**It Says, I Say and So**

**Purpose**: The following notes will help you to answer questions that require you to place yourself on either a likert scale (strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree) or a semantic scale (hero – villain)

1. Please read the following poem by one of my favorite authors, Shel Silverstein.

HOW NOT TO HAVE

TO DRY THE DISHES

By Shel Silverstein

If you have to dry the dishes

(Such an awful boring chore)

If you have to dry the dishes

(‘Stead of going to the store)

If you have to dry the dishes

And you drop one on the floor –

Maybe **they** won’t let you

Dry the dishes anymore.

2. Now complete the chart.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | It says | I say | And so |
| Who are **THEY** in this poem? | “such an awful boring chore” | - Usually you get chores from your parents | They is referring to the parents. |

3. Now put that into a format appropriate for high school English.

In the poem “How Not to Dry the Dishes” by Shel Silverstein they is referring to the parents. “Such an awful boring chore” is a task that would be assigned by your parents. Therefore, they is the parents.

In the poem How Not to Dry the Dishes by Shel Silverstein it shows an authority figure known as they. The characters referenced in the line, “maybe they won’t let you…” are the protagonist’s parents because they “won’t let you dry the dishes anymore” instead of fire you or charge you as it would be in a professional situation.

Inference – the ability to connect what is in the text with what is in the mind to create an educated guess.