

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 Character Who Defends Itself

from “The Shipwrecked Man and the Sea” by Aesop (trans. George Fyler Townsend) (1867)

The Sea speaks up and shifts blame to the winds.

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 Shipwrecked Man and the Sea

A shipwrecked man, having been cast upon a certain shore, slept after his buffetings with the deep. After a while he awoke, and looking upon the Sea, loaded it with reproaches. He argued that it enticed men with the calmness of its looks, but when it had induced them to plow its waters, it grew rough. The Sea, assuming the form of a woman, replied to him: “Blame not me, my good sir, but the winds, for I am by my own nature as calm and firm even as this earth; but the winds suddenly falling on me create these waves, and lash me into fury.”

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 defense.”

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Notice the defense.

What does the man accuse? How does the Sea respond?

The man says the Sea tricked him. The Sea says blame the winds, not me.

I CAN | I can notice the defense..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

CHOOSE

“I can choose the strongest argument.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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Choose the strongest argument.

Which is most convincing?

A “Blame not me” (redirect)

B “I am by my own nature calm” (evidence)

C “The winds create these waves” (the real cause)

I CAN | I can choose the strongest argument..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

SHOW

“I can show how self-defense works.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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

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Show how self-defense works.

Why does letting the Sea speak make it stronger?

The Sea’s calm explanation is more persuasive than a narrator’s correction.

I CAN | I can show how self-defense works..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

OWN

“I can own it. let a thing defend itself.”

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. Let a thing defend itself.

Someone blames an object. The object speaks back.

“Stupid clock!” “I showed you the time,” said the clock. “You chose not to look.”

I CAN | I can own it. let a thing defend itself..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

DEFEND

"I can defend the self-defense move."

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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

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Defend the self-defense move.

Why is a speaking Sea more effective than a narrator?

The Sea's calm voice contrasts with the man's angry blaming.

I CAN | I can defend the self-defense move..



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Write a fable where a blamed thing speaks back.

Something blamed unfairly sets the record straight.

Use what you learned this week about a character who defends itself.

Write your own text that uses this craft move.

I CAN | I can use a character who defends itself in my own writing.



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Answers, across the five thinking levels.

NOTICE The man says the Sea tricked him. The Sea says blame the winds, not me.

CHOOSE B. “I am by my own nature calm” (evidence)

SHOW The Sea’s calm explanation is more persuasive than a narrator’s correction.

OWN Answers vary. One example: **“Stupid clock!” “I showed you the time,” said the clock. “You chose not to look.”**

DEFEND The Sea’s calm voice contrasts with the man’s angry blaming.

YOUR TURN Answers vary.



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

A Crow caught in a snare prayed to Apollo to release him, making a vow to offer some frankincense at his shrine. But when rescued from his danger, he forgot his promise. Shortly afterwards, again caught in a snare, he passed by Apollo and made the same promise to Mercury. Mercury soon appeared and said to him, “O thou most base fellow! how can I believe thee, who hast disowned and wronged thy former patron?”

What is the message about the Crow?

- A** It is wrong to pray to more than one god
- B** A person who breaks a promise to one will not be trusted by another
- C** Crows are not smart
- D** Snares are easy to escape



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The answer is B.

A **It is wrong to pray to more than one god**
Not about religion.

B **Correct.**
Broke a promise to Apollo, then tried with Mercury. Broken promises destroy trust.

C **Crows are not smart**
Crow represents human behavior.

D **Snares are easy to escape**
Snares are the setting.

