

7

READING COMPREHENSION

"SCHOOL DAZE"

Read the story carefully. Look at questions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. Read the story a second time, then answer the questions as best you can.

Once in class, we went straight to our seats, boys and girls sitting side by side. As soon as we sat down, we forgot our quarrels. We became all ears, and sat absolutely still.

Our teacher gave his lessons in an impressive silence. I should just like to have seen what would have happened if we so much as stirred in our seats. Our teacher moved like lightning. He was here, there and everywhere.

We were remarkably attentive, despite his monotonous voice. Even though we were young, we all regarded our school work as something deadly serious. Everything we learned was strange and unexpected. It was as if we were learning about life on another planet.

He never gave us an opportunity to interrupt his lessons. And so we tried to attract the teacher's attention as little as possible; for we lived in constant dread of being sent to the chalkboard.



1. According to the passage, what did the writer mean by the phrase: "**We became all ears**"?
2. Which word best describes the teacher's character?
3. How was the students' behavior in class different from their behavior outside of the class?

INSIDE	OUTSIDE

Prepared by: *Mrs. C. Marguerite Forbes-Moree*

4. (i) To what did the author compare the teacher's movement?

(ii) What form of figurative language is being used in this comparison?

5. (i) What conclusion can you draw from the passage?

- A. The teacher taught exciting lessons.
- B. The students were afraid of being punished.
- C. The teacher encouraged students to ask questions.
- D. The students liked attracting the teacher's attention.

(ii) Support your answer in 5 (i) with evidence from the passage.

6. According to the passage, which of the following statements is **TRUE**?

_____ although the students were young, they took their work seriously.

_____ because the students were young, they stirred in their seats.