

Graphic Organizer for Active Reading

Tell all the Truth but tell it slant

Emily Dickinson

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Forms of Truth

When the truth is hard to bear, we may be tempted to misrepresent it or to tell only part of it. Before you read the poem, complete the following chart. In the left-hand side of the chart, write down two truthful statements that might be difficult to tell someone. In the right-hand side, rephrase the statements to make them easier to bear.

The Whole Truth	In Other Words

After You Read

1. If the poem's speaker were looking at the chart, which column would she call "slant"? Explain your answer.

2. In your opinion, what are the advantages of "slant truth"? What are the disadvantages?
