

*“If at any time you find it necessary to correct your brother, do not correct him with mud—never, on any account, throw mud at him, because it will spoil his clothes. It is better to scald him a little, for then you obtain desirable results. You secure his immediate attention to the lessons you are inculcating, and at the same time your hot water will have a tendency to move impurities from his person, and possibly the skin, in spots.*

If you ever find it necessary to step away from a situation or a group of people, do not steer away from it – never, at any time, further give in to the situation. It is better to simply put your foot down and walk away, for you will no longer have to deal with it, and will be respected for it. You secure their attention, and at the same time your actions speak much louder words by throwing the ball back at them, teaching them their own lesson.

The style that Twain uses in his passage differs from my own, as he utilizes much longer sentences than I tend to use. Having longer sentences helps to add a sense of flow and rhythm, as well as hold the reader’s attention. Implementing that in my own passage here was a bit of a stretch, as I am used to making my sentences concise and straight to the point. His diction, moreover, differs from mine greatly. In this passage Twain implements words and phrases, with imagery, that guide the reader into being able to visualize what he is saying. This is something that I do not do a great job of, however my attempt at doing so helps the reader by giving them a visual connection to my words to gain a better sense of understanding towards it.