

Making Literary Inferences Grid

Directions: Complete the 'It says... I say... And so...'¹ grid, supporting your ideas with information from the text. Use the model in the first row to help you. In the first column, write a short quotation from the text about a character or the setting along with the page number. In the middle column, make a list of the background knowledge that you have that helps you understand the quotation. In the third column, use the text (what it says) and your background knowledge (what you know) to make an inference.

It says/They say (the text or character)	I say (my background knowledge)	And so ... (put the two together to make an inference)
<p><i>'The parlourmaid is just clearing the table, which has no cloth, of dessert plates and champagne glasses, etc.'</i> (p. 1).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Champagne is expensive. It is often bought in celebration. • Usually there is a tablecloth for fancy dinners. • An upper-class family might have a maid to do the cleaning up. 	<p><i>The family are celebrating something and they are wealthy enough to afford champagne and a maid, but the table does not have a cloth, which people often use for parties. Perhaps they are not as fancy as other wealthy people.</i></p>

¹ Kylene Beers, *When Kids Can't Read: What Teachers Can Do* (Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann, 2003).

It says/They say (the text or character)	I say (my background knowledge)	And so ... (put the two together to make an inference)