
CLASS -X ENGLISH
NCERT SOLUTIONS-First Flight
The Hundred Dresses-I

Answers

Page No: 65 Oral Comprehension Check

Answer1: Wanda used to sit in the seat next to the last seat, in the last row, in Room Thirteen. She sat there because her feet were normally caked with dry mud and very dirty. So in order to avoid being laughed at by her classmates, she sat there to hide her dirty feet.

Answer2: Wanda lived at Boggins Heights. It seems that it was a place far away from the school and also, where there was a lot of dry mud, thereby indicating that it was not a very rich locality.

Answer3: Peggie and Maddie noticed Wanda's absence after three days, i.e., on Wednesday because they wanted to be with her for a lot of fun. They waited for her for a long time but she didn't turn up.

Answer4: Wanda was a quiet and shy girl who was ashamed of dust laden feet. The girls used to make fun of her. This gave them a lot of pleasure therefore, they wanted to have fun with her.

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Answer1: Wanda was different from other children. She did not have any friends. She came to school alone and went home alone. She always wore a faded blue dress that did not fit her properly. Unlike other children, she did not talk to anybody.

Answer2: No, she did not have a hundred dresses because she was poor and wore the same faded dress to school everyday. She had an inferiority complex. In order to hide the complex and impress the other girls, she always said that she had a hundred dresses.

Answer3: Maddie was embarrassed by the questions Peggy asked Wanda because she was poor herself. She usually wore old clothes, which were handed down by someone else. She did not feel sorry for Wanda. She was worried that perhaps later, everyone would start teasing her too. She thought she was different from Wanda in the sense that she would never claim that she had a hundred dresses. She was not as poor as Wanda. Yet she was afraid that the others might mock her too.

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Answer1: Maddie couldn't ask Peggie to stop teasing Wanda because Peggie was her best friend and she had faith in Peggie that she would never do anything wrong. She was afraid of being laughed at for her poor dresses.

Answer2: Maddie thought that Peggy would win the drawing contest because Peggy drew better than anyone else. She could copy a picture in a magazine, or some film star's face so well that one could tell who it was.

Answer3: Wanda won the drawing contest. The winner of drawing contest was appreciated by the judges and applauded by her fellow classmates.

Thinking about the Text

Answer1: 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.

Answer2: 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.

Answer3: Maddie always stood by and never did anything as she was afraid that if she did, she would be the next target of the children. She herself was poor and therefore, felt that if she spoke against the others, they would target her next. Unlike her, Peggy was a rich girl. This was also the reason why Maddie could think from Wanda's point of view, but Peggy could not. Maddie was Peggy's best friend. It seemed as if she was in awe of Peggy. She admired her quite a lot as she said that Peggy was the most liked girl in the room and that she drew better than anyone else. She did not have the courage to go against her. Some of the lines from the text which show that Peggy's friendship was important to Maddie are as follows.

- (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.

Answer4: 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.

Page No: 71 Thinking about the Language

Answer: 1. This is the bus which goes to Agra.

2. I would like to buy the shirt that is in the shop window.

3. You must break your fast when you see the moon in the sky.

4. Find a word which begins with the letter Z.

5. Now find a person whose name begins with the letter Z.

6. Then go to a place where there are no people whose name begins with Z.

Answer(II). (i): (i) In the given sentence, the italicised words express the point of view of Peggy and Maddie.

(ii) In the given sentence, the italicised words express the point of view of the narrator.

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Answer(III): 1. Surprisingly, he finished his work on time.

2. Hopefully, it will not rain on the day of the match.

3. Evidently, he had been stealing money from his employer.

4. Television is evidently to blame for the increase in violence in society.

5. The children will hopefully learn from their mistakes.

6. I can't possibly lend you that much money.

7. The thief had apparently been watching the house for many days.

8. The thief possibly escaped by bribing the jailor.

9. Surprisingly, no one had suggested this before.

10. The water was incredibly hot.
