

## 2 mothers in a hdb playground

ah beng is so smart,  
already he can watch tv & know the whole story.  
your kim cheong is also quite smart,  
what boy is he in the exam?  
this playground is not too bad, but i'm always  
so worried, car here, car there.

at exam time, it's worse.

because you know why?

kim cheong eats so little.

give him some complan. my ah beng was like that,  
now he's different. if you give him anything  
he's sure to finish it all up.

sure, sure. cheong's father buys him  
vitamins but he keeps it inside his mouth  
& later gives it to the cat.  
i scold like mad but what for?  
if i don't see it, how can i scold?

on Saturday, tv showed a new type,  
special for children. why don't you call  
his father buy some? maybe they are better.

money's no problem. it's not that  
we want to save. if we buy it  
& he doesn't eat it, throwing money  
into the jamban is the same.

ah beng's father spends so much,  
takes out the mosaic floor & wants  
to make terazzo or what.

we also got new furniture, bought from diethelm.  
the sofa is so soft. i dare not sit. they all  
sit like don't want to get up. so expensive.  
nearly two thousand dollars, sure must be good.

that you can't say. my toa-soh  
bought an expensive sewing machine,  
after 6 months, it is already spoilt.  
she took it back but ... beng,  
come here, come, don't play the fool.  
your tuition teacher is coming.

wah! kim cheong, now you're quite big.  
come, cheong, quick go home & bathe.  
ah pah wants to take you chya-hong in new motor-car.

Arthur Yap