

ORGANISER'S NOTE: 'VOYAGES AND HOLIDAY SNAPS' BY TED GILES WON THE ADULT POETRY CATEGORY OF THE WRITING COMPETITION.

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**VOYAGES  
and Holiday snaps**

When I was young and easy taught  
Three Rs, one G (for Geography)  
A bit of History, and Sport,  
I knew the world was going to be  
Like some great Sixth Form, where I'd browse.  
I'd cogitate and take some notes  
On deserts, camel trains and dhows,  
On llamas, ostriches and goats,  
On peasants, nomads, indigenes;  
In every harbour I would find  
The native chaps in native scenes  
And end up with a broader mind.

Now I have seen with my own eyes  
How charmingly the peasants toil!  
And watched when wind and flood arise  
To see if all their crops will spoil.  
I have these pictures of Bombay  
Or is it Cape Town? You can see  
The rubbish heaps where children play  
Outside the hotel. That is me!  
These carvings are most crudely made  
Like all my travel bric-a-brac  
But if these pleasant memories fade  
I have my slides to bring them back.

