

Text Comparison Chart

After reading “American Flamingo,” “Bookstand: Audubon’s Birds and Words,” “John James Audubon and the Natural World,” and *American Flamingo*, complete the chart below. In the second column, give a brief summary of each text. In the second column, include major details from the text. In the third column, write a statement describing the central idea of each text.

Text	Brief Summary	Major Details (include text citations)	Central Idea
<i>American Flamingo</i> (painting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a painting of a flamingo. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The flamingo is very detailed and precise. The flamingo is in a position that looks unnatural. There are several other flamingoes in the background. There are eight other sketches of birds at the top of the page. 	Audubon is attempting to capture the beauty of the flamingo in its natural environment.
“American Flamingo” (poem)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In this poem, the speaker states the Audubon killed the flamingos in order to “know” them. It is ironic that this conservationist had to kill the birds in order to fulfill his passion of capturing their very nature and beauty. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pape feels that even though Audubon did his very best to capture the birds live, his paintings lack many of the real-life qualities that the flamingos possess. The eyes of the bird on paper do not match the intensity of the bird’s eyes in person. “ . . . the eyes of the flamingo are blue, a deep live blue” Pape describes the beauty of a flock of flamingoes that he observed at the races. These birds, though beautiful, had clipped wings. The flamingos Pape witnessed were not killed like Audubon's birds but they did not have all of their freedom. 	While Audubon passionately attempted to capture the essence of the flamingos in his painting, he failed to capture their purest beauty because he killed them before painting them. He did this in an attempt to “know” them but it actually made him lose their beauty as their were not painted while alive.

<p>“Bookstand: Audubon’s Birds and Words”</p>	<p>This article explains Audubon’s early life and the start of his life in New Orleans. This article addresses Audubon’s pride struggles at having to go from being a successful merchant to a family tutor. It also addresses Audubon’s need to shoot the birds before painting them. (basketfuls of birds). It uses Audubon’s own journals to illustrate how he shot birds; very vivid.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audubon trapped killed the birds he painted. • Audubon recorded the reactions of the birds to his gun in his journals • His writing does not show compassion for the birds. • Audubon shot and made “basketfuls” of birds for just a single painting. • The article quotes Audubon’s journals “Confined to my hat on my head, the remained still and stubborn. I looked at them several times, when I found them trying to hide their heads as if ashamed to have lost their liberty.” 	<p>Audubon was a fusion of a hunter and a conservationist. He had great passion for capturing the birds in their natural environment. He also killed the birds in order to paint them. Even though he inspired generations of non-violent birdwatchers, he also shot most of the birds he painted.</p>
<p>“John James Audubon and the Natural World”</p>	<p>This article explores the early life of John James Audubon and describes various influences his background had on his work. The article makes connections between Audubon’s childhood and early life experiences and his “pioneering spirit,” allowing students to analyze these connections as they did the connection of ideas in the anchor piece. This article tries to determine what fed Audubon’s passion for American wildlife</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The articles provides background information about Audubon's early life. • Audubon has a very turbulent childhood. • He was an illegitimate child. • He lived in present day Haiti during the 1700s. Because of the Haitian Revolution, Audubon’s father sent him to France. • France was just as unsettled because of the French Revolution. • Audubon and his family spent time in prison because they were suspected of being royalist sympathisers. • Audubon’s father sent him across Atlantic and he began to reinvent himself. • Audubon was impressed with the vast American wilderness. 	<p>Audubon has a natural passion for wildlife. It may have come from his turbulent childhood; observing nature provided him with an outlet for release. He felt safe in the natural world.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• After Audubon arrived in the United States, he was fascinated by the natural and unspoiled land and birds became the focus of his passion.• “Vision was the door to success, and resourceful creativity was the key.”• Passion and resourcefulness were the fuel behind Audubon's vision.	
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