



## **You Don't Understand**

Selvi demands that her family do everything her way. But does Selvi really know best? Find out how Selvi learns about respect.



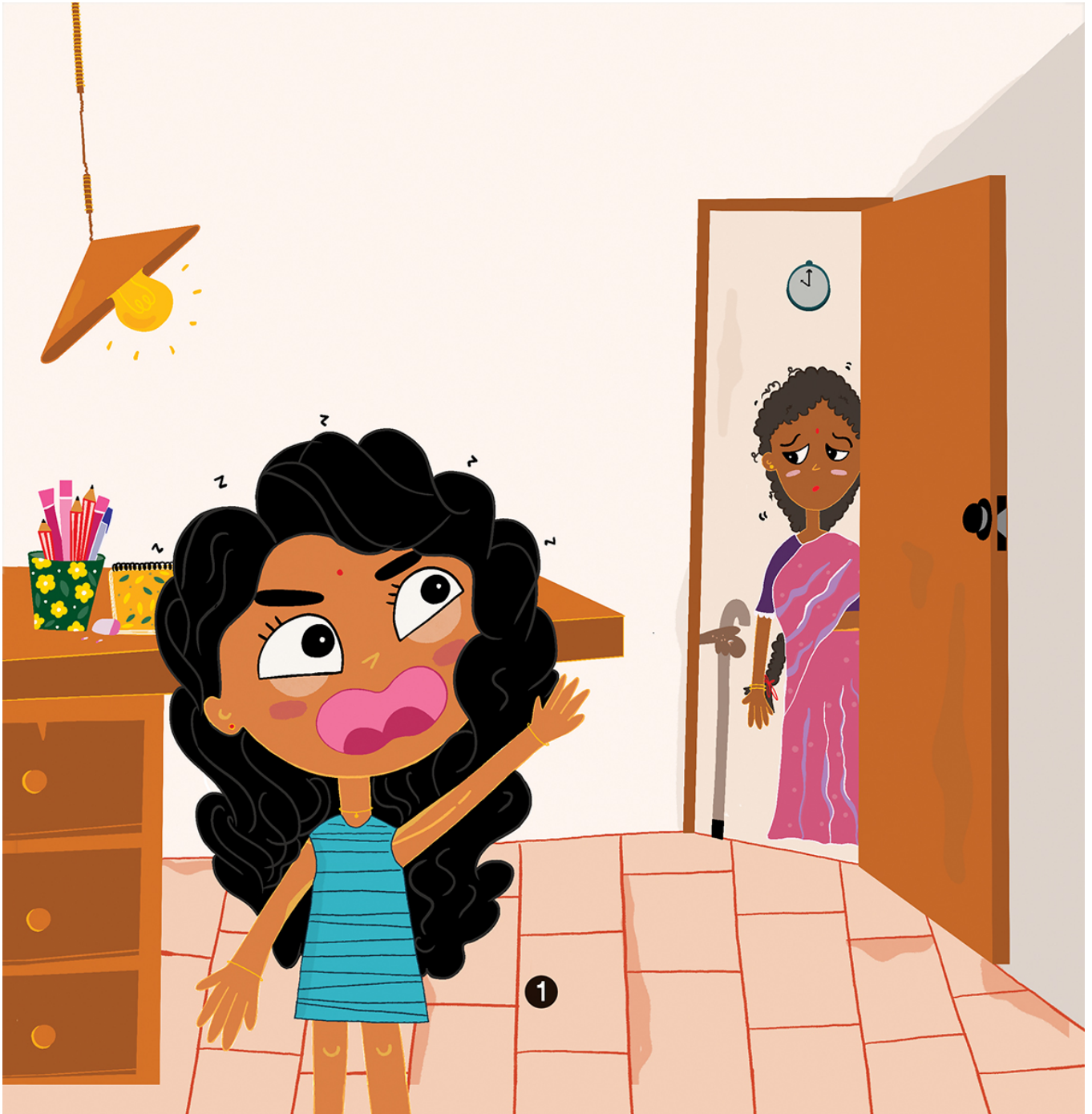
You Don't Understand  
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# Let's Read

 **The Asia Foundation**



"Amma, who left this here?" Selvi screamed at her mother, pointing at her grandfather's spectacles on top of her computer. "I told Grandfather not to come in here, and if he does come in I told him not to touch anything! You don't understand!" Selvi started shouting at her mother again.



"By the way, I need a good cover for my computer, Amma. Buy me a good cover this month," Selvi said in a bossy voice.





‘Look here.. During this Corona pandemic time you are worried that there’s no one to play with you... I don’t even have anyone to talk with me here... Amma and grandfather don’t know anything... they’re old,’ Selvi told her friends.



"Aiyyo! How many times have I told you not to come and stand behind me without telling me? The camera's on!" Selvi yelled. They don't understand anything, Selvi told herself. \*aiyyo means "Oh no!"



Amma and Grandfather discussed their worries about Selvi. "The computer's her life now. Her school is on the computer. She talks to her friends, plays, and studies on the computer. What can we do?"





"Amma, my pen is missing. Who took it?" Selvi asked. Amma brought Selvi a pen. "Aiiyo, not that one! The pen that I use to write on the iPad!"



“Is it this one?” Grandfather asked. “Yes, this is the one. Why did you take it? Do you know what is it? You don’t understand anything,” Selvi shouted.



“Yesterday my grandfather took my iPad pen thinking that it’s a pen for writing in a notebook,” Selvi told her friend, laughing.





“The teacher told us to write about an elder that we admire. Did you finish? Who did you interview?” Selvi asked her friend. “I won’t tell you yet. It’s a secret! You’ll find out in class,” her friend replied.





On the day of class presentations, Selvi was very excited. She had interviewed her uncle online. He spoke English very well and was great at math.



It was Selvi's friend's turn to present her interview. "Respect is important. We should respect everyone. But most of all, I respect my parents who work hard to educate me. They are the ones who I respect and honor the most," Selvi's friend shared with pride.



Listening to her friend, Selvi felt ashamed. She reflected on how she had been treating her elders. "Amma! Grandfather! Please forgive me. I want to show you the respect you deserve," Selvi said with tears. They hugged and vowed to all show each other respect.

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