

National Institute of Open Schooling
Secondary Course : English
Lesson 18 : The Little girl
Worksheet – 18

1. Read the lines given below and answer the following questions:

Kezia was scared of her father and therefore did not feel free with him. It is evident from the expressions in the text. 'He was a figure to be feared and avoided'.

- Why was Kezia afraid of her father?
- What was Kezia's father's routine?

2. Kezia decides that there are "different kinds of fathers". What kind of father was Mr Macdonald, and how was he different from Kezia's father?

3. Read the lines given below and answer the following questions:

She had nightmares when she was alone in the dark.

- Who is she in the above line?
- Why was she alone?
- Where did her family leave her alone?

4. Read the lines given below and answer the following questions:

Kezia's grandmother wanted that the little girl to bond with her parents. Therefore, every Sunday afternoon she would encourage Kezia to go downstairs to the drawing-room, have a nice conversation with them, and get to know them better. She also suggested Kezia make a pin-cushion out of a beautiful piece of yellow silk as a gift for her father's birthday.

- Was Kezia close to her grandmother?
- In what ways did Kezia's grandmother encourage her to get to know her parents better?
- Describe Kezia's Sunday routine.

5. Read the lines given below and answer the following questions:

Kezia was very scared of her father. She stuttered when he spoke to her. Also, the terrified expression on her face irritated him. In his presence she wore an expression of

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wretchedness. He felt that with such an expression, she seemed as if she were on the verge of suicide. Why was Father often irritated with Kezia?

- Why did Kezia feel that her father was like a giant?
- Why did Kezia stutter in front of her father?
- What do you mean by “wretchedness”?
- Why was Kezia on the verge of suicide?

6. “That night there was a hue and cry in the house.” What night was that? Why was there an uproar?

7. Read the lines given below and answer the following questions:

Father was a strict disciplinarian who believed in the use of physical punishment to correct children. He came to Kezia’s room with a ruler because he wanted to punish her and teach her not to touch what did not belong to her. This also shows that he was a firm, unforgiving person.

- What do you learn about Kezia’s father from the incident?
- Do you think “physical punishment” is justifiable.

8. Read the lines given below and answer the following questions:

Kezia wanted to present a pin-cushion to her father on his birthday. She wanted to make it herself. She took a fine piece of silk and made a case of pin-cushion. To fill it, she used documents which were very important for her father. She tore those papers and stuffed the pin-cushion case with them. The papers contained her father’s speech for the Port Authority. She had spoiled them unknowingly and innocently. Kezia admitted her mistake. Her father wanted to teach Kezia that she should not touch the things that did not belong to her.

- Why was Kezia punished by her father?
- Do you think Kezia deserved this?
- What should father have done instead?
- Do you think Kezia was wrong in tearing her father’s papers? What does it show about her character?

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9. How does Kezia begin to see her father as a human being who needs her sympathy? Give your answer in 30-40 words.

10. Imagine you are Kezia and write a diary entry expressing your feelings after being punished by father.

11. Fill in the following blanks with the correct form of the verbs given in brackets
 1. They _____ in Australia for 20 years (be).
 2. I _____ a great movie last night. (see)
 3. Our son _____ from the university yesterday. (graduate).
 4. They _____ about me when I interrupted their conversation. (talk)
 5. I was infuriated that I _____ such a stupid mistake (make).