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The composition is based on one or more of the pictures below.



When I was very young, I used to **envy** my friends who had brothers and sisters. Whenever they talked about the fun they had with their siblings, I would wish secretly that I had a sibling too. Aware of my feelings, my mother told me that I had to accept the fact that I did not have a sibling as I was an only child.

One day, I had a **stupendous** idea. I told myself that I would make my favourite doll my sister. Ruby had big, brown eyes and black, curly locks and eye lashes, just like mine. I brought her to the park the next day and showed her to all my friends. “Say hello to my sis, Ruby,” I said.

My friends laughed. “She is just a doll,” one of them said.

“No, she is my new sis,” I said **indignantly**.

At home, even my parents **chuckled** when I introduced Ruby to them. “Hannah, you can play with Ruby and call her

One night, as I was clearing things in my cupboard at home, I chanced upon a *chapték* in my drawer. The *chapték* is a feathered shuttlecock. To play it, you kick it with your heel and attempt to keep it **aloft** for as long as you can. I was quite good at this game, which was no longer played in school. Suddenly, I had a **brainwave**.

The day after, come recess time, I shot out like an arrow to the playground with my *chapték*, and started playing. On and on, I kicked. When it dropped, I would pick it up and **resume** playing. I was determined to enjoy myself, friend or no friend.

Soon, to my surprise, a crowd gathered around me. My classmates were asking, “What game is this, Julie?”; “Can you teach me to play, Julie?”; “I want to play too, Julie.” I was more than glad to show them how to play the **traditional** game.

As the days passed, more and more girls looked for me at the playground. We started playing as a group, kicking the shuttlecock from player to player till someone let it drop. Even Fern joined in.

So, once again, Fern had become a friend. But now I had more than one friend. Thanks to *chapték*, I had become the most popular student in class.



Words to Learn

give the cold shoulder: be unfriendly to someone and ignore them intentionally

confront: talk to someone face to face in a hostile way

green with envy: very jealous

boisterous: lively, cheerful and full of energy

aloft: in the air

brainwave: a clever idea you have suddenly

resume: begin again

traditional: typically used or practised in the past as a part of the way of life then