The Hunger Games - Chapter 4 Questions:

1. Why does Katniss perceive Peeta’s kindness as a threat?

Katniss believes that Peeta's kindness is a threat because she sees it as a future plan. She thinks that he is intentionally coming close to her in order to gain her trust, so that later in the arena he would attack her when she least expects it. Moreover, she also thinks that his kindness is extended to Haymitch to make him believe he is a "better person" than her, so in that way he would become his favourite tribute.

2. Why did Katniss put up a “wall” between her and her mother?

Katniss put up a wall between her and her mother because she will not forgive her for leaving her and Prim, even though this leaving was only mentally and not physical. Her mother’s absent made her grow up faster and become the one in charge of her family. The one who had to bring food home so that they would not starve to death. She does not want to feel the same way she felt when this happened, therefore, she does not completely trust her mother.

3. How do Katniss and Peeta get Haymitch to take them seriously?

Katniss and Peeta get Haymitch’s attention through the display of their physical strength. One day when they are having breakfast, Haymitch is already drunk. This disturbs Peeta and he gets really angry with him because he is supposed to be advising his tributes. He slaps the drink out of Haymitch’s hand, and Haymitch punches him back. In order to defend Peeta, Katniss stabs her knife into the table between Haymitch’s hand and the liquor bottle. After this incident, Haymitch starts wondering if he really has got fighters this year, and then he finally asks Katniss what else she can do with a knife.

4. Why does Katniss detest Haymitch?

The main reason why Katniss detests Haymitch is because he is always inebriated. He is going to be Katniss and Peeta’s instructor for the Games, but he does not seem to care about that. He is not seriously taking responsibility. Katniss believes (and states) that he is the reason why District Twelve does not get any sponsors.

5. What deal does Haymitch make with the Katniss and Peeta?

Haymitch tells Katniss and Peeta that as long as they do not interfere with his drinking, he will stay sober “enough” to mentor them, help during training, and get them sponsors.