



**[FOR TEACHER  
REFERENCE ONLY]**

**SAMPLE THINK-ALOUD**

Lesson 2. Noticing Varied Nonfiction Genres:  
Thinking Aloud

**Sample Abstract: “Which AA Battery Maintains  
Its Voltage for the Longest Period of Time?”**

By Student Author

*OK, titles are a **call to attention**. And questions are too. So I know I have to pay special attention to this. The question tells me that the study is about what batteries last the longest.*

Advertisers are always touting more powerful and longer lasting batteries, but which batteries really do last longer, and is battery life impacted by the speed of the current drain?

*The sentence is kind of a **rupture**. The author is saying that advertisers always brag about their batteries, but this sentence suggests that they don't really know.*

Pause and make sure students underline and label this rupture. Do the same with other rules of notice as you go.

This project looks at which AA battery maintains its voltage for the longest period of time in low, medium, and high current drain devices.

*OK, lists are a **call to attention**. So the author thinks that the different conditions must be important. Also, I know that abstracts are supposed to explain the method of a study, so the method must have been to do three tests.*

The batteries were tested in a CD player (low drain device), a flashlight (medium drain device), and a camera flash (high drain device) by measuring the battery voltage (dependent variable) at different time intervals (independent variable) for each of the battery types in each of the devices.

*Technical terms are another **call to attention**. I know this was written by a kid who probably doesn't use language like “dependent variable” very much. So I guess it's kind of a **rupture** too.*

My hypothesis

*Another technical term.*

was that Energizer

*This is the kind of battery I use. So this is the rule of the reader's response for me.*

would last the longest in all of the devices tested. The experimental results supported my hypothesis by showing that the Energizer

(Continued)



## SAMPLE THINK-ALOUD (CONT.)

performs with increasing superiority, the higher the current drain of the device.

*Abstracts are summaries of the research. So this one sentence is the main finding. It's a **direct statement**, and I know I better pay attention to those.*

The experiment also showed that the heavy-duty non-alkaline batteries do not maintain their voltage as long as either alkaline battery at any level of current drain.

*That's a **rupture**, because you'd think "heavy-duty" would mean "longest lasting." But wait a minute. The author just named Energizer. What's the other one? This is kind of a **rupture** too. I need to find out what the other one was.*

Source: Science Buddies. (2016). Sample abstract. Retrieved from [http://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-projects/project\\_sample\\_abstract.shtml](http://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-projects/project_sample_abstract.shtml)

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