

Exercise 1 (The Helping Hand)

① Why did everyone stare at the new girl?
What did they want to know about her?

Ans Everyone stared at the new girl because she was different from all. She had a prosthetic hand & every one wanted to know about it & how it worked.

2. What was the task given to the speaker?

Ans - The task given to the speaker was to be the friend of the new girl & show her around.

3. Listen I have some advice for you.

a. What advice did the speaker have for the new girl?

Ans - The speaker advises the new girl to make efforts to make people stop staring at her. She suggested that she should stop standing at the corner rather join everyone others in play & games.

b. Would you call this good advice?

Ans - No, the advice wasn't good as the narrator was being selfish & inconsiderate while saying so.

4. What was the One-Hand challenge? what did it teach the speaker & her friends?

Ans - The One-Hand challenge was a game played by Sumi & Gourav where one has to do things with one hand like packing school bag or buttoning shirt. This challenge taught them that the new girl is not so different from everybody else. She can do all the things with her one hand that rest of the students in the school do with two hand.

5. Why did the speaker think the new hand was better?

Ans - The speaker thought that the new hand was better than the previous one because

it had mobility & gave the new girl a grip to hold things.

Q) Initially, the new girl in school was met with a lot of unfriendly curiosity. Why do you think everybody was so hesitant to speak to her?

Ans. I think everybody ~~was~~ was hesitant to speak to her because she was thought to be very different from others as she had a prosthetic hand.

2. How did the speaker feel about the new girl at the beginning of the text? How did this change as time passed?

Ans - The speaker was irritated & completely had a disinterest towards the new girl. The speaker was being stared at because she used to hang out with the new girl. This made her uncomfortable. Further, the narrator blamed the new girl for being cornered by four senior students who asked her about the new girl & later threw her bag into the thicket by the side of the road. However by the end of the story we see a change in attitude

of the narrator, she puts ~~at~~ up a helping hand towards the new girl in adapting herself with the new prosthetic hand that she had got.

Q4. How do you think the speaker & her friends can make things in school easier for the new girl?

Ans - The speaker & her friends could have shown friendly & welcoming attitude to the new girl from the day she entered their school. They could have asked her to join them while playing & could have tried to understand her difficulties.

3. Look up the phrase "a helping hand" in the dictionary. Is it a suitable name for the text? why or why not?