



English

Class: 12th

Subject: English

Lesson 4: END OF TERM

Author: David Daiches

❖ **Exercise Short Questions:**

1. What was the Daiches' attitude towards the weekend as a school boy? Why did he long for it?

Ans: Daiches looked forward to the weekend with great excitement. He was happy on Fridays because school ended, giving him two days off to relax and escape the stress of schoolwork and homework.

2. What was his general view of school life?

Ans: Daiches had mixed feelings about school life. He enjoyed the classroom work, but the daily routine, homework, and competition felt heavy. Monday mornings were especially gloomy and oppressive for him.

3. He liked holidays for their freedom—freedom from what?

Ans: He liked holidays because they gave him freedom from school rules, assignments, and the regular schedule. He could enjoy time according to his own wishes and take a break from school pressures.

4. How did he spend his summer holidays?

Ans: Daiches spent his summer holidays happily and leisurely. In July, he would walk home across the Meadows wearing his summer school uniform, enjoying the sense of freedom and happiness. Summer holidays were long, joyful, and eagerly awaited.

5. Wishes don't come true in this life, writes Daiches. What are the things he longed for but could not have?

Ans: As a child, Daiches longed for a tricycle and later a bicycle, but his parents could not afford them. He also wished for ice cream or small toys sometimes, but these desires were never fulfilled.

6. What did he do with his pocket money?

Ans: Daiches and his siblings received a small amount of pocket money each week, which they were required to save in a money box rather than spend on themselves.

❖ **Important Short questions:**

1. What is the meaning of the title “Friday Thank God”?

Ans: It expresses Daiches’ happiness and relief at the arrival of the weekend during school terms.

2. How did Daiches feel about the arrival of the weekend?

Ans: He looked forward to it with excitement because it gave him two days of freedom from school, homework, and stress.

3. What made Monday mornings dismal for Daiches?

Ans: The thought of waking up early, going to school, and facing a long day of lessons and homework made Monday mornings gloomy.

4. How did the maid announce the time in the attic?

Ans: She climbed the stairs with grim steps and announced in deep, funeral tones: “Lionel, David, Sylvia-time!”

5. What does Daiches say about anticipation versus reality in school life?

Ans: He says that the anticipation of school was always worse than the reality; the actual classroom work was not as bad as he feared.

6. How was university life different from school life for Daiches?

Ans: University had fewer classes, and students had freedom to come and go, making it a completely different academic experience.

7. Why was Friday morning described as “rose-coloured”?

Ans: Because it marked the end of the school week and brought joy and relief, knowing that the weekend had started.

8. What special feeling did the last period on Friday give?

Ans: It had a happy flavour of the end of the week, making students feel relaxed and free.

9. How did Friday and Saturday nights differ in their enjoyment?

Ans: Friday night was the best, with two full days before school, while Saturday night was pleasant in a different, more relaxed way.

10. What was the purpose of unexpected respites or half-holidays?

Ans: They allowed students to attend events like football matches or enjoy early dismissals due to celebrations or unforeseen circumstances.

11. How long were Christmas and Easter holidays in Daiches' early school days?

Ans: Each holiday lasted three weeks, though later they were reduced to a fortnight and then ten days.

12. How long were summer holidays, and why were they important?

Ans: Summer holidays lasted two months and were eagerly awaited as the highlight of the school year.

13. What did Daiches feel about the long summer holidays as a child?

Ans: He felt they were a period of happiness and freedom, almost like a time of permanent joy.

14. What childhood wishes did Daiches long for but could not have?

Ans: He longed for a tricycle, later a bicycle, ice-cream, and small treats, but his family could not afford them.

15. How did Daiches and his siblings manage their pocket money?

Ans: They received a few pence a week, which they had to save in a money box rather than spend.

Note:

This chapter is designed to provide a solid foundation of knowledge, with the goal of deepening understanding and encouraging further exploration of the subject. The content has been carefully selected to support effective learning and inspire students to engage with the topic more deeply.

Author: Muhammad Asghar

Purpose: To contribute to education by offering insightful, valuable content that enhances learning and understanding.

Copyright & Usage Policy

© **2026 Muhammad Asghar**. All rights reserved.

No part of these notes may be reproduced, redistributed, or used for commercial purposes without explicit written permission from the author. These notes are intended solely for personal study and educational use.