

Timothy was ten years old. He was not a very good pupil, and he did not like having to do homework, because he preferred to do other things in his free time. Frequently he did not do his homework, and when he did do it, he always made a lot of mistakes.

Then one day, his mathematics teacher looked at Timothy's homework and saw that he had got all his sums right. He was very pleased - and rather surprised. He called Timothy to his desk and said to him, 'You got all your homework right this time, Timothy. What happened? Did your father help you?'

Usually Timothy's father did help him with his homework, but the evening before this, he had not been able to, because he had not been at home, so Timothy answered, 'No, sir. He was busy last night, so I had to do it all myself.'