

*Sara and a number of girls start to come in to the "classroom". These now include Lavinia, Jessie, Ermengarde, Lottie, Alice, Beatrice, Victoria & Isobel. They find their seats and chatter – most of them staring at Sara, who, in a very dignified manner sits at the only empty chair.*

**Isobel:** It was full of petticoats with lace frills on them—frills and frills.

**Alice:** I saw her shaking them out. I heard Miss Minchin say to Miss Amelia that her clothes were so grand that they were ridiculous for a child.

**Victoria:** My mamma says that children should be dressed simply. She has got one of those petticoats on now. I saw it when she sat down.

**Jessie:** She has silk stockings on - and what little feet! I never saw such little feet.

**Lavinia:** O Jessie, really. That is simply the way her slippers are made. My mamma says that even big feet can be made to look small if you have a clever shoemaker. I don't think she is pretty at all. Her eyes are such a peculiar colour.

**Jessie:** She isn't pretty as other pretty people are, but she makes you want to look at her again. She has tremendously long eyelashes, but her eyes are almost green.

**Alice:** Hush! Here comes Miss Minchin.