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Question 1. Why was the twentieth century called the ‘Era of the book’?

The twentieth century was called the ‘Era of the book’ because books covered every topic imaginable, from anteaters to Zulus. They taught people what to do, how, when, and why. Books explained, educated, guided, and entertained—making them indispensable.

Question 2. Who tried to invade the Earth in the twenty-first century?

Martians attempted to invade the Earth in the twenty-first century.

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Question 1. What guesses does Think-Tank make about the books found on Earth?

First, Think-Tank guesses the books are sandwiches. Then he thinks they are communication devices. Later, he imagines they might be eye communication gadgets that need to be watched carefully.

Think About It (Page 67)

Question 1. How does Noodle correct Think-Tank without offending him?

Noodle shares his thoughts gently and downplays their importance whenever they differ from Think-Tank’s. This way, he corrects errors without making Think-Tank feel criticized.

Question 2. If you were in Noodle’s place, how would you handle Think-Tank’s mistakes?

I would do the same—politely and kindly suggesting corrections without causing offense.

Question 3. Are books being replaced by electronic media? Can books disappear completely?

Though online reading has largely replaced traditional books, and social media like Facebook and Twitter reduce reading interest, books will never fully disappear. They might change form, but their importance remains.

Question 4. Why are books called man’s best companion? What is your favorite book and why?

Books are called man’s best companion because they are always with us,

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guiding, instructing, making us laugh, informing, inspiring, and remaining true. My favorite book is Peter Pan. It's a fairy tale about a boy who never grows up, enjoying adventures and inspiring readers to keep childlike wonder and dreams alive forever.

Talk About It

Question 1. How does Think-Tank misunderstand nursery rhymes as Martian threats? Have you ever misinterpreted something? How did you resolve it?

Think-Tank interprets words like 'shell' and 'silver' as farm products and sees 'cow' and 'moon' lines as invasion signs. The image of Humpty Dumpty's fall further alarms him. I once misunderstood a friend's words but was lucky to learn the truth just in time by asking and listening carefully.

Question 2. The aliens speak English in the play. Is that really their language? What could their real language be?

No, English is not likely their real language. If it were, Think-Tank wouldn't misinterpret nursery rhymes. They probably speak a Martian language unknown to us.

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