachers. They need not go to school to get 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 study from the telebooks and the examination system is very different. 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.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. **Tommy walked away with thebook beneath his arm.**
 - a. torn
 - b. dusty
 - c. magical
 - d. both (a) and (b)
2. **According to Margie in an older time schools were**
 - a. big
 - b. brown
 - c. funny
 - d. stupid
3. **Whose father knew as much as a teacher?**
 - a. Tommy
 - b. Margie
 - c. Blair
 - d. Evelyn
4. **How many subjects are mentioned in this chapter?**
 - a. 2
 - b. 3
 - c. 4
 - d. 1
5. **"Why would anyone write about school".Who said this?**
 - a. Tommy
 - b. Margie
 - c. Mrs. Jones
 - d. Blair
6. **Margie had to write out her homework.**
 - a. In Russian
 - b. In punch code
 - c. In English
 - d. None of the above
7. **After fixing the mechanical teacher the big screen displayed**
 - a. Margie's face
 - b. all the lessons and questions asked
 - c. a real book
 - d. none of the above
8. **The County Inspector had a whole box of**
 - a. tools and chocolates
 - b. tools with dials and wires
 - c. pins
 - d. both a and b
9. **Why did Margie hate school now more than ever.**
 - a. because of her mother
 - b. because of her scores in Geography which gets worse and worse
 - c. because she never gets off
 - d. because she dislikes sitting near the mechanical teacher
10. **Margie was scornful about:**
 - a. about her geography scores
 - b. knowing that the real book detailed about the school
 - c. about Tommy's scores
 - d. about festival
11. **According to Tommy, the real book was**
 - a. boring
 - b. a waste
 - c. wrong
 - d. fiction
12. **The kids in the old schooling pattern went home together**
 - a. in between classes
 - b. during afternoon breaks
 - c. during festivals
 - d. at the end of the day
13. **While inserting her homework in the proper slot, Margie was thinking about**
 - a. desserts
 - b. vacation in Turkey
 - c. old schools
 - d. Tommy
14. **What did the teacher in the real book do?**
 - a. teach through computer
 - b. gives lessons online
 - c. taught and gave questions in person
 - d. mailed them the lesson
15. **Why did Margie find the old schools interesting?**
 - a. because of the fun
 - b. because of human teachers
 - c. because of many friends
 - d. all
16. **What is Virtual Reality?**
 - a. heavenly world
 - b. imaginary world
 - c. reality created by computer software
 - d. none

17. **What is debate?**
 - a. a contest to show ability in argument between two people
 - b. contest to flight
 - c. contest to prove better
 - d. none
18. **How old is Margie?**
 - a. 10 years old
 - b. 11 years old
 - c. 12 years old
 - d. 13 years old
19. **Who is the author of his lesson?**
 - a. Charles Dickens
 - b. Isaac Asimov
 - c. Milton
 - d. None
20. **How old is Tommy?**
 - a. 10 years old
 - b. 13 years old
 - c. 15 years old
 - d. 12 years old
21. **Where did Tommy find the book?**
 - a. in a public library
 - b. in a library
 - c. attic of his house
 - d. on the roadside
22. **Who was teaching the student in the modern era**
 - a. a teacher
 - b. parents
 - c. computer
 - d. a mechanical (robot) teacher
23. **Where was Margie's school?**
 - a. in a village
 - b. in a city
 - c. in her own house
 - d. in a room in her house where a computer was set up.
24. **Where did Tommy and Margie read various books?**
 - a. in the library
 - b. in the school
 - c. on a computer screen
 - d. none
25. **How much time was taken to repair Tommy's teacher?**
 - a. 15 days
 - b. 25 days
 - c. 20 days
 - d. 1 month
26. **What did the County Inspector do to help Margie?**
 - a. he resets the teacher to Margie's level
 - b. he changed the module
 - c. changed the teacher
 - d. changed the syllabus
27. **Why did Margie's mother call the County Inspector?**
 - a. to repair a leakage
 - b. to talk to Margie
 - c. to talk to Tommy
 - d. to check the fault in Margie's teacher in the geography section
28. **The regular teacher who taught the lessons was a**
 - a. human teacher
 - b. computer teacher
 - c. alexa
 - d. mechanical teacher(robot)
29. **The apple was given to Margie by....**
 - a. Tommy
 - b. The mechanical teacher
 - c. The Country Inspector
 - d. by her mother
30. **Which year has the story been set up?**
 - a. 2057
 - b. 1957
 - c. 2157
 - d. 2257
31. **".....If you don't like it, you don't have to read the book"---Who said this?**
 - a. Tommy
 - b. Margie
 - c. County Inspector
 - d. Mrs.Jones
32. **Who didn't want a strange man as a teacher?**
 - a. Tommy
 - b. Blair
 - c. Mrs.Jones
 - d. Margie
33. **Century means-**
 - a. 10 years
 - b. 1000 years
 - c. 100 years
 - d. 110 years
34. **For Tommy, what was a waste?**
 - a. words
 - b. printed books
 - c. computers
 - d. none
35. **Margie wrote in the nights:**
 - a. homework
 - b. letter
 - c. diary
 - d. poems
36. **Which sector had blanked out completely?**
 - a. Computer
 - b. History
 - c. Geography
 - d. English
37. **Who patted Margie's head?**
 - a. Margie's mother
 - b. Tommy's mother
 - c. Mechanical teacher
 - d. County Inspector

38. Who is older among the two children?

- a. Tommy
- b. Margie
- c. both are of the same age
- d. none of the above

39. Which one were the main characters?

- a. Tommy and his mother
- b. Tommy and robot
- c. Tommy and Margie
- d. robot and the machine

40. Who went to school?

- a. Margie
- b. Tommy

c. teachers

d. Margie and Tommy's ancestors

41. What is a Virtual classroom?

- a. class outside the classroom
- b. class in the garden.
- c. class in y field
- d. where learning done through computer software and the internet.

42. The story, ' The Fun They Had' is set in the:

- a. present
- b. past
- c. Future
- d. none

Answer Key

1-b. dusty

2-c. funny

3-a. Tommy

4-b. 3

5-b. Margie

6-b. in punch code

7-b. All the lessons and questions asked

8-b. tools with dials and wires

9-b. because of her scores in Geography which get worse and worse

10-b. knowing that the real book details about the school

11-b. a waste

12-d. at the end of the day

13-c. old schools

14-c. taught and gave questions in person

15-d. all

16-c. reality created by computer software

17-a. a contest to show ability in argument between two people.

18-b. 11 years old

19-b. Isaac Asimov

20-b. 13 years old

21-c. attic of his house

22-d. a mechanical teacher (robot)

23-d. in a room in her house where a computer was set

up

24-c. on a computer screen

25-d. 1 month

26-a. he resets the teacher to margie's level

27-d. ti check the fault in Margie's teacher in the Geography section

28-d. mechanical robot

29-c. The County Inspector

30-c. 2157

31-a. Tommy

32-d. Margie

33-c. 100years

34-b. printed books

35-c. diary

36-b. History

37-d. County Inspector

38-a. Tommy

39-c. Tommy and Margie

40-d. Margie and Tommy's ancestors

41-d. Where learning done through computer software and the internet

42-c. future

The Road Not Taken

-Robert Frost

Key points:

- i. The Road Not Taken is a narrative poem by Robert Frost, first published in the August 1915 issue of the Atlantic Monthly.
- ii. The poem is an autobiographical poem.
- iii. The poem gives an account that sometimes even a small decision may prove to be a larger significance.
- iv. In the poem the poet faces a situation during his travel. He finds two roads at a point where he has to choose one and must abide by his choice.
- v. According to the poem, the poet came across a junction where his path diverged into two and he had to make a decision of which road to take.
- vi. He stood there for a long time and then decided to take the road less travelled.
- vii. He chose the less travelled road because it was grassy and as far as the road concerned, both were equally worn.
- viii. Both the road lay equally covered in leaves. No traveller had trodden on them that day.
- ix. He also had a feeling that his choice would confront him with new adventures and challenges.
- x. In the end of the poem the narrator regrets over his choice, yet he realised that the things he had encountered and the places he had visited because of this path, had made all the differences in his life.
- xi. In the poem the two roads symbolise the choices that we have to encounter in our life.

Very Short Answer Questions

- i. **Who wrote the poem 'The Road Not Taken'?**
Ans. Robert Frost wrote the poem 'The Road Not Taken'.
- ii. **What is the moral of the poem?**
Ans. The life is full of choices and the choices we make determine our destiny.
- iii. **When was the poem published?**

Ans. Poem was published in 1916.

iv. Which season is there in the poem?

Ans. It is Autumn season.

v. How many roads does the traveller find in a jungle?

Ans. There are two roads.

vi. What was the condition of the road the poet had taken?

Ans. It was grassy.

vii. What was the colour of the leaves?

Ans. The colour was yellow.

viii. What do the roads in the poem symbolise?

Ans. They symbolise choices in life.

ix. What is the meaning of 'undergrowth'?

Ans. It means bushes.

X. What does the term road stand for?

Ans. The term road stands for opportunities and choices.

xi. Where did the roads diverge?

Ans. The roads diverged in the yellow wood.

xii. Where did the less travelled road lead to?

Ans. It led to dense growth of plants and animals.

xiii. What does 'yellow wood' stand for?

Ans. 'Yellow wood' stands for the Autumn season.

xiv. What is wood?

Ans. Wood means a forest.

Short Answer Questions:

i. What did the narrator see in the woods?

Ans. He saw two paths diverging and disappearing in the undergrowth.

ii. Why did the poet leave the first road?

Ans. The poet left the first road thinking that he would use it some other day.

iii. What is the setting of the poem?

Ans. The setting of the poem is where the poet has gone for a walk.

iv. **What does the narrator regret?**

Ans. The narrator regrets the fact that he cannot travel on both the paths and cannot come back to the first path once he makes a choice.

v. **When will the narrator look back on his life?**

Ans. The narrator will look back on his life after a long time — when he is an old man.

vi. **What difference did the road he took make to his life?**

Ans. The road he took led him on to glory and a better life.

Long Answer Questions:

i. **Describe the two roads the poet finds?**

Ans. The poet standing at the roundabout saw the two roads but he had to take only one. He stood there analysing the pros and cons and looked at both the roads with great care. The poet looked as far as his eyes could see till it bent in the undergrowth. He saw that the first road was more grassy and need to be travelled upon. But when he had gone a little abroad, he saw that the other road was also grassy.

ii. **What do the two roads stand for?**

Ans. The two roads in the poem stand for two opportunities. They also signify the crisis of choice. One has to make a choice of path to reach one's destination. There out of many options we have to choose the right one. So the poet found himself at a place where he cannot differentiate the pros and cons of the two roads. He faced the problem of choosing the road which can lead him to his destiny. And he was also not sure which he shall choose to proceed on.

iii. **What is the theme of the poem 'The Road Not Taken'?**

Ans. The theme of the poem is the regret in life when we do not make the right decision. Life is full of challenges and difficulties, so decisions must be made in such a way which makes a life peaceful and successful in future. This poem encourages self-reliance, reinforces the power of independent thinking and sticking to one's decisions. In the

poem, the first road is described as grassy and 'wanted wear', later he says that both the roads look the same. This represents the eternal dilemma in man. This poem is a call for the reader to follow his or her way in life and not follow the path that others have taken.

Multiple Choice Questions:

1. **Who is the poet 'The Road Not Taken' :**

- a. Robert Frost b. Coats Kinney
- c. Years d. W.W.E. Ross

2. **Robert Frost belongs to :**

- a. England b. America
- c. Paris d. Russia

3. **The two roads had diverged in a :**

- a. pool b. yellow wood
- c. school d. hut

4. **What couldn't the poet do ?**

- a. travel on foot
- b. travel on both the roads
- c. bent under the growth
- d. none of these

5. **'To part away' means same as :**

- a. claim b. trodden
- c. diverged d. equally

6. **What did the poet doubt about ?**

- a. He would be lost in the wood.
- b. He could travel on both the roads.
- c. The way leads somewhere.
- d. He should ever come back.

7. **What does the poem speak about?**

- a. about the plight of roads
- b. about the roads
- c. about two roads
- d. about the choice made by people

8. **What do the roads signify in the poem ?**

- a. The path or choice that was left or was not chosen to tread.
- b. the pathway
- c. pathway on the roadside
- d. a road with two turns

9. **Which thing decides a person's future according to this poem ?**

- a. the path one chooses to walk

- b. the path one leaves behind
c. the regrets
d. the success
10. **What is the message of this poem ?**
a. Be wise while choosing and taking decisions
b. Two roads are confusing
c. Road is nothing but a pathway
d. all
11. **Why is the poet asking to be wise while choosing a pathway ?**
a. because there is no going back option
b. because it is the only one road
c. because it is one sided road
d. none
12. **What does diverge mean ?**
a. to be separated and taking a different turn
b. to be torn
c. to break
d. all
13. **Why was the poet able to travel one road only ?**
a. because he had to walk alone
b. because he had no vehicle
c. because he was one person
d. all
14. **What does yellow woods mean?**
a. falling leaves
b. forest with yellow leaves in the autumn season
c. wood yellow in colour
d. none
15. **What do yellow woods represent?**
a. people
b. older people
c. poets
d. choice
16. **Why was the poet looking at the path ?**
a. to decide whether it was suitable for him
b. to see how long it was
c. to check the road
d. none
17. **What does grassy mean in the poem ?**
a. the road which is not used by anyone
b. the comfortable road
c. the road with all the luxuries
d. well - build road
18. **What does a poet long stare at the path signify ?**
a. the time taken by people to decide and making a choice
b. poet loves nature
c. idling away of time
d. relaxation hours
19. **Where does the poet find himself ?**
a. on the road
b. on a bus
c. on a muddy road
d. on a fork
20. **What shows that the road has not been used by many people ?**
a. the green and untrampled grass on it
b. the mud on it
c. the broken stones on it
d. all

Answer Key

- 1-a. Robert Frost
2-b. America
3-b. yellow wood
4-b. travel on both the roads
5-c. diverged
6-d. He should ever come back
7-d. about the choice made by people
8-a. the path or choice that was left or was not chosen to tread
9-a. the path on chooses to walk
10-a. be wise while choosing and taking decisions
11-a. because there is no going back option
12-a. to be separated and taking a different turn
13-c. because he was one person
14-b. forest with yellow leaves in the autumn season
15-b. older people
16-a. to decide whether it was suitable for him
17-a. the road which is not used by anyone
18-a. the time taken by people to decide and making a choice
19-d. on a fork
20-a. the green and untrampled grass on it