

## **Chapter 6 The Hundred Dresses–II**

## THINKING ABOUT THE TEXT

- 1. Why do you think Wanda's family moved to a different city? Do you think life there was going to be different for their family?
- A. Wanda family moved to different city because of her father felt bad about the bad behaviour of girls towards Wanda.
- 2. Maddie thought her silence was as bad as Peggy's teasing. Was she right?
- A. Yes, Maddie was right when she thought that her silence was as bad as Peggy's teasing because her silence encouraged Peggy to tease her. A person who sees something wrong happening in front of him/her is as much an offender as the person committing the offence. Maddie was too afraid to say anything because she did not want to lose Peggy's friendship. Also, she was poor herself, so she feared that everybody would make fun of her too.
- 3. Peggy says, "I never thought she had the sense to know we were making fun of her anyway. I thought she was too dumb. And gee, look how she can draw!" What led Peggy to believe that Wanda was dumb? Did she change her opinion later?
- A. Peggy believed that Wanda was dumb as she could not understand why Wanda said she had a hundred dresses, even when everybody knew that she was poor. She knew everybody was laughing at her. Even then, she kept giving the same answer. She even described the dresses she said she had. That is why Peggy thought Wanda was dumb. She changed her opinion later when she saw the hundred dresses Wanda had talked about. She saw the drawings and was highly impressed by their beauty. She realized that Wanda was a very good artist.

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- 4. What important decision did Maddie make? Why did she have to think hard to do so?
- A. The important decision that Maddie made was that she would never stand by and say nothing again. If she ever heard anybody picking on someone because they were funnylooking or because they had strange names, she would speak up. She did not even mind losing Peggy's friendship over it. She knew she could not make things right with Wanda. However, she had decided that in the future, she would never make anybody else unhappy again.

She was unhappy that she could not find Wanda at her home. She could not sleep that night. She thought about Wanda, her faded blue dress, and the little house she lived in. She also thought about the hundred glowing pictures, which were all lined up in the classroom. She was feeling guilty of not having said anything when everybody else was teasing Wanda. It was her guilt that made her think very hard and arrive at the important decision.



- 5. Why do you think Wanda gave Maddie and Peggy the drawings of the dresses? Why are they surprised?
- A. Wanda gave Maddie and Peggy the drawings of dresses because they made fun of her hundred dresses. They believe her to be a liar. They were surprised because they always made fun of here dresses and insulted her, but she had gifted them with those beautiful designs.
- 6. Do you think Wanda really thought the girls were teasing her? Why or why not?
- A. Yes, Wanda knew that girls were teasing her. She would have known that the children intended to make fun of her poverty, and would have laughed at her whatever she might have said. This could have been the reason for her exaggerating everything whenever she answered their questions.