



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of Submission: August 2020
STUDY NOTES	Topic: FATHER'S HELP (PROSE)	Reference

SUMMARY

The story revolves around a school boy named Swaminathan. He is a student of Albert Mission School. Like some boys he despises going to school and finds a pretext for not going to school.

One Monday morning he decides not to go to school and makes an excuse that he has a headache. His mother allows him to stay home. When his father comes to know about this then he becomes stubborn and tells him that he must go to school.

Swaminathan replies that he is unwilling to go to school late as his teacher Samuel would beat him. Then Swami gives a brief but vivid imaginary account of Samuel's violent character and says that he is rude to the boys who go to school late. He canes the boys very vehemently and does not stop till he sees blood on the boys' hand which he makes the boy press on his forehead. He also reports at once the teacher had skinned the knuckle of a boy. Hearing this Swami's father gets exasperated with the teacher and writes a rude letter to the Headmaster complaining against Samuel and gives it to Swami to deliver it to him.

On the way while going to school Swami's conscience bothers him for making a false statement about Samuel. However, he devises a fault with the teacher's treatment of his students.

Going to school he finds the teacher more genial and kinder than ever before. The teacher neither abuses him nor canes him. The boy, however shows rudeness with the teacher and misbehaves with him in the class to instigate him to get violent with him. When the school breaks then he rushes to the Headmaster's chamber. Seeing the room locked he asks the peon and comes to know that he is on leave for a week. He does not deliver the letter and returns home straight. His father asks him about the letter and then after Swami's response, he snatches the letter from him and tears it off and throws it into the waste paper box and mutters that he deserves the punishment from Samuel.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7dIFTPeBpHk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bP-IjABJWsE>

THEME OF THE STORY

The main theme of the story is a how a boy uses a pretext for not going to school. The story depicts the child psychology and shows how a child's mind works to device out a trick for shirking his duty. This story also highlights the need of understanding between parents and children and the significance of ideal teacher pupil relationship.

VOCABULARY

Vermilion

a brilliant red colour.

Persist

continue in an opinion or course of action in spite of difficulty or opposition.

Shudder

tremble convulsively, typically as a result of fear or revulsion.

Bulge

a rounded swelling.

Desolate

bleak and empty / very unhappy.

Tactics

an action intended to achieve something.

Conscience

a person's sense of right and wrong.

Obstinate

stubbornly refusing to change one's opinion or chosen course of action, despite attempts to persuade one to do so.

Executioner

an official who carries out a sentence of death on a condemned person.

Genial

friendly and cheerful.

TRAGICOMEDY (Interesting Terms)

A tragicomedy is a story that uses both elements of tragedy and comedy and merges it into one genre.

By this I mean, a tragicomedy has serious themes but is written in a comic way or light way, hiding its message through irony or satire.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ECmjs6_Zoc

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QV3ERP09drs>

EXAMPLES

FULL Audio Book / Greatest Audio Books

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OVhI4--3TcU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MBCPeqla5bE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ZrTh-78K2o>