

NCERT Solutions for Class 6 English Chapter 5 **Where Do All The Teachers Go?**

Working with the poem

Question 1:

Answer these questions.

- (i) Why does the poet want to know where the teachers go at four o'clock?
- (ii) What are the things normal people do that the poet talks about?
- (iii) What does he imagine about
 - (a) where teachers live?
 - (b) what they do at home?
 - (c) the people with whom they live?
 - (d) their activities when they were children in school?
- (iv) Why does the poet wonder if teachers also do things that other people do?
- (v) How does the poet plan to find out? What will he do once he finds out?

Answers:

- (i) The poet holds the belief that teachers are not merely ordinary individuals; rather, he perceives them as exceptional human beings. Consequently, he is curious about the whereabouts and activities of teachers after school hours, particularly wondering where they go at four o'clock.
- (ii) In the poet's view, typical individuals reside in homes, freshen up upon arrival, don pajamas, launder their garments, engage in television viewing, cohabit with their parents, err, misplace

books, face consequences, doodle on their desks, and don worn, soiled jeans and linen, among other activities.

(iii)

(a) The poet envisions that his teachers have households where they reside with their families.

(b) Within the confines of their homes, they go about daily routines like washing socks, donning comfortable pyjamas, indulging in casual habits like nose-picking, and engaging in TV-watching.

(c) They share their abode with both parents and other relatives, experiencing a familial environment.

(d) In their own childhoods, much like any other youngsters, they too exhibited mischievous behavior, committed errors, misspelled words, faced reprimands for sneaking chocolates in class, misplaced their hymn books, scrawled on desks, and occasionally wore soiled jeans, and more.

(iv) The poet ponders whether teachers engage in typical activities like everyone else, questioning the notion that they are not ordinary but rather exceptional individuals. He assumes that teachers, often perceived as strict and flawless, never err and embody the ideal in every aspect.

(v) The poet decided to get first-hand information about his teachers by following them on the way back home so that he could find out what they do after reaching home. Once he knows what they do, he plans to compose a poem, which the teachers would then read out to their students.

Question 2:

What do you think these phrases from the poem mean?

(i) punished in the corner

(ii) leave their greens

Answer:

(i) **Punished in the corner:** This means when someone does something wrong in class and the teacher makes them stand in a specific corner of the classroom as a punishment.

(ii) **Leave their greens:** Some kids don't eat their cooked green vegetables and either leave them on their plates or throw them away. The phrase "leave their greens" in the poem means that teachers eat their green vegetables and don't waste them.

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