

The Could-This-Happen Test

For Connect Grid Column 2 (Generalised Plot)

THE TEST

Take your **Column 2** entry. Ask: **Could THIS happen to a different character, in a different place, at a different time?**

If **YES** → you have abstracted well. If **NO** → it is still too specific.

Worked Examples

Example 1: *Sam fell into the pond and got muddy.*

Too specific: A boy fell into water. (*Still mentions a boy and water - too specific.*)

Good: A character has an unexpected setback. (*Could happen to a girl, an old man, a dog. PASSES.*)

Example 2: *Granny baked Sarah's favourite biscuits.*

Too specific: A grandma cooks for her grandchild. (*Still mentions grandma and grandchild.*)

Good: A character shows kindness to another. (*Could happen with anyone showing kindness. PASSES.*)

Example 3: *Tom worked hard and won the spelling bee.*

Too specific: A boy won a competition. (*Still mentions a boy and a competition type.*)

Good: A character achieves through effort. (*Could be any character, any kind of effort. PASSES.*)

Tip: Good Column 2 entries usually start with "A character..."