

PUBLISHED TEXTS

EXACT TEKS WORDING (FROM TEA)

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

“compose literary texts such as personal narratives, fiction, and poetry using genre characteristics and craft”

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO ME?

Published texts are real stories 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 story teaches.

When I study what an author did, I can try that same craft in my own writing.

THIS WEEK’S FOCUS

The Wise Voice After the Disappointment

from “The Fishermen” (Aesop, trans. George Fyler Townsend, 1867)

The old Fisherman does not scold. He explains that extreme joy leads to extreme sorrow. His calm wisdom after the group’s disappointment IS the message. This week we notice how a calm, wise voice after a setback delivers the lesson.

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

NOTICE • CHOOSE • SHOW • OWN • DEFEND



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Read the published text.

Read it aloud slowly. Watch for the craft move the author uses.

The Fishermen

Some Fishermen were out trawling their nets. Perceiving them to be very heavy, they danced about for joy and supposed that they had taken a large catch. When they had dragged the nets to the shore they found but few fish: the nets were full of sand and stones, and the men were beyond measure cast down. One of their company, an old man, said, “Let us cease lamenting, my mates, for sorrow is always the twin sister of joy; and it was only to be looked for that we, who just now were over-rejoiced, should next have something to make us sad.”

SOURCE

Aesop, trans. George Fyler Townsend, 1867 (Project Gutenberg #21, public domain)



TODAY'S THINKING JOB

NOTICE

“I can notice the wise voice that follows the disappointment.”

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Notice the wisdom.

Find the old man’s words.

“Sorrow is always the twin sister of joy; it was only to be looked for that we who were over-rejoiced should have something to make us sad.”

I CAN | I can notice the wise voice that follows the disappointment.



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TODAY'S THINKING JOB

CHOOSE

“I can choose the line that best states the message.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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Choose the message.

Which best states the author’s message?

A “They danced about for joy.”

B “The nets were full of sand.”

C “Sorrow is always the twin sister of joy.”

I CAN | I can choose the line that best states the message.



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TODAY'S THINKING JOB

SHOW

“I can show how the text proves the message.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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

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Show how it proves the message.

How did the Fishermen’s excessive joy set them up for excessive sorrow?

How did the Fishermen’s excessive joy set them up for excessive sorrow?

I CAN | I can show how the text proves the message.



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TODAY'S THINKING JOB

OWN

“I can try the craft move myself.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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

“compose literary texts such as personal narratives, fiction, and poetry using genre characteristics and craft”

Own it. Try the craft move.

Write a calm, wise sentence that someone says after a disappointment.

Write a calm, wise sentence after a setback.

I CAN | I can try the craft move myself.



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TODAY'S THINKING JOB

DEFEND

"I can defend why this craft move works."

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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Defend the author's choice.

Why does the old man's calmness make the lesson land harder?

Why does the old man's calmness make the lesson land harder?

I CAN | I can defend why this craft move works.



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Write your own fable where a wise character speaks after a disappointment.

Show a group that celebrates too soon. Let one wise character explain what happened.

Too-Soon celebration. Then a wise voice explains.

I CAN | I can write my own story and use the craft move we studied all week.



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Answers, across the five thinking levels.

NOTICE The old man's calm wisdom after the group's panic IS the message.

CHOOSE C. Sorrow is joy's twin.

SHOW Excessive celebration set up the crash.

OWN Answers vary. One example: **"When you expect too much, the truth feels worse than it really is."**

DEFEND Calm against emotion. The contrast makes wisdom ring true.

YOUR TURN Answers vary. One example: The team scored three goals in the first half and stopped trying. The other team scored four in the second. The coach said, "The game is not over at halftime."



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READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT · FROM “BROWN AND FURRY” (CHRISTINA ROSSETTI, SING-SONG, 1893)

**“Brown and furry
Caterpillar in a hurry,
Take your walk
To the shady leaf, or stalk,
Or what not,**

**Which may be the chosen spot.
No toad spy you,
Hovering bird of prey pass by you;
Spin and turn,
To live again a butterfly.”**

What is the poet’s purpose?

- A** To teach how caterpillars become butterflies.
- B** To cheer a small creature through a difficult journey toward something beautiful.
- C** To warn about predators in the garden.
- D** To describe what caterpillars look like.



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The answer is B.

A To teach how caterpillars become butterflies.

The poem mentions the change, but its purpose is to cheer the caterpillar on, not to explain science.

B To cheer a small creature through a difficult journey toward something beautiful.

Correct.

B The poet warns the caterpillar about toads and birds, urges it to find a safe spot, and promises that it will live again as a butterfly. The purpose is encouragement.

C To warn about predators in the garden.

The toad and bird are mentioned, but the purpose is hope and encouragement, not warning.

D To describe what caterpillars look like.

“Brown and furry” is a description, but the purpose of the whole poem is encouragement through a journey.

