

Class X - English

**The Book That Saved the Earth**

# CBSE NOTES

## **The Book That Saved the Earth - Quick Look Revision Guide**

*Your 1-page summary of the most exam-relevant takeaways from Foot Prints Without feet.*



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# Key Points

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## 1. Why was the 20th century called the 'Era of the Book'?

The 20th century was dubbed the 'Era of the Book' because books were the primary source of knowledge, covering everything from ant eaters to Zulus, teaching people how, when, where, and why to do things.

## 2. Who tried to invade Earth in the 21st century?

Martians, led by Think-Tank, attempted to invade Earth in the 21st century, but their plan was thwarted by a book of nursery rhymes.

## 3. What role does Mother Goose play in the story?

Mother Goose, a book of nursery rhymes, is misinterpreted by Martians as a threat, leading them to abandon their invasion plans, thus saving Earth.

## 4. Describe Think-Tank's character.

Think-Tank is the arrogant, self-proclaimed ruler of Mars with a huge ego and a fear of Earthlings, despite considering them inferior.

## 5. How does Noodle interact with Think-Tank?

Noodle, Think-Tank's apprentice, cleverly corrects his mistakes without offending him, showing intelligence and diplomacy.

## 6. What misunderstanding leads to the Martians' retreat?

Martians misinterpret nursery rhymes as evidence of Earth's advanced civilization and military capabilities, causing them to flee.

## **7. Explain the significance of the book in the library.**

The book in the library symbolizes human culture and knowledge, which the Martians fail to understand, highlighting the theme of misinterpretation.

## **8. What is the historiscope?**

The historiscope is a device used by the Historian to project past events, serving as a narrative tool to tell the story of the Martian invasion.

## **9. How do the Martians view Earthlings?**

Martians view Earthlings as primitive and inferior, with small heads and ugly appearances, reflecting their arrogance and ignorance.

## **10. What is the outcome of the Martian invasion?**

The invasion is called off due to the Martians' fear of Earth's perceived advanced technology and military, as misinterpreted from nursery rhymes.

## **11. Role of vitamins in the story.**

Vitamins given to Martians to increase intelligence ironically lead to their misinterpretation of Earth's books, showcasing the theme of irony.

## **12. What does Think-Tank fear the most?**

Think-Tank fears that Earthlings are after him, especially after seeing a nursery rhyme about Humpty Dumpty, which he thinks resembles him.

## **13. How is the theme of misunderstanding presented?**

The theme is presented through Martians' comical misinterpretations of books and nursery rhymes as threats, leading to their retreat.

#### **14. What is the setting of the play?**

The play is set in the 25th century, looking back at events from 2040, in a museum and Mars Space Control, blending past and future.

#### **15. How does the play end?**

The play ends with the Historian revealing that Earth and Mars later became friends, and books were understood, except for Mother Goose.

#### **16. What is the moral of the story?**

The moral highlights the importance of understanding and knowledge over fear and ignorance, as seen in the Martians' retreat.

#### **17. How are books portrayed in the play?**

Books are portrayed as powerful tools of knowledge and culture that can even prevent wars, emphasizing their value beyond mere objects.

#### **18. What is the significance of the title?**

The title signifies the unexpected power of a simple book to save Earth from invasion, underscoring the theme of knowledge's power.

#### **19. How does the play use humor?**

Humor is used through the Martians' absurd misinterpretations and Think-Tank's vanity, making the play entertaining while conveying its message.

#### **20. What lesson does Noodle teach?**

Noodle teaches the value of intelligence, humility, and diplomacy, contrasting with Think-Tank's arrogance and fear-driven decisions.



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