

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 List That Builds Rhythm and Joy

from “How the Whale Got His Throat” by Rudyard Kipling
(1902)

Rhyming pairs build musical momentum.

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.

How the Whale Got His Throat

In the sea, once upon a time, O my Best Beloved, there was a Whale, and he ate fishes. He ate the starfish and the garfish, and the crab and the dab, and the plaice and the dace, and the skate and his mate, and the really truly twirly-whirly eel. All the fishes he could find in all the sea he ate with his mouth—so! Till at last there was only one small fish left in all the sea, and he was a small 'Stute Fish, and he swam a little behind the Whale's right ear, so as to be out of harm's way.

SOURCE · PUBLIC DOMAIN

From *Just So Stories* by Rudyard Kipling (public domain, Project Gutenberg #2781)

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 list."

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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

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Notice the list.

Write the fish names. What pattern?

Starfish/garfish, crab/dab, plaice/dace, skate/mate, twirly-whirly eel. Each pair rhymes.

I CAN | I can notice the list..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

CHOOSE

“I can choose the best pair.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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

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Choose the best pair.

Which is most fun to say?

A crab and dab (short)

B plaice and dace (smooth)

C really truly twirly-whirly eel (grand finale)

I CAN | I can choose the best pair..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

SHOW

"I can show how the list builds."

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 list builds.

How does the list create excitement?

Each pair is quick. Then the twirly-whirly eel is the longest, silliest entry. Like a drumroll ending in a cymbal crash.

I CAN | I can show how the list builds..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

OWN

“I can own it. write a building list.”

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 a building list.

Five things. Build to a big finish.

She packed the socks and the rocks, the pens and the hens, and the enormous polka-dotted umbrella.

I CAN | I can own it. write a building list..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

DEFEND

"I can defend the list."

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 list.

Why is a long list better than "He ate many fish"?

A summary is forgettable. The list is singable.

I CAN | I can defend the list..



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Write a sentence with a building list.

End with the biggest, funniest item.

**Use what you learned this week about a list that builds rhythm
and joy.**

Write your own text that uses this craft move.

I CAN | I can use a list that builds rhythm and joy in my own writing.



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Answers, across the five thinking levels.

NOTICE Starfish/garfish, crab/dab, plaice/dace, skate/mate, twirly-whirly eel. Each pair rhymes.

CHOOSE C. really truly twirly-whirly eel (grand finale)

SHOW Each pair is quick. Then the twirly-whirly eel is the longest, silliest entry. Like a drumroll ending in a cymbal crash.

OWN Answers vary. One example: **She packed the socks and the rocks, the pens and the hens, and the enormous polka-dotted umbrella.**

DEFEND A summary is forgettable. The list is singable.

YOUR TURN Answers vary.



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READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT • FROM “THE TRAVELER AND HIS DOG” (AESOP (TRANS. TOWNSEND, 1867))

A Traveler about to set out on a journey saw his Dog stand at the door stretching himself. He asked him sharply: “Why do you stand there gaping? Everything is ready but you, so come with me instantly.” The Dog, wagging his tail, replied: “O, master! I am quite ready; it is you for whom I am waiting.”

What is the author’s message?

- A** Dogs are always ready
- B** It is rude to speak sharply
- C** Travelers should leave dogs at home
- D** People often blame others for delays they cause themselves



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The answer is D.

A **Dogs are always ready**
Uses animals for human behavior.

B **It is rude to speak sharply**
About blame, not manners.

C **Travelers should leave dogs at home**
Not about travel logistics.

D **Correct.**
The Dog is ready. The Traveler is the one delaying.

