

PUBLISHED TEXTS

EXACT TEKS WORDING (FROM TEA)

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

“compose literary texts such as personal narratives and poetry using genre characteristics and craft”

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO ME?

Published texts are real stories, poems, and books 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 text teaches or shows.

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

THIS WEEK’S FOCUS

Direct Advice Wrapped in Rhyme

from “Good and Bad Children” by Robert Louis Stevenson (1885)

Stevenson gives advice directly: walk sedately, be bright and quiet, eat simply. But the rhyme (little/brittle, stately/sedately) makes the advice feel like a song, not a lecture. Rhyme wraps the lesson in music.

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

NOTICE → CHOOSE → SHOW → OWN → DEFEND.



PUBLISHED TEXTS

Read the published text.

Read it, then read it again. Notice the craft move the author uses.

Good and Bad Children

Children, you are very little,
And your bones are very brittle;
If you would grow great and stately,
You must try to walk sedately.

You must still be bright and quiet,
And content with simple diet;
And remain, through all bewild'ring,
Innocent and honest children.

Happy hearts and happy faces,
Happy play in grassy places—
That was how in ancient ages,
Children grew to kings and sages.

But the unkind and the unruly,
And the sort who eat unduly,
They must never hope for glory—
Theirs is quite a different story!

SOURCE • PUBLIC DOMAIN

From *A Child's Garden of Verses* (public domain, Project Gutenberg #136)

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



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

NOTICE

"I can notice the advice."

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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

"compose literary texts such as personal narratives and poetry using genre characteristics and craft"

Notice the advice.

List three pieces of advice the poem gives.

**Walk sedately. Be bright and quiet. Be content with simple diet. Three rules,
wrapped in rhyme.**

I CAN | I can notice the advice..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

CHOOSE

“I can choose the best rhyme pair.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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

“compose literary texts such as personal narratives and poetry using genre characteristics and craft”

Choose the best rhyme pair.

Which rhyme pair makes the advice stick best?

A “little / brittle” (a surprising pair)

B “stately / sedately” (the advice pair)

C “glory / story” (the warning pair)

I CAN | I can choose the best rhyme pair..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

SHOW

“I can show how rhyme wraps advice.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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

“compose literary texts such as personal narratives and poetry using genre characteristics and craft”

Show how rhyme wraps advice.

What would happen if the poem said the same advice in plain sentences?

Plain sentences would be a list of rules. The rhyme makes the reader smile while learning. The advice stays in the ear because of the music.

I CAN | I can show how rhyme wraps advice..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

OWN

“I can own it. write advice in rhyme.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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

“compose literary texts such as personal narratives and poetry using genre characteristics and craft”

Own it. Write advice in rhyme.

Choose one piece of advice. Write four lines where the rhyme makes the advice musical.

**If you want your work to shine, / take your time on every line. / Rushing
through will leave it rough— / careful work is good enough.**

I CAN | I can own it. write advice in rhyme..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

DEFEND

"I can defend rhyme as a teaching tool."

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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

"compose literary texts such as personal narratives and poetry using genre characteristics and craft"

Defend rhyme as a teaching tool.

Why is "your bones are very brittle" more memorable than "be careful"?

The rhyme (little/brittle) locks the words together. The reader remembers the pair long after the page is closed. Plain advice fades; musical advice sticks.

I CAN | I can defend rhyme as a teaching tool..



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Write a rhyming poem that gives advice.

Pick a topic. Write at least four lines of advice where the rhyme makes it musical.

Use what you learned this week about direct advice wrapped in rhyme.

Write your own text that uses this craft move.

I CAN | I can use direct advice wrapped in rhyme in my own writing.



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Answers, across the five thinking levels.

NOTICE Walk sedately. Be bright and quiet. Be content with simple diet. Three rules, wrapped in rhyme.

CHOOSE A. “little / brittle” (a surprising pair)

SHOW Plain sentences would be a list of rules. The rhyme makes the reader smile while learning. The advice stays in the ear because of the music.

OWN Answers vary. One example: **If you want your work to shine, / take your time on every line. / Rushing through will leave it rough— / careful work is good enough.**

DEFEND The rhyme (little/brittle) locks the words together. The reader remembers the pair long after the page is closed. Plain advice fades; musical advice sticks.

YOUR TURN Answers vary.



PUBLISHED TEXTS

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT • FROM “THE LAMPLIGHTER” (ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON)

**My tea is nearly ready and the sun has left the sky.
It’s time to take the window to see Leerie going by;
For every night at teatime and before you take your seat,
With lantern and with ladder he comes posting up the street.**

**Now Tom would be a driver and Maria go to sea,
And my papa’s a banker and as rich as he can be;
But I, when I am stronger and can choose what I’m to do,
O Leerie, I’ll go round at night and light the lamps with you!**

What is the author’s purpose in including what Tom and Maria want?

- A** To contrast other ambitions with the speaker’s admiration for the lamplighter
- B** To show the speaker dislikes Tom and Maria
- C** To explain the lamplighter’s pay
- D** To list popular jobs in 1885



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The answer is A.

To contrast other ambitions with the speaker's admiration for the lamplighter

A Correct.

Tom (driver) and Maria (sailor) set up the contrast. The speaker wants to light lamps.

To show the speaker dislikes Tom and Maria

B

No criticism of Tom or Maria.

To explain the lamplighter's pay

C

Nothing about pay.

To list popular jobs in 1885

D

Not a list. The ambitions make the speaker's choice stand out.

