

Honesty – by Ankita (aged 9)

It was Sunday night and Reena, a ninth grader, was packing her bag for school the next day. Her exams just got over and it was time to get her answer scripts. After dinner she went to bed but she was uncomfortable and couldn't sleep. It was her fear of getting low marks. Her dream was to stand first in class, but she was always second or third. She knew that she had done well this time and hoped her dream would come true. Finally, she slept.

The next day in school, she was excited and scared. By the last hour of the day she got all her answer scripts except Mathematics. She was ahead of the boy second in line by a mark. Now, her heart was beating faster than ever. When her teacher gave her the answer script, she saw that she had got full marks. She was very happy. Finally, her dream came true.

A few minutes later, she realized her teacher had overlooked a mistake. She should have lost 2 marks. Now, she was in a big dilemma, whether to be a coward and cheat or gather courage and tell the truth. The boy Ajith had got full marks too and he would stand first if she informed the teacher about the error. She was an honest girl, but at the same time she wanted to be first.

When hardly five minutes were left for the end of school, she told her teacher the truth. Though her dream was shattered, she was happy she had been honest. This act of hers highly impressed her teachers. Instead of being first in class, she got a special mention in the school assembly and found a special place in her teachers' hearts.