

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

A Concrete Image That Explains an Abstract Idea

from “The Two Bags” by Aesop (trans. George Fyler Townsend) (1867)

Two bags, one in front, one behind. The image does the explaining.

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.

The Two Bags

Every man, according to an ancient legend, is born into the world with two bags suspended from his neck—a large bag in front full of his neighbors’ faults, and a large bag behind filled with his own faults. Hence it is that men are quick to see the faults of others, and yet are often blind to their own failings.

SOURCE · PUBLIC DOMAIN

From Three Hundred Aesop’s Fables (public domain, Project Gutenberg #21)

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 image."

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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

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Notice the image.

What are the two bags? Where is each?

Front bag: neighbors' faults (easy to see). Back bag: own faults (hidden from you).

I CAN | I can notice the image..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

CHOOSE

“I can choose what makes the image work.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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

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Choose what makes the image work.

Why does position matter?

A Front bags are heavier

B You can see front but not behind

C People carry bags everywhere

I CAN | I can choose what makes the image work..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

SHOW

"I can show how the image explains."

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 the image explains.

How does the bag image improve a plain statement?

The bags let you picture it. Once you imagine front and behind, you understand WHY.

I CAN | I can show how the image explains..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

OWN

“I can own it. create an image for an abstract idea.”

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. Create an image for an abstract idea.

Pick an abstract idea. Invent a concrete image.

Patience is a seed buried in winter dirt. You cannot see it growing, but one morning a sprout appears.

I CAN | I can own it. create an image for an abstract idea..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

DEFEND

"I can defend the image."

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 image.

Why is the two-bags image more memorable than a rule?

A rule says "look at your own faults." The bags show WHY you do not.

I CAN | I can defend the image..



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Write a short fable using a concrete image.

An image that explains an abstract idea.

Use what you learned this week about a concrete image that explains an abstract idea.

Write your own text that uses this craft move.

I CAN | I can use a concrete image that explains an abstract idea in my own writing.



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Answers, across the five thinking levels.

NOTICE Front bag: neighbors' faults (easy to see). Back bag: own faults (hidden from you).

CHOOSE **B.** You can see front but not behind

SHOW The bags let you picture it. Once you imagine front and behind, you understand WHY.

OWN Answers vary. One example: **Patience is a seed buried in winter dirt. You cannot see it growing, but one morning a sprout appears.**

DEFEND A rule says “look at your own faults.” The bags show WHY you do not.

YOUR TURN Answers vary.



PUBLISHED TEXTS

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

A rich nobleman once opened the theaters without charge to the people, and gave a public notice that he would handsomely reward any person who invented a new amusement for the occasion. Various public performers contended for the prize. Among them came a Buffoon well known among the populace for his jokes, and said that he had a kind of entertainment which had never been brought out on any stage before.

What is the author’s purpose in setting up this contest?

- A** To create a situation where appearance and reality will be tested
- B** To show noblemen are generous
- C** To explain ancient theaters
- D** To list entertainer types



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The answer is A.

To create a situation where appearance and reality will be tested

A Correct.

The contest tests appearance vs. reality.

To show noblemen are generous

B

The nobleman is just setting.

To explain ancient theaters

C

Not a history lesson.

To list entertainer types

D

Not a catalogue.

