

Chapter: The Hundred Dresses-II

1. Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow in a line or two:

(i) A deep silence met the reading of this letter. Miss Mason took off her glasses, blew on them and wiped them on her soft white handkerchief. Then she put them on again and looked at the class. When she spoke her voice was very low.

“I am sure that none of the boys and girls in Room Thirteen would purposely and deliberately hurt anyone’s feelings because his or her name happened to be a long, unfamiliar one. I prefer to think that what was said was said in thoughtlessness. I know that all of you feel the way I do, that this is a very unfortunate thing to have happened unfortunate and sad, both. And I want you all to think about it.”

(a) What did Miss Mason do when she finished reading the letter of Wanda’s father?

(b) What did Miss Mason say to the class?

(c) Find out the word in the passage which means ‘inappropriate’.

(d) What was the reaction of Miss Mason after reading the letter?

(ii) Goodness! wasn’t there anything she could do ? If only she could tell Wanda she hadn’t meant to hurt her feelings. She turned around and stole a glance at Peggy, but Peggy did not look up. She seemed to be studying hard. Well, whether Peggy felt badly or not, she, fvfadie, had to do something. She had to find Wanda Petronski. Maybe she had not yet moved away.

(a) Who does ‘she’ refer in the passage?

(b) What does Maddie decide to do?

(c) Find out the synonym of ‘look’ used in the passage.

(d) What was Peggy doing when Maddie looked at her?

(iii) At last Maddie sat up in bed and pressed her forehead tight in her hands and really thought. This was the hardest thinking she had ever done. After a long, long time, she reached an important conclusion.

She was never going to stand by and say nothing again. If she ever heard anybody picking on someone because they were funny looking or because they had strange names, she’d speak up. Even if it meant losing Peggy’s friendship. She had no way of making things right with Wanda, but from now on she would never make anybody else that unhappy again.

(a) What decision did Maddie take after a long time?

(b) Why was it difficult to Maddie to make things right with Wanda?

(c) Find out the word which means the summing up of an argument.

(d) What could be the result of Maddie’s changed attitude after Wanda’s incident?

2. Answer these questions in 30-40 words:

(i) What do you think about Wanda’s-action of not coming to school anymore?

(ii) How did Peggy and Maddie try to amend for their behavior towards Wanda?

(iii) What impression do you form of Wanda Petronski on the basis of reading the lesson ‘The Hundred Dresses’?

(iv) Why was there no reply of the letter written to Wanda by the girls?

(v) What did Peggy say to Maddie when they did not find her at Boggins Heights?

3. Answer the question in 120-150 words:

(i) You are 'Wanda'. You are deeply hurt by the behaviour of your classmates. Express your feelings in the form of a diary entry.

(ii) "The Hundred Dresses – II" gives out a moral lesson of what a man should be like as Wanda displays herself in the given situation. Wanda by her behaviour towards Peggy and Maddie shows her exalted character as is seen in her letter. How far would you agree with her and justify such behaviour in all persons as essential? Write a paragraph on such an aspect.
