

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

Scale Shift: Big Words for Small Things

from “The Hayloft” by Robert Louis Stevenson (1885)

Hay piles become mountains through imagination.

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

NOTICE → CHOOSE → SHOW → OWN → DEFEND.



Read the published text.

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

The Hayloft

Through all the pleasant meadow-side
The grass grew shoulder-high,
Till the shining scythes went far and wide
And cut it down to dry.

Here is Mount Clear, Mount Rusty-Nail,
Mount Eagle and Mount High;—

The mice that in these mountains dwell,
No happier are than I!

Oh, what a joy to clamber there,
Oh, what a place for play,
With the sweet, the dim, the dusty air,
The happy hills of hay!

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 scale shift.”

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 scale shift.

Find where grand words describe small things.

Hay piles become Mount Clear, Mount Rusty-Nail, Mount Eagle, Mount High.

I CAN | I can notice the scale shift..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

CHOOSE

“I can choose the biggest gap.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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

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Choose the biggest gap.

Which name makes hay feel most like a mountain?

A “Mount Clear” (simple)

B “Mount Eagle” (sounds real)

C “The happy hills of hay” (the reveal)

I CAN | I can choose the biggest gap..



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TODAY'S THINKING JOB

SHOW

“I can show how scale shift works.”

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 scale shift works.

How does naming hay as mountains change the poem?

The names make the hayloft feel like a mountain range. Without them, it is just hay.

I CAN | I can show how scale shift works..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

OWN

“I can own it. give grand names to small things.”

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. Give grand names to small things.

Five things in your room, named as landmarks.

The Great Shelf of Knowledge (bookshelf), Mount Pillow (the bed), Lake Desktop (my desk).

I CAN | I can own it. give grand names to small things..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

DEFEND

"I can defend the scale shift."

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 the scale shift.

Why is Mount Rusty-Nail better than "a pile of hay with a nail"?

The mountain name invites play. The factual description does not.

I CAN | I can defend the scale shift..



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Write a poem with grand names.

Name ordinary things as landmarks.

Use what you learned this week about scale shift: big words for small things.

Write your own text that uses this craft move.

I CAN | I can use scale shift: big words for small things in my own writing.



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Answers, across the five thinking levels.

NOTICE Hay piles become Mount Clear, Mount Rusty-Nail, Mount Eagle, Mount High.

CHOOSE B. “Mount Eagle” (sounds real)

SHOW The names make the hayloft feel like a mountain range. Without them, it is just hay.

OWN Answers vary. One example: **The Great Shelf of Knowledge (bookshelf), Mount Pillow (the bed), Lake Desktop (my desk).**

DEFEND The mountain name invites play. The factual description does not.

YOUR TURN Answers vary.



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READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT • FROM “THE FOX AND THE BRAMBLE” (AESOP (TRANS. TOWNSEND, 1867))

A Fox was mounting a hedge when he lost his footing and caught hold of a Bramble to save himself. Having pricked and grievously torn the soles of his feet, he accused the Bramble. The Bramble, interrupting him, said, “But you really must have been out of your senses to fasten yourself on me, who am myself always accustomed to fasten upon others.”

What is the Bramble’s message?

- A** Brambles are useful
- B** Foxes should not climb hedges
- C** It is foolish to expect help from something whose nature is to cause difficulty
- D** The hedge was more helpful



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The answer is C.

A Brambles are useful
Not about usefulness.

B Foxes should not climb hedges
Not about climbing.

C It is foolish to expect help from something whose nature is to cause difficulty
Correct.
The Bramble's nature is to prick. The Fox should have known.

D The hedge was more helpful
Not a comparison.

