

Chapter 5 The Hundred Dresses–I

THINKING ABOUT THE TEXT

1. How is Wanda seen as different by the other girls? How do they treat her?

- A. Wanda is seen as different by the other girls. She is poor and lonely girl. The girls made fun of her poverty and teased her by commenting on her dress.

2. How does Wanda feel about the dresses game? Why does she say that she has a hundred dresses?

- A. Wanda did not show any feelings regarding the dresses game. It is most likely that she was deeply hurt. It could have been one of the reasons why her family left the place and moved to the city.

She was a girl who was very poor and came from a long distance which made her feet dirty. She wanted to draw attention of her friends. So, she felt very happy whenever she told her friend that she had hundred dresses without realising that they were making fun of her.

3. Why does Maddie stand by and not do anything? How is she different from Peggy? (Was Peggy's friendship important to Maddie? Why? Which lines in the text tell you this?)

- A. Maddie always stood by and never did anything as she was afraid that if she did, she would be the next target of the girls. She was poor herself though she wasn't as poor as Wanda. She usually wore somebody's hand-me-down clothes. When Peggy asked Wanda questions in a mocking voice, Maddie felt embarrassed. Maddie wished Peggy would stop teasing Wanda but she never had the courage to tell Peggy as she teased herself to be the new target for the school. Maggie was in somewhat awe of Peggy. Peggy was the most liked girl in the classroom and she drew better than anyone else.
- (i) Peggy, who had thought up this game, and Maddie, her inseparable friend, were always the last to leave.
 - (ii) She was Peggy's best friend, and Peggy was the best-liked girl in the whole room.
 - (iii) Peggy could not possibly do anything that was really wrong, she thought.
 - (iv) Oh, Maddie was sure Peggy would win.

4. What does Miss Mason think of Wanda's drawings? What do the children think of them? How do you know?

- A. Miss Mason appreciated the paintings of Wanda. She was impressed at the creativity of the girl because she had painted hundred paintings which were in wide range of variety.

The children also admired the drawings. Everybody stopped and whistled or murmured admiringly. After Miss Mason had announced that Wanda was the winner, they burst into applause, and even the boys were glad to have a chance to stamp on the floor and whistle. Also, just as Peggy and Maddie entered the room, they stopped short and gasped. Later they recognized the designs as those which Wanda had described to

them. And in the end, Peggy exclaimed, "...and I thought I could draw." This shows that she also realized how good Wanda's drawings were.

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