



CLASS NOTES-ANSWERS

Comprehension Check

1. What did Hafeez Contractor have nightmares about?

Answer: Appearing in a mathematics exam in which he knew nothing was the nightmare that Hafeez Contractor had.

2. What did the Principal say to him, which influenced him deeply?

Answer: The Principal made him realize the struggle his mom goes through to raise him, despite his father's death. He must, as a grown-up, start taking care of himself and focus on his studies, instead of concentrating on sports.

3. "... that year I did not step out onto the field." What was he busy doing that year?

Answer: After his Principal inspired him to focus on his studies, he left the playground. He didn't indulge himself in cricket and just studied, ate, and went for prayers.

4. (i) What "distraction" did Hafeez Contractor create one day?

Ans: He was a schoolboy and like other schoolboys, he played chor-police for an hour when he wasn't in a mood to study.

(ii) Would you have liked to participate in the "distraction" had you been with him?

Answer: I would have participated in such a distraction if I were Hafeez Contractor.



Comprehension check

1.. Hafeez Contractor wanted to join the police force. Why didn't he?

Answer: Hafeez Contractor's mother didn't want to lose him. She told him to complete his graduation instead of joining the police force.

2. In the architect's office, Hafeez Contractor was advised to drop everything and join architecture. Why?

Answer: Somebody in the architect's office was making a technical sketch of the window. Hafeez immediately noticed some lacunae in the drawing. He tried to convince that person and was asked to draw the sketch for a house which he did remarkably well. He had a natural talent for architecture and was advised to join immediately.

3. (i) What was Mrs Gupta's advice to Hafeez Contractor?

Answer: Mrs Gupta could see the hidden talent Hafeez Contractor had in him and advised him to pursue architecture when he grew up.

(ii) What made her advise him so?

Answer: Hafeez was excellent in making sketches and was almost useless in everything else. Her teacher noticed this and hence advised him to be an architect.

4. How did he help fellow students who had lost a button?

Answer: He cut off a button from chalk, using a blade when one of the fellow students lost a button.

5. Which rules did he break as a schoolboy?



Answer: He wasn't a disciplined student in the school. He would play pranks and jokes on friends and create distractions in the class. He would cheat during examinations and have gang fights. Eventually, as he grew up, he also became a street Romeo.

6. (i) What is Hafeez Contractor's definition of mathematics?

Answer: Hafeez stated that mathematics was putting together design, construction, psychology and sociology and making a sketch out of it.

(ii) How would you want to define mathematics? Do you like the subject?

Answer: I am not fond of mathematics. For me, it's a mere play of symbols and numbers.

Exercise

1. Is it likely that someone who is original and intelligent does not do very well at school? Should such a learner be called a failure? If not, why not?

Answer: It is very likely that someone who is original and intelligent does well at school. The examination system that the schooling system follows at present doesn't let us know the deeper talents of a child. An original kid might fail these tests and lose faith and self-confidence. They might not be academically good but could have extraordinary skills in other fields.

Hafeez wasn't a bright student. He was a notorious one and created trouble for the teachers and disturbed the class. He never concentrated on his studies and would cheat during examinations. His talents weren't visible academically but he did an excellent job as an architect without any formal training.



2. Who, in your view, is an 'unusual' learner?

Answer: There are various traits of an 'unusual' learner. Some might learn better from practical experiences while others might have better auditory comprehending skills. There are some learners who like to bring forth their ideas on the table while creating original art pieces. There is no clear definition for an unusual learner. It is typically the student that still needs to search and polish the talent that they withhold in them.

3. What can the schools do to draw out the best in unusual learners?

Suggest whatever seems reasonable to you.

Answer: Schools can organize more creative events where kids should be encouraged to take up hobbies that interest them. Kids should be provided with teachers from the required field so that they can have a better understanding of the subject and flourish it more under professional guidance. These things will help them to build a career out of their talents.