

Mrs Robinson was a teacher in a big school in a city in America. She had boys and girls in her class, and she always enjoyed teaching them, because they were quick, and because they thought about everything carefully. One day she said to the children, 'People in a lot of countries in Asia wear white clothes at funerals, but people in America and in Europe wear white clothes when they're happy. What colour does a woman wear in this country when she marries, Mary?'

Mary said, 'White, Miss, because she's happy.'

'That's good, Mary,' Mrs Robinson said. 'You're quite right. She wears white because she's happy.'

But then one of the boys in the class put his hand up.

'Yes, Dick!' Mrs Robinson said. 'Do you want to ask something?'

'Yes, please, Miss,' Dick said. 'Why do men wear black in this country when they marry, Miss?'