

**ATOMIC ENERGY EDUCATION SOCIETY**

**Book : First Flight**

**Class X**

**Sub : English**

**Chapter 5**

**The Hundred Dresses Part-I**

**- EL BSOR ESTER**

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# The Hundred Dresses Part 1

## \* About the Author

**Eleanor Estes** (May 9, 1906 – July 15, 1988) was an American children's author and a children's librarian. Her book, [\*Ginger Pye\*](#), which she also created illustrations for, won the [Newbery Medal](#). Three of her books were [Newbery Honor](#) Winners, and one was awarded the [Lewis Carroll Shelf Award](#). Estes' books were based on her life in small town Connecticut in the early 1900s.

# The Hundred Dresses – I

## Theme

### \* Theme

Theme The story of the book is about an innocent girl named Wanda Petronski and her experience of bullying in school. ... The main **theme** of the story is about the act of forgiving someone's mistake. In this story, Wanda forgives her classmates who used to bully her for her weird name and her story about **hundred dresses**



## \* **The Hundred Dresses Part 1 – Introduction**

The lesson “The Hundred Dresses I” is about a girl named Wanda who claims to have one hundred dresses. Her classmates made fun of her because what she claims is in contradiction to the fact that she was always seen wearing the same dress. Her classmates found her name to be “funny”. It was because everyone had “easier” names than ‘Wanda Petronski’. Her name was different because she was a Polish immigrant who had come to an American town with her family. She was poor and did not have many friends. She was quiet and was always seen sitting in the corner of the classroom. The truth about the hundred dresses unveiled when she submitted her hundred drawings in a drawing contest. They were the same hundred dresses she used to talk about. All of them were immensely beautiful.

# The Hundred Dresses – I

## Summary

### \* The Hundred Dresses Summary

The story is about a quiet and shy girl named Wanda Petronski, a Polish immigrant, who had come to America with her family. She attended school with American children who found her name to be strange and probably, the weirdest in the classroom. This is because they all had easier names. She was poor and was always seen wearing a faded blue dress. Her classmates teased her because she claimed to have a hundred dresses “all lined up” in her closet albeit, always being seen wearing one. The ones who mainly teased her were the two best friends, Peggy and Maddie. Peggy was the most famous girl in school while anyone barely knew Wanda.

Peggy and Maddie used to wait for Wanda before school even if it meant getting late. Maddie, a poor girl herself did not like when Peggy made fun of Wanda. She feared that she could be next. She wanted Peggy to stop making fun of Wanda, but could not summon courage to face her as she feared she’d lose her best friend. However, Peggy’s intention was never to hurt Wanda but she was curious as to why Wanda had to lie that she had a hundred dresses in her closet.

Truth about the same hundred dresses unveiled on the result day of the drawing competition. The room was lined with one hundred drawings portraying different dresses, each so beautiful. That day, she truly had “a hundred dresses all lined up”, but in the classroom. At that moment, Peggy and Maddie, who were awestruck realised the theory of a hundred dresses and felt guilty about having treated her badly

# Word Meaning

*Twisted : moved, changed.*

*After the crash the car was a mass of twisted metal. She gave a small twisted smile.*

*Faded : dim coloured*

*The sun had faded the curtains.*

*Her smile faded when she heard the news.*

*Velvet : soft cloth.*

*My dress is made of velvet.*

*The cushion covers and curtains are of real velvet.*

*Hitching : catching.*

*She hitched up her skirt and waded into the river.*

*Teasing : troubling.*

*They are teasing me.*

*I used to get teased about my name.*

# The Hundred Dresses-I Comprehension Check

## Comprehension Check

- \* What is the message of hundred dresses?
- \* How did the Hundred Dresses game begin?
- \* Why did Wanda say she had a hundred dresses?
- \* What was unusual about the dress of Wanda?