

Date

T: understand a story

- 1) Give three adjectives to describe Maya.
- 2) What does the narrator mean when they say Maya 'fell deeply under the spell' of the blue dress?
- 3) Why did Maya 'rush forward' to claim the tickets?
- 4) How might Maya have reacted if the tickets were for something that she didn't want to go to?
- 5) The story says Nina spent an entire day convincing Nina that they were 'soul sisters'. What do you think it means to be 'soul sisters'?
- 6) What does the narrator mean when they say of Nina 'She could see, in her mind's eye, a resplendent Maya basking under all the attention, at the party'?
- 7) The narrator says that 'Maya's parents were in a dilemma (last paragraph of the first page). What do you think it means to be in a 'dilemma'?
- 8) What does it tell you about Nina that the narrator says that she '**instructed**' her dad on what to get for her birthday?
- 9) When Nina is giving her father the list of things she wants for her birthday, the narrator says that she told him this list 'gravely'. What do you think gravely means?
- 10) In the third from last paragraph Maya goes away for a little while. Where do you think she might have gone and why did she go there?
- 11) In the second from last paragraph the narrator describes Nina as 'hapless'. What do you think hapless means?
- 12) The author starts and ends the last paragraph with sentence that are only two words long. What impact do you think this has on the reader?
- 13) What similarities (things that are the same) and differences are there between this story and 'The Good Turn' (the one we read last week about Gina and Rita)?

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- 1) Selfish / greedy / bossy etc (AF3)
- 2) That she really loved it / wanted it (AF3 + AF5)
- 3) She was excited and keen to get hold of them (AF3 + AF5)
- 4) Moved slower / thrown a tantrum (any less enthusiastic response) (AF3)
- 5) Really close friends who share everything (AF2 + AF3)
- 6) She could imagine it (AF3 + AF5)
- 7) To have to make a choice when none of your options are ideal (AF3 + AF5)
- 8) She is bossy / selfish etc (AF3 + AF5)
- 9) Seriously (AF3 + AF5)
- 10) Somewhere quiet / to be alone to think (AF3)
- 11) Clueless / confused / gullible (AF5)
- 12) It makes them powerful / strong / effective/ memorable / exclamations (AF4)
- 13) Similarities - moral in the story / selfish character learns a lesson / quiet bossed around character is an equal at the end / both involve girls
Differences - different characters / setting / different authors and illustrators / different morals behind them (AF7)

Brackets at the end refer to the AF focus, as given in the APP reading levels grids