

# PUBLISHED TEXTS

## EXACT TEKS WORDING (FROM TEA)

*“explain the author’s purpose and message within a text”*

*“compose literary texts, including personal narratives and poetry, using genre characteristics and craft”*

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO ME?

Published texts are real stories written by real authors and published for the world to read.

An author writes with a purpose, and the author’s message is the idea the story teaches.

When I study what an author did, I can try that same craft in my own writing.

## THIS WEEK’S FOCUS

### Metaphor: Calling One Thing Another

from “My Bed is a Boat” by Robert Louis Stevenson (1885)

A poet can call one thing another to help the reader see it in a new way. Stevenson calls his bed a boat, his blanket a sail, and his room a pier. This craft move is called metaphor. This week we notice how calling one thing another changes how we see it.

This deck teaches **author craft and composition** across the five RPLD thinking levels:

**NOTICE → CHOOSE → SHOW → OWN → DEFEND.**



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## Read the published poem.

Read it aloud slowly. Notice how the poet calls one thing another.

### My Bed is a Boat

My bed is like a little boat;  
Nurse helps me in when I embark;  
She girds me in my sailor's coat  
And starts me in the dark.

At night I go on board and say  
Good-night to all my friends on shore;  
I shut my eyes and sail away  
And see and hear no more.

And sometimes things to bed I take,  
As prudent sailors have to do;  
Perhaps a slice of wedding-cake,  
Perhaps a toy or two.

All night across the dark we steer;  
But when the day returns at last,  
Safe in my room beside the pier,  
I find my vessel fast.

SOURCE • PUBLIC DOMAIN

From *A Child's Garden of Verses* by Robert Louis Stevenson, published 1885 (public domain)

**ICAN** | I can read a published text and notice the author's craft move.



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## TODAY'S THINKING JOB

## NOTICE

"I can notice where the poet calls one thing another."

## EXACT TEKS WORDING

*"explain the author's purpose and message within a text"*

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## Notice the metaphor.

Find a line where the poet calls his bed something else.

"My bed is like a little **boat**"  
"Safe in my room beside the **pier**"

**I CAN** | I can notice where the poet calls one thing another.



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## TODAY'S THINKING JOB

# CHOOSE

“I can choose the strongest metaphor.”

### EXACT TEKS WORDING

*“explain the author’s purpose and message within a text”*

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## Choose the strongest metaphor.

Which line best shows the poet calling one thing another?

**A** “She girds me in my sailor’s coat”

**B** “I find my vessel fast.”

**C** “Perhaps a slice of wedding-cake”

**I CAN** | I can choose the strongest metaphor.



## TODAY'S THINKING JOB

# SHOW

**"I can show how the metaphor changes how the reader sees."**

### EXACT TEKS WORDING

*"explain the author's purpose and message within a text"*

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## Show how the metaphor works.

How does calling the room a "pier" change how the reader sees waking up?

**"Safe in my room beside the pier,"**  
**"I find my vessel fast."**

**I CAN** | I can show how calling one thing another changes how the reader sees.



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## TODAY'S THINKING JOB

# OWN

“I can write my own metaphor.”

### EXACT TEKS WORDING

*“explain the author’s purpose and message within a text”*

*“compose literary texts, including personal narratives and poetry, using genre characteristics and craft”*

## Own it. Try the craft move.

Pick something ordinary (your desk, a backpack, a playground). Call it something else that changes how we see it.

**My desk is a \_\_\_\_\_.**  
**I open my books and \_\_\_\_\_.**

**I CAN** | I can write a metaphor that calls one thing another.



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## TODAY'S THINKING JOB

## DEFEND

**"I can defend why calling one thing another is stronger."**

## EXACT TEKS WORDING

*"explain the author's purpose and message within a text"*

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**Defend the poet's choice.**

The poet could have said "I sleep in my bed." Why does calling the bed a boat make the poem come alive?

**"My bed is like a little boat"**  
**vs. "I sleep in my bed." Which one makes the reader see more?**

**I CAN** | I can defend why metaphor is stronger than plain description.



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## Write your own metaphor poem.

Choose something ordinary. Call it something extraordinary. Build a whole poem around the new name.

**Choose something ordinary.**  
**Call it something extraordinary.**  
**Use the new name to build a whole poem.**

**I CAN** | I can write my own metaphor poem.



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Answers, across the five thinking levels.

**NOTICE** The poet calls the bed a “**boat**,” the room a “**pier**,” and the bed a “**vessel**.” Each word turns ordinary bedtime into a voyage.

**CHOOSE B.** “My vessel fast” calls the bed a ship that is tied up at port. That is the strongest metaphor.

**SHOW** Calling the room a “pier” makes waking up feel like arriving safely at port. The reader sees the bedroom as a harbor.

**OWN** Answers vary. One example: “**My desk is a command center. I open my books and launch my missions.**”

**DEFEND** Saying “I sleep in my bed” is flat. Calling the bed a boat lets the reader sail with the child. Metaphor turns a fact into a feeling.

**YOUR TURN** Answers vary. One example: “**My backpack is a treasure chest. I reach inside and find the tools for every quest.**”



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READ THIS POEM • FROM “O LADY MOON” BY CHRISTINA ROSSETTI (1872)

**“O Lady Moon, your horns point toward the east:  
Shine, be increased;  
O Lady Moon, your horns point toward the west:  
Wane, be at rest.”**

**Why does the poet call the moon “Lady Moon” instead of just “the moon”?**

- A** To teach the reader the moon’s scientific name.
- B** To show that the moon is a woman.
- C** To explain why the moon changes shape.
- D** To make the moon feel like a person the reader can speak to.

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**The answer is D.**

**A To teach the reader the moon’s scientific name.**

“Lady Moon” is not a scientific name. It is a poetic name that creates a feeling.

**B To show that the moon is a woman.**

The poem uses “Lady” as a craft move, not as a fact. The purpose is personification, not gender.

**C To explain why the moon changes shape.**

**C** The poem describes the moon’s phases but does not explain them. The purpose is to create a mood, not to teach science.

**To make the moon feel like a person the reader can speak to.**

**D Correct.**

Calling the moon “Lady Moon” gives her a title and a personality. The reader feels like they are talking to someone, not just looking at the sky.

