

Study

by Paul Schofield

God, this is boring. How am I supposed to know who sank the Spanish Armada? I wasn't even born then. Besides, what use is it to me? "... School is a preparation for life, dear boy." Pffff. Mr Scott is such a prat.

I can see it now, five years' time - sitting there at my first interview and the bloke says, "Well, you're qualified, you're young and you're enthusiastic, but one final question. Who sank the Spanish Armada?" Err...sorry, I don't know. "Next!"

It's pathetic...And Einstein's theory of relativity...what's all that about? What goes up must come down. Any idiot can work that out. It's all such a waste of time. Homework, homework, homework. Maths, English, Geography, History. What is the point? I could be outside right now playing with my mates or hanging around somewhere. Who needs an education? I wouldn't mind working for McDonalds. I mean it wouldn't be forever. I'd save enough money to buy a ticket to America then clear off and leave 'em all to it. Yeah, that's what I'll do. Go and earn mega bucks. Be a film star or a musician... yeah and see the world. Hey that's a brilliant idea. In fact, I'll phone McDonalds now to see if they've got any part time work.

Damn! My dad's downstairs. I can't go down while he's there, he'll freak. No... no he wont; not if I do my homework first. That's it, I'll play it his way, just till I leave school, then he can't say, "That's 'cos you didn't study at school." I'll be able to do whatever I want. Brilliant! What a genius! (Distracted by a noise. Opens window and shouts.)

What? ... No...I'm doing my homework... Because I want to... What? ...No, not tonight..Ok...see ya!

John, my mate. He's alright. He's a bit slow. It's not his fault, it runs in his family. His mam and dad never went to school. They didn't believe in it so they don't make him go. His dad's got a milk round and his mam's a cleaner at the church hall. They never have much money, but that's not their fault. Anyway, I'd better get this done before tea..... Now then, who did sink the Spanish Armada?