



ST. LAWRENCE HIGH SCHOOL
A JESUIT CHRISTIAN MINORITY INSTITUTION



CLASS - IX
ENGLISH TEXT STUDY MATERIAL
TOPICS: ALL SUMMER IN A DAY **DATE:06.05.2020**

All Summer in a Day

Author

Ray Bradbury was an American fantasy and horror author who rejected being categorized as a science fiction author, claiming that his work was based on the fantastical and unreal. His best known novel is *Fahrenheit 451*, a dystopian study of future American society in which critical thought is outlawed. He is also remembered for several other popular works, including *The Martian Chronicles* and *Something Wicked This Way Comes*. Bradbury won the Pulitzer in 2007, and is one of the most celebrated authors of the 21st century. He died in Los Angeles on June 5, 2012, at the age of 91.

Plot Summary

In 'All Summer in a Day', a group of school children live on planet Venus with their families, or in the author's words, a group of rocket men and women who has gone to Venus to set up civilization. The children, mostly around 9 years old, are waiting eagerly for a special occasion; for the sun to come out. It has been raining continuously 7 years in Venus. The sun would come out for a short period of time on that particular day, after that it's 7 more years of continuous rain. One can imagine how overwhelmed and excited the kids must be feeling.

The children in the schoolroom chattered and pressed on to each other. They peered out of the window to look at the hidden sun. The sun had been out before once when the kids were just two years old so they don't remember anything except a warmth like a blush on the face and something similar to a study lamp's light. In other words, they literally don't remember anything about it.

All day yesterday they learnt about the sun that it was like a lemon and very hot. They had written small stories, essays or poems about it.

The rain finally stopped. There were no motions or tremor but peace. The children put their hands on their ears to feel the sound of the silence as the silence was immense. The children stood apart. The door slid back. And the sun came out in all its glory. The sun was the colour of flaming bronze and very large. The sky was blazing blue. The jungle burned with sunlight. The kids run out into the lawn and enjoy the warmth of the sun.

After some time, a kid screams as a big raindrop falls on her skin. They all look up at the sky and see that it's raining again. They stand there for a moment, disappointed but at the same time happy with the experience, and return back to their classroom.

Important Word- Meanings

endless – seeming to have no end or limit

crushed – force inward by compressing forcefully

civilization – The stage of human development that is considered most advanced

chattered – talked quickly and continuously.

peered – look with difficulty

slackened – slowed down

eager – strongly wanting to do or have something

tremor – an involuntary quivering movement

standstill – a situation where there is no movement or activity

immense – extremely large or great

flaming – burning fiercely

blazing – very hot

squinted – looked at something with eyes partly shut

savoured – enjoy the full taste of something

trembling – shaking

wailed – prolonged high pitched sound

glanced – take a brief or hurried look

startled – feeling or showing sudden shock or alarm

tumbled – having fallen or collapsed

steadily - in a regular or even manner

QUESTION-ANSWER

1. What are the children getting ready for?

Ans: The characters are getting ready for the moment when the rainfall would stop for an hour so that they could go out for a glimpse at the sun and bask in the sunshine.

2. Why do you think the sun is hidden?

Ans: The story is set on the planet Venus where it rains incessantly and the sky is forever filled with clouds hiding the sun during daytime.

3. What is referred to as the “raining world” why?

Ans: The planet Venus is referred to as the “raining world” because it rains there incessantly. The sun remains hidden and comes out of cloud for only one hour, once every seven years.

4. How did the heavy storms affect the islands of Venus?

Ans: Heavy storms caused tidal waves to come over the islands. A thousand forests crushed under the rain, had grown up a thousand times to be crushed again. This was the way of life forever on planet Venus

5. How did the jungle in Venus look?

Ans: The jungle in Venus grew and never stopped growing. The jungle had spent years without the sun. It was the colour of rubber, ash and ink.

6. What did the children do immediately after the rain stopped?

Ans: The children put their hands to their ears and stood apart. Then they rushed out, yelling, into the summertime.

7. Why do you think that the children were feeling unhappy when it started raining again?

Ans: The children were unhappy when it started raining again because it always rained on planet Venus and they had to live in their underground city. They wanted to feel the warmth of the sun and play outdoors in the jungle. But it would again be seven more years before the sun comes out just for an hour.

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