

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

Objects With Human Problems

from “The Table and the Chair” by Edward Lear (1871)

A Table with chilblains. The humor comes from objects having people problems.

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 Table and the Chair

Said the Table to the Chair,
“You can hardly be aware
How I suffer from the heat,
And from chilblains on my feet!
If we took a little walk,
We might have a little talk!
Pray let us take the air!”
Said the Table to the Chair.

SOURCE · PUBLIC DOMAIN

From Nonsense Songs by Edward Lear (public domain, Project Gutenberg #13650)

ICAN | I can read a published text and notice the author’s craft move.



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

NOTICE

“I can notice the human problems.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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

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Notice the human problems.

What complaints does the Table have?

Heat, chilblains on its feet, wants to walk and talk.

I CAN | I can notice the human problems..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

CHOOSE

“I can choose the funniest problem.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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

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Choose the funniest problem.

Which is most absurd for a table?

A I suffer from the heat

B Chilblains on my feet!

C We might have a little talk

I CAN | I can choose the funniest problem..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

SHOW

"I can show how human problems create humor."

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 human problems create humor.

Why is a Table with chilblains funny?

Tables cannot feel cold on their feet. The gap between what a table IS and what it FEELS is the joke.

I CAN | I can show how human problems create humor..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

OWN

“I can own it. give an object a problem.”

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 an object a problem.

A piece of furniture with a complaint.

The bookshelf groaned, “My back is sore from holding all these novels.”

I CAN | I can own it. give an object a problem..



PUBLISHED TEXTS

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

DEFEND

"I can defend objects with human problems."

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 objects with human problems.

Why is chilblains funnier than "uncomfortable"?

Chilblains is specific. The specificity makes the absurdity sharper.

I CAN

I can defend objects with human problems..



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Write a scene where an object has a human problem.

Pick an object. Give it a specific complaint.

Use what you learned this week about objects with human problems.

Write your own text that uses this craft move.

I CAN | I can use objects with human problems in my own writing.



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Answers, across the five thinking levels.

NOTICE Heat, chilblains on its feet, wants to walk and talk.

CHOOSE B. Chilblains on my feet!

SHOW Tables cannot feel cold on their feet. The gap between what a table IS and what it FEELS is the joke.

OWN Answers vary. One example: **The bookshelf groaned, “My back is sore from holding all these novels.”**

DEFEND Chilblains is specific. The specificity makes the absurdity sharper.

YOUR TURN Answers vary.



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READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT · FROM “STROKE A FLINT” (CHRISTINA ROSSETTI)

**Stroke a flint, and there is nothing to admire:
Strike a flint, and forthwith flash out sparks of fire.**

What is the message about stroking vs. striking?

- A** Flints are harmful
- B** Gentle effort produces nothing, but bold effort produces something brilliant
- C** Fire is the most important invention
- D** Instructions for starting a campfire



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The answer is B.

A **Flints are harmful**
Not about safety.

B **Correct.**
Gentle effort produces nothing, but bold effort produces something brilliant
Stroke (gentle) produces nothing. Strike (bold) produces fire. Bold effort creates results.

C **Fire is the most important invention**
About boldness, not fire.

D **Instructions for starting a campfire**
A metaphor, not instructions.

